THE ELEPAIO

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There is a place for the Honolulu Audubon Society in this war. We have had to curtail our former meetings and walks for more urgent war business, in which most of our members are engaged. When that business is well organized the time will come for recreation, when we can turn to the simple pleasures of meeting together to discuss those things which interest us in our Society. In that way we can relax and build up our strength for the business at hand.

Let us remember the watchword of the Society, Conservation. To conserve all our resources. In many ways that is being regulated for us but we can help by ensuring the conservation of our own resource the building up of our nervous systems, which are being depleted by the strain we all live under.

At the outbreak of the war meetings and publications of all societies were forbidden but now we have obtained permission from the military authorities to hold meetings and to resume publication of th "Elepaio". At present our members are too busy to be able to attend meetings but just as soon as a sufficient number inform the Secretary that they would like a meeting we will arrange it, probably on a Saturday afternoon at the Library. Due to transportation difficulties walks will have to be close to town, there are many interesting trails around Tantalus and Manoa. There is a trail up the ridge from Woodlawn where apapane can be seen. There are owls there also, they are calling now in the evening as this is being written. It is a sharp grating cry "keee-wik". Sometimes the birds can be seen in the twilight, beating back and forth along the grassy slopes. What is the reason for the cry? Most likely it is to startle a rat or mouse into a sudden scurry for shelter. That movement betrays its prey to the owl and down it swoops.

We can learn from this. If it should happen again that Hawaii is attacked by enemy planes do not run for shelter if they are close enough to dive and fire before shelter can be reached. Stay still wher ever you are. That is one of Nature's first lessons to her creatures - Keep still to avoid detection by enemies.

J. d'A. N.

BIRDS OF HAWAII
and
Adventures in Bird Study

An Ocean Cruise
By George C. Munro
No. 4

The schooner was "hove to" during the night of the 28th as the sea was rising. To a landlubber in accomplishing this it seemed that the sails were so trimmed that the wind caught them at different angles and held the boat steady instead of making headway. This was necessary to prevent our frail craft being unduly battered by sailing against the seas. In our eagerness to reach land this seemed an unnecessary precaut ion. But our Captain knew it was advisable to favor his ship to ensure making the voyage in safety. He "took the sun" at 10 A.M. and checked our position but as the sea was still running high and the treache[illegible] French Frigate Shoal was not far distant he decided to stay where [illegible] w[illegible] safe.

To us this was not time lost. We caught sight of a bird, a specim[illegible] of which we had seen in the Gay and Robinson collection on Kauai, the little white-rumped storm petrel. Also we here obtained a close study of the gooney or black-footed albatross. As the boat lay to they came up close under the stern to pick up pieces of fat that were thrown overboard. We saw one dive under the surface after a piece that was sinking. J. d'Arcy Northwood in hi[illegible] "Familiar Hawaiian Birds" in mentioning the black-footed albatross said "they do not dive", W. B. Alexander in his "Birds of the Ocean" speaking of albatrosses in general and their system of feeding says: "sometimes submerging the body to obtain food a little below the surface". There is a difference between "submerging the body" and diving but when, as I have seen them, a bird rises perpendicularly in the water, doubles over and goes down, staying under for about half a minute I should say it dives. As we proceed

with the story I shall quote from my journal on particular cases of these birds' diving. The young birds, as I saw later, did not seem able to get below the surface but reached down after sinking food. We had an exceptional opportunity to watch these birds at close quarters as our boat was low on the surface of the water and whenever there was any bait out to attract sharks it was hung close to the stern and the birds came right up after it and pulled and tugged to get pieces off. We expected to get adult specimens of these birds ashore so on the way out we respected the captain's apparent objection to killing albatrosses aboard the boat. We thought he had taken the "Ancient Mariner" too seriously and was inviting no chance of disaster. On the way back when we found we were short of specimens of this particular species we were less considerate. Anyway we arrived back safely. Mainly due I would say to Captain Walker good seamanship.

Several sharks were caught as the boat lay to on the water. Most of them were five or six feet long, but one of a different species was 11 feet. Its snout was shorter than that of the others and its teeth were turned over to one side at the point. Sucker fish about seven inches long hung to the bodies of the sharks as they were hauled in. These suckers "thumb a ride" by sticking their sucker which is under and back of their lower jaw, on to the shark. The sucker holds on tightly and so the fish can go a long distance without effort. These were unfortunate in sticking to the shark too long and landing on the deck of the boat. The sharks were hauled up to the side and killed before being brought aboard. If the shark is taken aboard alive the boat is liable to suffer injury from the slapping tail which is rather powerful when wielded by a 12 foot shark. Their fins and livers and, if large, their jaws were removed and the body thrown overboard. As sharks are sometimes cannibal I think this spoiled the fishing after a time.

Weather moderating we made sail on the morning of the 30th and at

8.30 rather unexpectedly sighted the breakers on the reef of the French Frigate Shoal. Later the solitary rock came in view. We came to an ancho about two miles from a sand island on the reef at 3.30 P.M., exactly a week after leaving Honolulu.

Mr. Edward L. Caum has given me the approximate area of 12 islets on the reef, some of which are permanent and others temporary, as 46 acres. The "North Pacific Pilot" says the rock is 180 feet long, 45 wide and 125 high. The reef is crescent shaped, convex to the northeast with a 45 mile circuit and 16 islets on the reef. When that was written five ships were known to have been wrecked there: The "Two Brothers", "Marth "Rebecca", "South Seaman" and "Daniel Wood".

From certain points of view the rock looks much like a full rigged brig, so much so that Captain Patterson of the "Rebecca" saluted it at night; getting no answer he bore down on it till the vessel touched bot bom. but in that case he got off. The "South Seaman" a whaler went righ over the reef and brought up two miles inside it. The crew took to the boats and laid off during the night and were starting in the small boat for some southern islands when they sighted the "Modern Times" at ancho inside the reef. She was on a surveying expedition. The combined crews broke up the stranded vessel and established of men on one of the islet for the summer whilst the vessel continued her trip. She called again on her return and carried the men to Honolulu.

We saw the wreckage where these men had camped. They left on the site piles of shells of the turtles they had used for food. When a tur- tle shell lay front down on the sand it furnished a nice little house for the gentle Bulwer's petrel to nest under. They were there sitting on their one small white egg or pairs together before the egg was laid.

Dec. 16, 1941

Genus Alauda Linnaeus (1758), skylarks.

140. Alauda arvensis arvensis Linnaeus (1758) — Skylark, Introduced (1865 from England, 1870 from New Zealand); established on Kauai, Niihau, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, Maui and Hawaii. Widespread in Europe.

141. Alauda arvensis japonica Temminck and Schlegel (1848) — Hibari or Japanese lark. Introduced in 1934; not established. Native of Japan.

Family CORVIDAE, jays, magpies, crows.

Genus Corvus Linnaeus (1758)

142. Corvus tropicus Gmelin (1788) (Corvus hawaiiensis Peale 1848) — Alala, Hawaiian crew. Endemic on island of Hawaii.

Family PARIDAE, titmice, verdins, bushtits.

Genus Parus Linnaeus (1758)

143. Parus varius varius Temminck and Schlegel (1848) — Japanese tit, Yamagara. Introduced from Japan to Kauai, 1890, 1905, 1907, and from Germany to Kauai, 1905; from Japan to Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii, 1928, to date; established on Kauai and Oahu. Native of Japan and Korea.

Family TIMELIIDAE, babbling thrushes.

Subfamily CRATEROPODINAE

Genus Trochalopterum Blyth (1843)

144. Trochalopterum canorum (Linnaeus) (Turdus canorus Linnaeus, 1758) — Hwa-mei, Chinese or spectacle thrush. Introduced as a cage bird; escaped in Honolulu during fire of 1900; now established on Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and probably other main islands. Native of Hainan, China.

Genus Garrulax Lesson (1831)

145. Garrulax albogularis (Gould) (Ianthocincla albogularis, 1835) — Collared, laughing or brown thrush Introduced from San Francisco to Kauai, 1919; established. Native of the Himalyan region.

Genus Dryonastes Sharp (1883)

146. Dryonastes chinensis (Scopoli) (Lanius chinensis Scopoli, 1786) — Black-throated laughing thrush or Peko thrush. Introduced from Californai to Kauai, 1931; not known to be established. Native Native of Cochinchina, South China to Burma and Tenasserim.

Subfamily LIOTHICINAE

Genus Liothrix Swainson (1831)

147. Liothrix lutea (Scopoli) (Sylvia lutea Scopoli, 1786) — Pekin nightingale, Japanese hill robin. Introduced from San Francisco to Kauai, 1918, and from the Orient, 1928-29, to Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Maui, and Hawaii; probably established on all these islands. Native of south and west China.

Family MIMIDAE, mockingbirds, thrashers.

Genus Minus Boie (1826)

148. Mimus polyglottus (Linnaeus) (Turdus polyglottus linnaeus, 1758) — Mocking bird. Introduced since 1928 as a cage bird and liberated on Oahu and Maui. Established on Oahu. Native of southern U.S. and Mexico.

Family MUSCICAPIDAE, flycatchers, thrushes, warblers, etc.

Subfamily TURDINAE, thrushes, bluebirds, etc.

Genus Phaeornis Sclater (1859)

149. Phaeornis obscura obscura (Gmelin) (Muscicapa obscura Gmelin, 1788) — Hawaii thrush, omao, kamao, omau, and perhaps A-Maui. Endemic on island of Hawaii.

150. Phaeornis obscura lanaiensis Wilson (1891) — Lanai thrush, olomao, olomau. Endemic on Lanai.

151. Phaeornis obscura rutha W.A.Bryan (1908) — Molokai thrush. Endemic on Molokai.

152. Phaeornis obscura oahuensis Wilson (1890) — Oahu thrush. Formerly endemic on Oahu; now extinct.

153. Phaeornis obscura myadsetina Stejneger (1887) — Kauai thrush, kamau, kamao. Endemic on Kauai.

154. Phaeornis palmeri Rothschild (1893) — Puaiohi. Endemic on Kauai.

Genus Luscinia Brehm (1828)

155. Luscinia akahige akahige (Temminck) (Sylvia akahige Temminck 1824) — Komadori, Japanese red robin. Introduced from Japan, liberated on Oahu, 1929032; possibly established. Native of high mountains of Japan.

156. Luscinia komadori komadori (Temminck) (Sylvia komadori Temminck 1824) — Akahige, Korean robin. Introduced to Oahu from Japan, about 1931-32; not known to be established. Native of Riu Kiu Is. (Loo Choo),.

Genus Copsychus

156. A. Copsychus saularis prosthopellus Oberholser — Dayal bird, magpie robin. Inroduced. Established?

Genus Copsychus

157. Kittacincla macroura (Gmelin) (Turdus macrourus Gmelin, 1788) (Cittocincla tricolor Vieillot, 1818) — Shama thrush. Inroduced from San Francisco to Kauai, 1931; established on Kauai. Widely distributed through India, Ceylon, China, Burma, Siam, Malaysia.

Subfamily SYLVIINAE, warblers, etc.

Genus Acrocephalus Naumann (1811), miller birds. (Conopoderas Billberg, 1828)

158. Acrocephalus familiaris Tothschild (1892) — Miller bird, (reed-warbler). Endemic on Laysan I.; extinct.

159. Acrocephalus kingi (Wetmore) (Conopoderas kingi Wetmore, 1924) — Nihoa miller bird, Endemic on Nihoa Island. Very rare.

Genus Horeites Hodgson (1845)

160. Horeites cantans cantans (Temminck and Schegel) (Salicaria cantans T.&S., 1847) — Japanese bush warbler, uguisu. Introduced from Japan, 1929, to Oahu; established. Native of Japan and Formosa.

Subfamily MUSCICAPINAE, old world flycatchers.

Genus Chasiempis Cabanis (1847)

161. Chasiempsis sandwichensis sclateri Ridgway (1882) (Chasiempis dolei Stejneger, 1887) — Kauai Elepaio, apekepeke. Endemic on Kauai.

162. Chasiempis sandwichensis sandwichensis (Gmelin) (Muscicapa sandwichensis Gmelin, 1788) (Chasiempis ridgwayi Stejneger, 1887) — Hawaii Elepaio Endemic on Hawaii

163. Chasiempis sandwichensis gayi Wilson (1891) Oahu Elepaio. Endemic on Oahu