Journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society



For the Better Protection of Wildlife in Hawaii

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FEBRUARY 1968

OAHU CHRISTMAS COUNT December 31, 1967

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 TOTAL Black-footed Albatross . </th <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>AF</th> <th>REAS</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>				AF	REAS						
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Indian Hill Mynah .			·		5	And the second s		of the subscription of the last state of the		And a state of the	Character + Standigue + Starter Starter being
White-eye 34 12 19 12 13 133 9 28 260 'Amakihi . <th< td=""><td></td><td>132</td><td>170</td><td>273</td><td>•</td><td>211</td><td>91</td><td>3768</td><td>1423</td><td>379</td><td>6447</td></th<>		132	170	273	•	211	91	3768	1423	379	6447
'Amakihi .<	Indian Hill Mynah			•			•	7			7
'Apapane . . 1 25 . 26 Ricebird 224 21 . 1 94 . 183 18 106 647 House Sparrow 76 145 5 . 32 70 362 116 322 1128 Cardinal 21 1 5 2 7 1 24 5 13 79 Brazilian Cardinal 45 19 4 . 5 7 86 96 12 274	White-eye	34		12	19	12	13		9	28	
Ricebird2242119418318106647House Sparrow76145532703621163221128Cardinal21152712451379Brazilian Cardinal4519457869612274	'Amakihi				7			39	6		
House Sparrow761455.32703621163221128Cardinal21152712451379Brazilian Cardinal45194.57869612274	'Apapane						1	25	Contraction of the second second		The second s
Cardinal21152712451379Brazilian Cardinal45194.57869612274	Ricebird	224	21		1	94		183	18	A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	
Cardinal21152712451379Brazilian Cardinal45194.57869612274	House Sparrow	76	145	5		32	70	362	116	322	
	Cardinal	21			2		1	24	5	13	
	Brazilian Cardinal	45	19	4		5	7	86	96	12	
	House Finch					1		143	5	2	152

Oahu Christmas Count, December 31, 1967 - Continued

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL
Red-whiskered Bulbul					2				4	2
Gray Singing Finch					4			37		37
Green Singing Finch								2		2
Saffron Finch				•	•		4	1		1
Cordon Bleu		•						4		4
Firefinch	8			•	•	4		5		5
Lavender Finch						6		17		17
Orange-cheeked Waxbill								23		23
Red-eared Waxbill				•		•		7	4	7
Bishop Weaver			•	•	•	•		2		2
No.of Individual Birds:	10,005	490	463	46	1054	282	6093	2555	1653	22,641
No. of Species:	24	12	17	8	24	13	18	19	17	51

21°22'N, 157°48'W (all points within a 15-mile circle, center 2/5 mile ENE of Nuuanu Pali as in past; ocean, lagoons, mudflats, and ponds 25%, parks and residential areas 40%, valley forests 10%, ridge trails 25%)

Total	hours	on	foot:	54	Total	hours	by	car:	18
Total	miles	on	foot:	36	Total	miles	by	car:	221

Weather conditions: Overcast with frequent heavy showers inland; partly cloudly in coastal areas.

Temperature: 65-80°F

Wind direction and velocity: NE, 15-30 mph with gusts up to 40 mph - inland areas; 10-20 mph - coastal areas.

The following areas were covered in this year's count: (30 observers in 11 parties)

- 1 Kaneohe Marine Air Station including Moku Manu and Mokolea Rock through telescope.
- John Fitch (11 am 6 pm); Eugene Kridler, Colin and Doris Huddleston (2-5 pm) 2 Kaelepulu Pond, Kailua
- Eugene Kridler, Ian Atkinson, Don and Colin Huddleston (8:15-10:45 am) 3 Kawainui Swamp and dump

Ian Atkinson, Don and Colin Huddleston (10:45 am - 12:15 pm); Eugene Kridler (5:30 - 6 pm)

- 4 Aiea Trail Unoyo Kojima, Fred Clayson (7-11:30 am)
- 5 Sand Island, Keehi Lagoon (offshore and bay through telescope), Salt Lake, Nuuanu Valley

Richard and Thomas Gauthey, Frederick Leiss (6:30 am - 5:30 pm); Thomas McGuire (feeder)

- 6 Punchbowl, Tantalus Ronald and Charlotte Walker, David Taira (12-4:15 pm)
- 7 Moanalua Gardens, Honolulu, Manoa Valley, St. Louis Ridge (in 3 parties) Carl and Sheila Frings, Patrick Conant, Charles and Hildegarde Kaigler, George Robertson, Male and Harinani Orme, Cyrus and Rene Faryar
- 8 Kapiolani Park (8-10:30 am), West slope of Diamond Head (4-6 pm) Jack Throp, Jonathan Hegele
- 9 Diamond Head Crater to Paiko Lagoon and Kuapa Pond Robert and Peter Pyle, Harry Whitten (7 am - 4:15 pm)

OAHU CHRISTMAS COUNTS 1958 - 1967

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Black-footed Albatross	2	2		1		1	5	7	7	4
Red-tailed Tropicbird										2
White-tailed Tropicbird									3	
Blue-faced Booby	1	1						5	1	
Brown Booby	20	50	53	150	51	60	51	68	46	51
Red-footed Booby	1560	1013	1315	500	600.	739	580	240	430	1750
Great Frigatebird	728	120	827	452	250	219	408	117	164	952
Cattle Egret	1			1.75				15		34
Black-crowned Night Hero	on 4	2	7	14	21	15	51	31	19	18
Canada Goose				1						
Mallard	•		4		1					
Pintail	438	148	43	51		25		38	29	77
Green-winged Teal				1				•		
American Widgeon	9	17	45	•	7	•				4
Shoveler	42	43	14		12	195	62	3	30	13
Ring-necked Duck			A CONTRACT OF A CONTRACT		46				1	
Scaup (sp?)		•	· · · ·		•		2	2	•	1
Lesser Scaup	8		•	1	4	•		n-elenymentikaniken elenyheind Pro	1	
Bufflehead	0		•		4	•	•		1	
Ring-necked Pheasant	a	•		2	6		4	•		
Common Gallinule	•	1		3	3	6	14	8	5	
American Coot	2202	1133	780	47	178	101	61	33	47	19
Semipalmated Plover	2202	11))	100	2	110	TOT			41	19
American Golden Plover	260	118	146	433	230	314	225	591	590	1093
Ruddy Turnstone	86	2	62	160	2 <u>39</u> 92	65	97	226	93	347
Wilson's Snipe		2	02	100	92	05				241
Wandering Tattler	11	14	17	43	22	15	18	39	11	26
Greater Yellowlegs		14	11	and the state of the second	22	15	10		11	20
Long-billed Dowitcher	•		*	4					8	
Bar-tailed Godwit	•		*	1	6	•	•		4	1
Sanderling	•		•	110	•		150	•	132	
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Black-necked Stilt	124	124	104	187	174	201	123	115 6	189	<u>90</u> 37
Pomarine Jaeger	10	2	4	16	11	23	12	0	31	21
Glaucous Gull	•	•	•	•	1	•		*		· · ·
Glaucous-winged Gull	•	•	2	2		•	•	8	•	2
Ring-billed Gull	•	•	•	•	3	1	0		2	•
Laughing Gull	•	•		•	6	•	•	8	1	•
Bonaparte's Gull	•	•	3		•		*		0	
Sooty Tern	•	•	•			5000	1600	4500+		6000
Noddy Tern	•	•		•		1	1	2		•
White-capped Noddy	•	•	•	•	2		2			27
Rock Dove	3			•	4	•		1	-	•
Spotted Dove	81	106	55	130	71	40	259	245	477	506
Barred Dove	276	176	135	261	208	157 '	1371	1028	1802	2184
Short-eared Owl				1	1		1	2	2	3
Skylark	•	•				1				•
Japanese Varied Tit	3		3	4	1	•	•	6	•	4
Chinese Thrush		2	•		2	1		2	8	1
Red-billed Leiothrix	163	76	115	114	106	81	91	98	98	130
Red-whiskered Bulbul							•			2
Mockingbird	2	1	2	8	4	5	11	22	7	
Shama Thrush	9	3	8	8	5	11	7	5	12	22
'Elepaio	63	46	46	54	32	42	27	24	39	36
76 3		P2 0 3	100	203	100	דודו ב	0071	0110	FOOF	6447
Mynah	311	391	192	381	462	177	2871	2449	5825	0441

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	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
White-eye	130	89	109	231	85	107	298	222	235	260
'Amakihi	88	56	24	42	34	41	35	43	29	46
Oahu Creeper	1	1		4			•			
'Apapane	66	23	64	57	13	26	57	32	42	26
'I'iwi			0	n	2					
Ricebird	306	179	252	156	65	49	289	333	551	647
House Sparrow	311	68	109	125	119	71	1089	670	1111	1128
Cardinal	71	32	53	103	36	53	59	100	96	79
Brazilian Cardinal	9	18	28	44	10	12	85	210	246	274
House Finch	61	3	26	47	16	46	127	107	89	152
Diamond Firetail Finch									1	
Gray Singing Finch	•	. 0	•		٥		•	5	22	37
Green Singing Finch				•				17	6	2
Saffron Finch	•	•			•		•		4	1
Common Waxbill		•						6	2	•
Cordon Bleu								3	7	4
Firefinch	•					•		30	6	5
Lavender Finch	•			•				4	2	17
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	•							30	6	23
Red-eared Waxbill								•	8	7
Strawberry Finch								•	4	•
Bishop Weaver		•				•		•	3	2
Napoleon Weaver						•		6	1	•
Bishop or Napoleon Weave	er .				4		•	1	4	6
No.of Individual Birds:	7457*	4076	4656	3954	2969	7963	10,139	11,820+	12,557	22,641
No.of Species:	34	34	34	39	39	35	34	46	51	51

*2 unidentified waterfowl included.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1967 CHRISTMAS COUNT By Robert L. Pyle

Despite strong winds and heavy showers which made observing conditions inland even poorer than last year, the 1967 Christmas Bird Count equaled last year's record species total of 51 and the total number of birds seen was nearly double last year's record high count of individuals.

Very large numbers of Red-footed Boobies, Great Frigatebirds and Sooty Terns accounted for most of the increase in individuals. Roosting populations of these species build up to maximum numbers near dusk, so that coverage of Ulupau Head and Moku Manu at this time is essential to getting an accurate count of the colonies. Some booby nests were already constructed, and many male Frigatebirds were seen with inflated gular sacs, indicating the breeding cycle has begun.

Counts were also higher than last year for almost all landbird species, due largely to the substantial increase in number of party hours in the field (54 hours on foot compared to 28 last year).

The strong gusty winds and rain, heavy in the lowlands in the morning and nearly continuous all day in mountain areas, kept down the counts of landbirds particularly the forest species. Christmas counters also had to contend with another unusual difficulty. New Year's eve firecrackers became legal at 1 pm and were heard virtually constantly after that in certain sections of the count circle. Jumpy shorebirds flushed repeatedly; landbirds seemed to keep in cover. More than half the party leaders reported independently that counting was definitely hindered in the afternoon. One feeder count was utterly ruined by wind and rain all morning, and neighborhood fire-

OAHU CHRISTMAS COUNTS, 1958 - 1967 - Continued

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crackers all afternoon. New resolve is, Never Again on New Year's Eve.

The recently introduced finches in the Diamond Head area continue to hold their own. The Saffron Finch, seen repeatedly for the past year or two, was finally found on count day for the first time. The Common Waxbills of the past two years were missing, but the similar Red-eared Waxbills were found instead. The Diamond Firetail and two other species were also missed this year. Substantial increases in Gray Singing Finches, Lavender Finches and Orange-cheeked Waxbills suggest that these, at least, must almost certainly be breeding successfully in the wild. Roughly the same group of species has now been found and carefully counted for three consecutive years. Some species have been present longer, but the area was not covered in prior years. They are all resident in the same general locality, and may be seen at any time of year. Immatures and birds feeding young have been reported several times in the past few years.

Species identification is reliable as the area is covered for the count by Jack Throp, Director of the Honolulu Zoo and one of our best authorities on cagebirds. He keeps close check on these populations throughout the year. The Christmas count provides the impetus for a careful annual census of these populations, and also a valuable yearly documentation of their status. These birds are far more than simply a miscellaneous assortment of escapes, here today and gone tomorrow.

During the past few months, four Red-whiskered Bulbuls (<u>Pycnonotus jocosus</u>) have been frequent visitors to the McGuires' yard high on Pacific Heights. On count day heavy winds and rain all morning and neighborhood firecrackers all afternoon kept the birds out of sight. However, just after Dick Gauthey left the McGuires' home in late afternoon, two of the birds flew across in front of his car. He watched them through 7x binoculars for 2-3 minutes, as they fed in a macadamia tree 40 feet away. The dark upperparts, white below, red undertail, sharp erect black crest and black cheek line were seen, but not the red ear mark. These are new to the Honolulu count and to Hawaii. (See THE ELEPAIO, Vol. 28, No. 3, Sep. 1967, p. 24) Although undoubtedly escapees, or descendants of escapees, two seem to be immatures, apparently raised successfully this year.

Among the waterbirds, the two Red-tailed Tropicbirds seen well by John Fitch at Ulupau Head are the first to be recorded on a Christmas count. These birds have appeared along the windward Oahu coast with increasing frequency in recent years. The first known nest in/main Hawaiian Islands was found this summer on Manana islet, off windward Oahu.

The Bar-tailed Godwit, also a first for the Christmas count, was observed for more than 20 minutes by the party at Paiko Lagoon. It was studied at leisure through 30x scope as it fed on an open mudflat with Golden Plovers, Tattlers and Turnstones for comparison. Identification based on large size, two-toned upturned Godwit bill, white underparts, pale brown upperparts, relatively short legs for a godwit. Barring on tail was seen. Bob Pyle is well acquainted with North American godwits, and has seen Bar-tailed Godwits on other central Pacific islands. There are several prior records for this species in Hawaii as an accidental fall and winter migrant. The bird was seen later on January 1 and 9 by experienced observers.

The 34 Cattle Egrets at Kawainui fortell a continued increase of these birds in windward Oahu as long as wetlands and pasture remain.

The Glaucous-winged Gulls were seen by Dick Gauthey and Frederick Leiss at 200 yards through 20x scope, flying and at rest. They were uniform light brown with an entirely black bill. The wing tips were slightly lighter, definitely not dark.

Heartbreaker of the day, however, was the Willet found by Dick Gauthey and Frederick Leiss along Lagoon Drive beyond the Golden Anchor Club. It was seen clearly with 7x binoculars in good light at 50 yards distance, feeding with Golden Plovers. The size, shape, bill. comparison, and gray color were noted, and when flushed the black and white wing markings were seen clearly. Unfortunately, it was a mile outside of, and out of sight of, the count circle. Although common on the Pacific coast of North America, this species has never before been reported in Hawaii.

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<u>AIEA TRAIL</u>: The lowest of the thirteen years of Christmas bird count at Aiea--eight species and forty-six individuals. Even the seemingly ubiquitous White-eye and Leiothrix were scarce.

Usually the Barred Doves are busy feeding on the grounds at the lower picnic area, but none today. We heard only one Barred Dove from deep down in the valley and a faint call from the Spotted Dove from across the valley. A lone Ricebird flew up from a protected perch, as we headed toward shelter from the down pour. Even the N.A. Cardinals were quiet. At this time of the year, they are usually busy defending their territories, but today they were busy protecting themselves from the rain and the wind. We heard only two birds at the Heiau.

Today wasn't for counting birds; it was for enjoying the rain and the wind. At the beginning of the count I was enjoying the clatter of the branches and the whistle of the rain through the leaves, but when I realized that I was out on a mission to count birds, I frequently caught myself begging for the natural symphony to stop for just a moment, so that I could at least hear, let alone count the birds.

Fortunately, there were moments of whispering instead of the roaring wind, and I saw all of the five recorded 'Elepaio, but they were busy keeping themselves from being tossed around and were not flitting from branch to branch as they usually do to accommodate bird watchers.

No 'Apapane nor House Finch. Why? Let's hope that the wind, rain and no blossoms accounted for the last two-years' poor 'Apapane counts, and the road construction and the cutting of the trees around the lower picnic area contributed to the temporary dislocation of the House Finch instead of a permanent ecological changes for these two birds.

At least it was encouraging to know that the Pueo is still flying around--we found its pellet on the trail.

Creeper? Varied Tit? The last reports were 1961 for the Creeper and 1962 for the Tit. If you have recently seen or heard or know anything about these birds, please let us know.

Despite the poor count the day was wonderfully exciting to watch the swiftly moving rain sifting through the different shades of green, to hear the roaring of the wind and the dripping of the rain, and at the same time to smell the pungent eucalyptus and the sweet naupaka.

Kojima

Field Notes from Tom C. Telfer, State Fish and Game Wildlife Biologist: Emperor Goose

I am reporting my visual and captive observation of a pair of accidental migrant Emperor Geese. (Philacte canagica), here on Kauai.

On December 13, 1967, I received a call from a Wailua resident that she had seen two "strange ducks" in the Wailua Beach area. I investigated, and found them to be a pair of Emperor Geese. They flew along the shore in a southerly direction, and could not be relocated.

On December 14, 1967, I received a similar telephone call from a Poipu area resident. Upon investigation, I sighted one Emperor Goose swimming along the shore near Spouting Horn, and photographed it without a telephoto lens at 40 feet. The goose was surprisingly tame and unalarmed by my movements on the rocks, attempting to photograph it.

Later the same day, I was informed by a Kapaa resident that he had captured a "Nene". I drove to take possession of the bird and identified it as an Emperor Goose. This specimen could not fly, due to emaciation, and was very weak. Dr. Walter Haas of Lihue, a local veterinarian, examined the goose and found no apparent lesions, but administered water and an amino acid - vitamin complex to the bird in view of the extreme emaciation. I tried to find a successful feed for the goose, trying lettuce, clover, seaweeds, and frozen blueberries.

The following day, the goose died. Starvation and emaciation are my diagnosis of death, although a complete autopsy will be made to determine any further causes. The skin will be mounted, and an autopsy made in the near future.

I believe that the pair sighted on December 13th was relocated the following day in separate accounts, as described by the Poipu sighting and the captured specimen. Therefore, I presume that only two geese of this species actually were present on Kauai during this time....

THE GARDEN ISLAND, January 1, 1968: Male Emperor Goose Dies, Female Alive (Leilani Pyle's contribution)

The story of the winged visitors which began December 14 took on a sad note when the male Emperor Goose, held in captivity for three days, died of emaciation and possible parasitic infection. The goose was caught in Kealia when it became obvious to some people fishing nearby that it could not fly.

Biologist Tom Telfer made attempts to force feed and veterinarian Dr. Walter Haas injected nutrients hoping to revive and strengthen the exhausted hungry goose but all failed.

Its body has been preserved for autopsy after which it will be mounted and exhibited at the Kauai Museum.

A second Emperor Goose has been found by Mrs. Lydia Tabucol of Koloa Mill Camp. She put it with her ducks and it seemed content and ate the grain given the ducks. Mr. Telfer was contacted and he noticed that this goose, like the first, appeared tired and underweight. He reckoned the birds were 1,000 miles off course in their search for warmer climate from their home on the Alaskan coast.

Telfer worked to build up her nutritional reserves with a high protein game bird mash soaked in water and she responded and gained weight. Dr. Haas and Dr. B. Foley, both veterinarians, examined the goose. She was released on December 26 in a fresh water pond where an abundant natural food supply exists.

Free again after her short captivity, the goose spent considerable time preening and bathing while swimming about her new summer home. It is hoped that she will attempt to migrate back to the breeding grounds to the north come springtime....

Field Trip to study shore birds, 14 January 1968:

Nine visitors joined six Audubon members on a trip after shore birds on January 14. At the initial stop on Sand Island interest was centered about two immature Gulls which were occuping a mudflat with Plovers, Turnstones, Sanderlings and Tattlers. One was identified as a Glaucous-winged Gull. However, after considerable discussion and peering through telescopes, agreement could not be reached on the second bird. The amount of contrast between the mantle and the underparts indicated a Western Gull, but it appeared to be smaller in size.

The same four waders plus Stilt were seen at Hickam AFB near the boat harbor. A Cattle Egret and three Mockingbirds were seen in the vicinity, and on the way back toward Keehi Lagoon a Skylark was seen at the airport.

At Kaneohe Marine Base some very close observations were made of the usual waders plus Night Heron, and seen more distantly through the telescope were Red-footed Boobies, Frigatebirds and Noddy Terns.

At Kahuku the ponds closest to the sugar mill were drained and held few birds except 20 Cattle Egrets. Unfortunately, the ponds on Waipio Peninsula are also dry at this time, depriving the birds of a fine feeding area and us of an excellent birding spot.

A final stop at the more northerly ponds was quite successful. Here the usual Plovers and Sandpipers were joined by a pair of Coot and approximately 50 Ducks. The majority were Pintail, but there were about 8 Shoveler, 8 Baldpate, 4 Green-winged Teal and 2 Scaup Duck (believed to be Lesser). One of the Scaup was a well marked female, but the other appeared to be an immature male, colored more like the female without the white face patch.

This writer observed a Peregrine Falcon above this same pond on the previous day.

Dick Gauthey

READERS' NOTES:

MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE, November 26, 1967: Man Must Help Fading Species Survival Battle by Jim Kimball (Whitney Eastman's contribution)

As a species man has done a pretty thorough job of dominating the earth. But in the process, he has pushed a good many other species over the brink of extinction.

Like death, extinction is a normal part of life, and, since life on earth began, some species have been losing the battle of survival only to be replaced by some more efficient species. Cruel perhaps, but it is nature's way of permitting only the most adaptable to occupy the earth. Dinosaurs failed to change as the earth's environment changed, and they lost out to smaller more adaptable animals.

But the animal man has wiped out many of his fellow earthly creatures with alarming speed.

It has been estimated that the average life of a species is about a halfmillion years and that two species would normally disappear and be replaced by new ones each 100 years. In the past three centuries, we should have lost five or six species but, since 1680, 80 species have disappeared from the earth, 15 times the normal evolutionary pace.

The greatest losses occurred at the turn of the century. During the 20 years from 1885 to 1905, 20 species of birds, an average of one each year, became extinct.

The passenger pigeon is believed to have been the most abundant wild bird the world has ever known. It is estimated that there were five billion of these birds in the days of Audubon, and the last wild passenger pigeon was shot in 1900.

Although we in America have set some sort of a record for pushing birds into extinction, let it be said to our credit that we now deeply regret this and are making a valiant effort to put a stop to it. America has set a world example in bird protection. No country has so many bird clubs, protective laws and professional ornithologists, or has set aside so many millions of acres in refuges and spent so much money for conservation.

Many rejoiced a few months ago when the Fish and Wildlife Service announced that several pairs of ivory-billed woodpeckers had been rediscovered in the "Big Thicket" country of east Texas. Many authorities had believed this bird to be extinct. In fact, it was generally considered extinct back in 1948 when the president of the National Audubon Society challenged Whitney Eastman of Minneapolis to find one.

Over a 10-year period, Eastman led safaris through the southern swamps in search of these largest of woodpeckers with a big white bill. Using commercial snake hunters as guides, they found a few and stimulated great interest in preserving the ivorybilled woodpecker from extinction.

Each year at about this time we await the announcement of the number of whooping cranes to arrive at their winter residence on the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. In the '30s, there were only 17 of these great white birds which stand 5 feet tall and have a 7-foot wing spread. Their numbers fell to 14 in 1938.

Everything imaginable has been done to preserve them from extinction, and this year there are at least 48 whooping cranes in the wild and a dozen in captivity. Four of the captive birds emerged from six eggs picked up by helicopter in their far north breeding grounds.

While 60 whoopers are much better than 14, they have not drifted far from the brink of extinction. I have had the rare good fortune to see and photograph whoopers on the Aransas Refuge, and it would seem that one hurricane could wipe them out.

This almost happened to another endangered species, the Atwater prairie chicken. The remaining 1,500 of these birds were struck by hurricane Beulah which reduced their numbers to less than half. Latest reports indicate there are fewer than 600 Atwater prairie chickens on the earth. One wonders how and why man has driven so many species of animals to extinction and when it will stop. There are probably at least 100 species on earth now whose existence is endangered.

Some extinct birds such as the great auk which was hunted for 300 years and another flightless bird, the dodo, along with the Carolina parakeet, were killed off directly by man. But by far the majority of the extinct and endangered species are gone or in trouble because man has changed the environment of the earth too rapidly for many species to adjust in time to survive.

It goes back to the truism, "Specialization is a limitation." The species which are gone or in trouble are specialist. The adaptable crow, most song birds and the rat easily adjust to changes made by man.

The ivory-billed woodpecker uses his great bill to pry bark from the mature dead and dying trees in search of wood-boring insects which are his major source of food. But commercial foresters consider it a sacrilege to permit a tree to become old and die, so the trees have gone to the mill and the ivory-billed woodpecker has not been able to adjust to other food sources.

While passenger pigeons were slaughtered by the millions, it was probably the destruction of their natural feeding grounds in the hardwood forests which dealt them the lethal blow.

Heath hens were protected for many years prior to their extinction, but like the Atwater prairie chicken, destruction of the grass lands they need spelled doom.

Excellent efforts are now being made to save endangered species, but there seems to be some incongruities. In the words of Dr. Joseph J. Hickey, "Without a permit you cannot pick up and take home a car-killed Baltimore oriole, but you can, generally with impunity, cut down a tree containing an oriole nest full of young. You cannot shoot a snowy egret, but you can drain off a marsh on which a whole colony of egret nestlings may depend for food. You cannot shoot a robin, but you can kill it with insecticides."

FOR JUNIOR MEIBERS:

The masked bobwhite's future is encouraging according to the news article received on November 21st from Ethel Matheson. "Extinction threat ends--Bobwhite population rising. The four pairs of masked bobwhites carried a heavy burden when they arrived at Patuxent National Wildlife Center in April 1966, but they have come through. They produced 46 baby bobwhites this season--compared with two last year-and the species no longer is faced with extinction. If the population explosion continues, the Center expects to produce 150 or more young quail next year for 'release to the wild.' The rare birds--the male has a black head and throat and a brick-red breast--will be set free in southern Arizona where the species once thrived... Annual releases for several years, coupled with favorable land management, will re-establish the birds in southern Arizona and bolster their population in Mexico..."

But here in Hawaii the spectacular volcano is killing off the white-tailed tropicbird. (The Sunday STAR-BULLETIN & ADVERTISER, November 19, 1967, p. A-LA)

"The heat and sulphur fumes from the volcanic eruption in the Halemaumau firepit are killing the beautiful Koa'e birds who live on the sides of the crater cliff. The graceful white birds withblack markings are known also as 'crater birds' or 'tropic birds.' ...Geologist Thomas Wright was the first to see the birds dying in the firepit. Usually, four or five soar over the pit all the time, eruption or no eruption. But this time some got too close to the intense heat of the lava fountains and fell into the molten lake of lava. Some have been overcome by the sulphur fumes or were caught in a sudden updraft of hot air...."

Excerpts from minutes, Hawaii Audubon Society General Meeting, December 11, 1967: ...Carl Frings showed us a small bird Christmas tree ornament that is being offered for sale by a Guatemala bird group, the proceeds to go towards a CloudForest Sanctuary to save the Quetzel....

Robert Pyle, member of the Nominating Committee, acting for Chairman...Eugene Kridler, who is on French Frigate Shoal, announced the slate of candidates...A vote to accept the slate was taken. It was unanimous in favor of the presented slate.

Robert Pyle then announced that the Society's book HAWAII'S BIRDS is now available and can be purchased at the Meeting....

The program for the evening was two films obtained from the Film Services; one on "The Busch Gardens in Florida" and the second film on "New Zealand Birds."

Between the films, Dr. Berger told us about the Kipahulu Conservation Project where in the course of study, 3 very rare species were seen--Maui Parrotbill, Maui Nuku-pu'u and Crested Honeycreepers. Following the second film on "New Zealand Birds" Dr. Berger made interesting comments on the parallels of New Zealand birds with Hawaii's birds....

YOUR PUBLICATION

THE ELEPAIO is your publication and needs your help to improve the quality in order to communicate with the largest number of people.

The following is the financial report from 1 January through 31 December 1967: Envelopes and stamps. \$ 33.82

Mailing

minerohee and another.	\$)).UL
Paper	141.54
Stencils	16.22
Miscellaneous	.73
	\$192.31

The	mailing list	for December	1967	issue was as follows:
	Honolulu	109 copies		APO 2
	Rural Oahu	17		Mainland 73 (26 States)
	Hawaii	10		Canada 4
	Kauai	9		New Zealand 3
	Mauai	5		Samoa <u>l</u>
	Molokai	1		234 copies

Please write to Kojima, 725-A 8th Ave, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816 for any suggestions. MAHALO NUI LOA

HAWAII'S BIRDS, new field guide, now available for \$2.00. Send in your orders to: Book Order Committee, Hawaii Audubon Society, P.O. Box 5032, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES:

February 11 - Field trip to Palikea to study the forest birds. Bring lunch, water, and if possible your car. Transportation cost (\$1.00) to be paid to the drivers. Meet at the Library of Hawaii at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Lt Comdr J. Richard Gauthey, telephone: 430-27218.

February 12 - Board meeting at the Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Members are always welcome.

February 19 - General meeting at the Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Ralph W. Schreiber Topic: Christmas Island Birds (Color slides)

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President-Miss Margaret Titcomb, Vice Presidents-Dr.Andrew J.Berger & Jack L.Throp Secret_ary-Mrs. Robert L. Pyle, Treasurer-Bill Prange Board Members: Dr. Robert L. Pyle & Ronald L. Walker THE ELEPAIO: EDITORS: Miss Charlotta Hoskins & Miss Unoyo Kojima

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Mimeographing - Gratis (Bishop Museum)

- Gratis (members)

Typing - Gratis (members)