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BIRDS OF THE WEST MAUI MOUNTAINS By David Anderson

During January and February 1976 I was fortunate to make two trips into the West Maui Mountains. Since little is known of this area it is hoped that this report might stimulate someone to undertake a thorough ornithological study of the West Maui Mountains.

The first trip was taken on 19 January 1976 on the Waihee Ridge trail above Camp Maluhia. The maximum elevation reached was 2500 feet. On this trip one migratory shore bird, two Hawaiian endemics and four introduced species were seen or heard. Numbers of birds seen are as follows: Golden Plover-3, 'Amakihi-2 heard, 'Apapane-12+, Common Myna-20, Spotted Dove-3, Spotted Munia-25, and Japanese White-eye-8. The Golden Plover, Common Myna, and Spotted Dove were restricted to the cattle grazing area surrounding and below the trail head. The Spotted Munias were seen near or feeding in areas of tall dried grass. The Japanese White-eyes were observed feeding in trees or brush where it would be expected.

The lowest 'Apapane was at an elevation of about 1900 feet. It was feeding on a Clermontia sp. All of the 'Apapane were in or flew over the higher elevations of the trail where scattered 'Thi's is common. None were seen in the eucalyptus groves at slightly lower elevations although 'Apapane have been seen feeding in the eucalyptus at Hosmer Grove in Haleakala National Park. Only two 'Amakihi were heard, both were in the same habitat as the 'Apapane. It is interesting to note that no endemic birds were seen on a trip into this area in August 1973.

In some areas on the Waihee Ridge trail patches of introduced grasses are expanding. This is most likely due to human and more recently pig disturbance, with seeds being carried by both agents as well as birds. No evidence of pig disturbance was noted on the August 1973 hike.

The second hike into the West Maui Mountains was on 16 February 1976 on the trail from Fleming Cabin to Violet Lake at a maximum elevation of 4900 feet. The trail above the cabin passes through an exquisite cloud forest of 'ōhi'a much more developed than that found on Waihee Ridge. Some introduced plants are present (Cryptomeria, blackberry, etc.), but they are only a minor component of the plant community at this time. With increased disturbance, whether it be pig or human, these plants will increase and possibly have bad side effects on the native birds. Maui Land and Pine Company's policy of discouraging all but the more serious students from crossing their land should be encouraged and not discouraged.

On this trip one migratory shore bird, two Hawaiian endemics and four introduced species were seen. Numbers of birds seen were: Golden Plover-1-3, 'Amakihi-6+, 'Apapane-125, Japanese White-eye-10, Spotted Munia-50, House Finch-1. Weather conditions on this trip should be noted. Wind speeds around Violet Lake were in the neighborhood of 50 to 60 knots, at lower elevations, not as strong. Visibility at the higher elevations was limited due to the fog which is characteristic of that elevation. Visibility at the cabin in the morning was less than 100 feet, but by afternoon the level of the clouds had lifted so that the west coast of Maui could be seen clearly. Conditions for observing birds were therefore not optimum.

The Golden Plover was seen in the bogs around Violet Lake. I am not sure if the bird(s) I saw was one three times or three different birds.

Only about 6 'Amakihi were seen during the hike from an elevation of about 2400 feet

up to just under 4500 feet. These birds were heard, only. I estimate that I saw and heard about 125 'Apapane from the low elevation of 1600 feet up to Violet Lake, although they were most common above 2900 feet. The bird seen at 1600 feet was seen feeding in 'ōhi'a growing on the sides of a gully next to the road leading to the cabin, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below it. The only introduced bird seen in the native forest was the Japanese White-eye. No concentrations were noticed; individuals were seen up to 4000 feet.

All of the Spotted Doves were seen below 2100 feet in clearings near introduced vegetation. Three flocks of Spotted Munias totaling about 50 individuals (numbers in flocks: 18, 18, and 14) were seen below 2100 feet around introduced grasses. Only one House Finch was heard in a grove of Cryptomeria at an elevation of 1700 feet.

I would like to express my appreciation to Colin Cameron's office for permission to cross Maui Land and Pine land and to Bruce Palmer, instructor of biology at Maui Community College for reading this note.

KAULA-HAWAII'S FORGOTTEN BIRD ISLAND

By Linda R. Evans

(Originally published in The Sunday Star-Bulletin & Advertiser, 16 Nov. 1975, pp.F-1 & F-6)
The Island of Kaula was one of the five Hawaiian Islands seen by Captain Cook during
his first visit in 1778. Following Cook's death during the second visit in 1779, Kaula was
the last island seen when the expedition's vessels departed from Hawaiian waters.

Today, Kaula has been virtually forgotten by the people of Hawaii and remains practically unknown to the outside world. There can be little doubt that the U.S. Navy would like it to stay that way. To them, the island is known as the Kaula Rock Target.

Kaula covers 136 acres (four times the size of Ala Moana shopping center) and is located 20 miles to the southwest of Niihau and 150 miles to the west-northwest of Honolulu. The island rises abruptly to an elevation of 550 feet and has been described as appearing like a huge sea turtle on the horizon.

In 1909, President Theodore Roosevelt set aside nearly all of the small volcanic and coral islands in the northwestern portion of the Hawaiian chain as a sanctuary for wildlife. Millions of migratory seabirds, as well as seals and turtles, depend on these islands for breeding purposes. The result of Roosevelt's farsighted conservation action can be seen today as the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, one of the most outstanding natural preserves in the world.

Only two of the northwestern islands, Kaula and Midway, were not covered by the Presidential Order of 1909. Both of these islands should have been. Apparently there was little reason or incentive at the time to have strategically located Midway officially declared a sanctuary. By 1909 the island had been colonized for some six years by the Commercial Pacific Cable Company. Midway's massive albatross populations were therefore already safe from the Japanese feather poachers that were slaughtering hundreds of thousands of birds on the other small islands in the chain.

The reason for not including Kaula in the sanctuary perhaps will never be positively known. The importance of Kaula as a nesting site for numerous species of seabirds was well-known to the Hawaiian people. Possibly this information was not available to President Roosevelt, thereby causing the island to be simply overlooked and forgotten. Another possibility is that Kaula's steep cliffs may have been regarded as a natural defense against feather poachers. Federal protection may not have been thought necessary in order to ensure the birds' continued well-being. This explanation would seem to be the most reasonable, as the first known landing on the island by a non-Hawaiian did not take place until 1920. Even then, the individual was unable to reach the summit.

Whatever the original reason for not including Kaula in the Presidential Order of 1909, the result has been, and continues to be, the destruction of nesting seabirds by military bombs and gunfire. The events that brought about this incompatible and intolerable use of public property provide an interesting lesson in land acquisition an environmental degradation.

In December of 1924, Territorial Governor Farrington signed Executive Order 173 which set aside Kaula Island for public purposes as a United States Lighthouse Reservation under the control of the Department of Commerce. During the summer of 1925, personnel of the Lighthouse Service succeeded in building a trail to the island's summit. On the top, two stone structures were found that were thought to be religious shrines. A shelter cave with a low stone wall across the entrance was also discovered. These findings confirmed the

reports of Captain Cook that early Hawaiians periodically made visits to Kaula.

Due to unfavorable weather conditions, Lighthouse Service personnel were not able to make another landing on the island until the summer of 1932. At that time an automatic gas light was constructed and put into service. The first and only published survey of the island's flora and fauna was also conducted in the summer of 1932. Results of this survey appeared in a Bishop Museum report and revealed that 15 species of plants and 14 species of seabirds were present. Among the birds in greatest abundance were noddy and sooty terms, red-tailed tropicbirds, blue-faced, red-footed and hooded /brown/ boobies, and frigatebirds. White terms, petrels and shearwaters were also found. The biology of Kaula was clearly typical of the other isolated islands in the northwestern portion of the Hawaiian chain.

Practically no information about Kaula is available for the 25 years following installation of the automatic light. It seems safe to assume that, except for yearly maintenance visits, the island and its seabirds were left in peace. In Washington, however, one significant event did take place during this period that would ultimately affect the island's safety. In 1939, the Lighthouse Service of the Department of Commerce was integrated into the U.S. Coast Guard. In 1947, 25 years after installation, the Kaula light was permanently closed down. This action extinguished the island's hope for remaining unmolested.

The first admitted bombing and strafing by Navy and Marine Corps aircraft started in 1952. This was apparently initiated with the blessing of the Coast Guard. However, no records can be found which show that the Territorial Government, Congress or the President ever granted approval for bombing, or was even officially notified of this action. Between 1952 and 1965 the Coast Guard continued to hold jurisdiction over Kaula and, at the same time, apparently raised no objections to the military's delivery of all kinds of ordnance. In addition to the standard bombings, strafings and use of high intensity flares, this ordinance also at time included torpedos and Regulus missiles fired from submarines.

Beginning in the 1960s, residents of Kauai started to voice opposition to this senseless killing of seabirds, many of which are valuable to fishermen for locating schools of fish and detecting ocean current changes. People living on Kauai seemed to be the most concerned, probably because at night they could actually see what the military was doing. For most other residents in the state, Kaula was out of sight, and out of mind. In 1961 the Kauai Board of Supervisors officially asked the Navy to halt the bombing. Their request was promptly and quietly rejected, as many other such requests have been during the years that followed.

In early 1965, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation were called upon for aid in the matter. In response to an inquiry by Rep. Patsy Mink, the Department of the Interior (administrators of the National Refuge System) stated that Kaula has "...impressive value as a nesting area for certain seabirds..." and that it is "...hightly desirable that the Island of Kaula be considered for National Wildlife Refuge status as an addition to the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge." Further, Mrs. Mink was told that everything possible would be done to have the island incorporated into the Refuge. Unfortunately, the Department of the Interior subsequently dropped the matter, after being told by the Navy that Kaula was vital to the war effort in Vietnam. Conservation groups on Kauai also agreed to stop campaigning against the Navy, after being told the same thing.

In March 1965, Rep. Spark Matsunaga publicly announced that jurisdiction of Kaula had been officially transferred from the Coast Guard to the Navy. The island's "give-away" therefore took place without organized opposition, in the name of national security. It is interesting to note that throughout the crisis of World War II, the bombing of Kaula and its seabirds had not been considered necessary by the military for "national security" or "defense readiness." Kaula would again have drifted out of public eye after Navy acquisition, had it not been for the pilots of two Skyraiders from the aircraft carrier Ticonderoga enroute to Vietnam. On the night of Oct. 5, 1965 these pilots became "confused" (as it was later explained) and dropped eight 250-pound bombs on Niihau, 32 miles from their intended destination of Kaula. Fortunately, the explosions took place in an unpopulated area. Nearly two days passed before the Navy publicly announced the incident. In the meantime, numbers of Hawaii's congressional delegation were informed through newspaper sources. Senator Hiram Fong accused the Navy of "gross carelessness," and Mrs. Mink renewed her call for an end to bombing, both for the safety of people and the sake of seabirds. Senator Daniel Inouye expressed "anger and dismay." In the end, however, the Navy refused to halt bombardments, even long enough for an investigation of the incident.

Little else was heard of Kaula until August 1971, when the Navy conducted a two day environmental survey of the island with the help of State and Federal biologists. Rather than reflecting a sudden change of attitude, this survey was prompted by a direct request from former president Nixon. The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 requires that statements be filed outlining the environmental effects resulting from actions that are federally funded. Military bombardments of islands and seabirds come under this category. A newspaper article announced the completion of the two-day survey; however, in the following months and years no reports were made available and an Environmental Impact Statement was never filed.

Although the exact status of Kaula's environment presently remains a mystery to the public, fishermen in the area report that seabirds still nest, or at least attempt to nest, on the island. This would suggest that the island is not now, nor has it ever been, the barren or worthless "rock" to which it is sometimes referred.

The recent renewal of efforts to have the bombing of Kahoolawe stopped should also encompass the Island of Kaula, Hawaii's forgotten bird island should no longer continue to be forgotten. A reasonable, but definite, date should be set for halting all bombardments. This should be on or before January 1978, the 200th anniversary of Kaula's European discovery. Following the cessation of destruction, the island should at long-last be transferred to the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge where it belongs. This seems the least that could be done after 23 years of military use.

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Field Notes from C. Fred Zeillemaker: Kauai, Maui, Molokai & Hawaii; Dec.1975-Aug.1976

<u>Pied-billed Grebe</u>--The Lumahai River estuary (Kauai) bird found in November was also
observed there January 15 and 22, March 4, and April 14.

Black-footed Albatross--Four birds were observed at Kilauea Point Wildlife Admin. Site (WAS), Kauai, by Rick Howie of Canada on January 16. I observed a single bird there February 21.

<u>Laysan Albatross</u>—Single birds appeared at Kilauea Point WAS in December, one to three birds were regularly observed in January, February and March, six were observed March 27, up to three were spotted in April, and a single bird was observed May 1.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater-The last 1975 observation at Kilauea Point occurred December 10. The species was discovered back in burrows there March 7, but birds may have actually arrived a few days earlier. The first chicks were found July 28.

Newell's Shearwater--Calling was detected in the Anahola Mountains, Kauai, on April 28. One struck the lighthouse at Kilauea Point WAS May 26. Road killed birds were found between Kealia and the Wailua River in April-2, May-3, June-15, July-7, and August-2.

Red-tailed Tropicbird--A bird returned to Kilauea Point WAS on February 13 (Norma Christie of Canada). Up to 3 were observed in March, 9 in April and May, 7 in June, 8 in July and 6 in August.

Blue-faced Booby--Single birds paused at Mokuaeae Island off Kilauea Point May 28, June 7, and July 24.

Brown Booby -- Up to 6 birds used Mokuaeae Island off Kilauea Point in December, 4 in

January, 3 in February and March, 13 in April, 14 in May, 17 in June and July, and 20 in August.

Red-footed Booby--The Kilauea Point WAS colony began building nests January 21. Nesting activity increased markedly in mid-February. Many eggs were being incubated by late April, and chicks began fledging July 16.

Great Frigatebird--Up to 25 used Mokuaeae Island and Kilauea Point in December, 21 in January, 26 in February, 8 in March, 12 in April, 45 in May, 60 in June and July, and

75 in August.

<u>Cattle Egret</u>—The Kauai population exceeded 1500 during the period. An incomplete count at the Kilauea shoreline colony August 21 indicated at least 1250 were present. Two birds were west of Kaunakakai, Molokai, March 9. Three were at the Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, May 7.

Mallard -- Two drakes were at Hanalei Refuge December 12, one was there throughout January, 2 were there in early February, and 1 in late February. One was again at the

refuge throughout the month of May.

Hawaiian Duck--The peak Hanalei Refuge count of 91 birds occurred in August.

<u>Pintail</u>—Up to 146 visited Hanalei Refuge in December, but moved elsewhere in January. One was there January 15 and 7 were found February 27. Eighty-six were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10, but the population had dropped to 16 by March 9, and was gone by May 7.

Green-winged Teal--Eight were at Hanalei Refuge December 27. One was at Kealia Pond,

Maui, February 10 and three were at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary May 7.

Blue-winged Teal--A single drake was with Koloa at Hanalei Refuge August 18.

American Wigeon—Three were at Hanalei Refuge December 12. One was at Kakahaia Refuge, Molokai, May 7. Three were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10, while one was at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary May 7.

Northern Shoveler-One or two visited Hanalei Refuge through December. Forty-nine were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10, 64 were there March 3 (Meyer Ueoka), 109 by May 8, 22 on June 9, and 1 on July 20. There were 155 at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary May 7 and over 40 remained June 8! Two were there August 24. Four were at Opacula Pond, Hawaii, August 25.

Canvasback -- A bird in female plumage was at Kealia Pond, Maui, March 8 and 9.

Lesser Scaup -- Four were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10 and 7 (5 male) were there March 8 and 9.

Golden Eagle—The lone Kauai bird was observed soaring over pasturelands near Kilauea January 15. Golden Plovers, normally rather solitary at that time of the year, reacted by joining in large flocks and swirling nervously from one spot to another.

Peregrine Falcon-The female that arrived at Kilauea Point, Kauai, in November was also

observed there December 5, 9, 27 and 30 and January 1, 2 and 15.

<u>Hawaiian Gallinule</u>—The highest count at Hanalei Refuge during the period was 72 on March 4.

Hawaiian Coot-Birds with red-brown frontal shields were regularly observed on Kauai (Hanalei Refuge, Lumahai River), Molokai (Kakahaia Refuge), Maui (Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Kealia Pond) and Hawaii (Aimakapa Pond at Honokohau) from June (when I started looking) on. Such birds also show dark markings near the tip of their beaks.

Semipalmated Plover -- Two were at Opacula Pond at Makalawena, Hawaii, February 11 and March 10. One remained there May 17. A single bird had returned to the pond by August 25.

<u>Killdeer--A</u> single bird was at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Haui, May 7, 12 and 17. It had been observed previously by Meyer Ueoka of Hawaii Division of Fish and Game.

Golden Plover--The species was not observed at Hanalei or Kilauea, Kauai, between May 25 and July 24. Eleven were at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, on June 8.

Black-bellied Plover--A single bird was feeding along the shoreline at Anini Beach, Kauai. May 2.

Common Snipe-One was at Hanalei Refuge December 12 and March 4.

Lesser Yellowlegs-One fed in taro paddies at Hanalei Refuge December 6. A single bird was discovered (with Bob Pyle) at Kealia Pond, Maui, on August 25.

Wandering Tattler -- A few were present on the North Shore of Kauai throughout the summer period.

Ruddy Turnstone-Thirty were at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, June 8.

Spotted or Common Sandpiper (Actitis sp.) -- In reference to a bird observed at Hanalei Refuge September 26 (see 'ELEPAIO, Vol.36, No.9, Mar.1976, p.116), a letter to Fred Zeillemaker from Roger Clapp of the National Museum of Natural History on February 3, 1976 stated

"your observations are about as good as anyone could do for these two species but I rather suspect there is no chance of any specific determination...Winter plumage birds certainly cannot be identified to species in the field. Only specimen data will do. There are two previous records from Hawaii, seven from the central Pacific, yours being the eighth. My feeling prior to further analysis is that most of the records were probably of macularia (Spotted) in view of the available specimen data but it is certainly possible that the more western sight records could be hypoleucos (Common)...and the possibility that your record is hypoleucos is certainly not untenable."

Pectoral Sandpiper -- One was found at Opacula Pond, Hawaii, (with Bob Pyle and Mike

Scott) August 25.

<u>Least Sandpiper</u>—A single bird was observed at close range at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, March 10. Meyer Ueoka, Hawaii Division of Fish and Game, had observed it previously.

Western Sandpiper -- A lone "peep" tentatively identified as this species was photographed at Hanale Refuge, Kauai, August 18. The bird was located for a final time on August 21.

Long-billed Dowitcher--Three used Hanalei Refuge through December 27. Five were at Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, March 10.

<u>Wilson's Phalarope</u>—Two birds were reported to me on Kauai by two Mainland birders who had been to Kanaha Pond Sanctuary, Maui, in mid-August. While visiting the pond with Bob Pyle August 24 and 25, the two birds were observed west of the pavilion.

Ring-billed Gull--Six immature birds were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10, and

5 remained there March 9 and 10.

Franklin's Gull--Four birds (believed to match illustrations in BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA, but possibly Laughing Gulls) were at Kealia Pond, Maui, February 10. Two were still there March 9 and 10.

Sooty Tern--A lone bird flew past Kilauea Point WAS, Kauai, June 10.

Black Noddy--A flock of 10 birds was feeding off Kilauea Point August 16.

Barn Owl—A dead bird was found along the highway near Kaunakakai, Molokai, on Feb.10.

Greater Necklaced Laughing-thrush—A flock of 19 birds was observed at Huleia Refuge,
Kauai, January 4. The species was also observed there in April and July. The species was
also observed in February, March, June, July and August at Hanalei Refuge. A road killed
bird was collected at Anahola April 14. The specimen has been sent to the National Museum.
Birds were also found at the Lumahai River estuary May 2.

Yellow-billed Cardinal—After misidentifying two birds at Opaeula Pond, Makalawena, Hawaii, March 10 as Red-crested Cardinals, Mark Collins and Mike Scott put me straight later in the month. Three birds were observed with Mike May 6. The birds were photographed and their "int" calls were recorded there June 9. An immature bird was also observed during the June visit. Two were found at Opaeula Pond again on August 26 (with Mike Scott and Bob/*****
Field Trip to Kahuku Ranch, Big Island, 14 August 1976, by Lawrence K. Katahira

On August 14, the Conservation Council and Audubon Society held a joint field trip to the uppler slopes of Kahuku Ranch. After a 15-mile jeep ride and several hundred yards of walking the group witnessed large colonies of Ka'u Silverswords, Argyroxiphium kauense, growing on a roughed 'a'ā lava flow. These impressive and rare plants occupy 20-30 acres and appear very localized in this fog belt area. Mae Mull said, "About six bloom stalks were up."

For lunch the group drove approximately one mile mauka in a large klpuka to a rancher's cabin. Here some of us saw a couple male 'Akepa as well as the more common 'Oma'o, 'Apapane, 'I'iwi, and 'Amakihi.

Many thanks to Kahuku Ranch for allowing the group access and for providing a guide.

Field Notes from Mary M. Roberts, 30 October 1976: Shama

At last the Shama has left his mountain fastness and come to the flatlands as far as my home on Makiki Street a block above Wilder. This is not a chance visit, as I have seen him and listened to his incredibly beautiful whistle, warble and fullthroated call off and on almost dally for a week. Since I had never been close enough to him when listening to his song on Tantalus, I had never heard a sharp clicking sound he makes as he hops from branch to branch. To my delight he stopped long enough in my mango tree to respond exuberantly to my whistles.

This has been one of the most rewarding years I can remember of Java Sparrows, bulbuls, Red-crested and Northern Cardinals, Linnets and laughing-thrushes /species unknown/ visiting my garden. Perhaps our long summer weather accounts for it, also my bird baths, Teeding stations and pyracantha tree loaded with berries.

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 13 November 1976, page B-5, Isle Seal Now on Endangered Species List --Monachus schauinslandi is considered endangered throughout its natural range.

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US Dept of Interior-DC

Univ of Cal-Berkeley Los Angeles

Hawaii-Hon Hawaii Hilo Coll-Haw Kansas Michigan

Waiakea High Sch-Haw Waialua Lib-Oahu Waikiki Aguarium-Hon Waimea Arboretum-Oahu W.A. Gerbode Found-Cal (LIFE)

Windward Comm Coll-Oahu

Wildlife Scholarships: The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) announces that applications are now being accepted for its 1976-77 program of environmental conservation fellowships of up to \$4,000 each. All applicants must be U.S. citizens and masters or doctoral degree candidates. Applications must be submitted before 31 December 1976. For application forms write to Executive Vice President, NWF, 1412 Sixteenth St, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

This program is available each year, and Steve Montgomery reports that Hawaii students have not yet taken advantage of it.

Comments: From Mrs. Betty L. Johnson, 15 October 1976—This is in response to your request for comments on the quotes, from the last 'ELEFAIO, from Aldo Leopold, /Vol. 37, No. 4, Oct. 1976, pp. 48-49/ More and more I think people are coming around to the conclusions that Leopold made so many years ago. Every conservationist, bird lover, wildlife saver, environmentalist, ecologist should have engraved on his heart "Everything is related to everything else," a first principle enunciated by Barry Commoner. Which is not to say this originated with Commoner, but that in his book, THE CLOSING CIRCLE, he began with several axioms of which that was the first.

When man starts tampering with nature, trying to "manage it," mostly for his own benefit, to eliminate some plants, birds, animals which he considers pests or otherwise obnoxious, unanticipated consequences frequently arise, and do more harm and damage than the original thing he was trying to eliminate. Certainly all the hard pesticides (DDT and others) are examples whose widespread and disastrous consequences are fresh in the minds of most of us. Often what we think is for the good of man turns out to be quite different. One of the early ecological examples is that of introducing rabbits into Australia, where, there being no natural enemies or predators, they multiplied rapidly and became pests. The same was true, although on a somewhat smaller scale, on the island of Laysan in the Hawaiian archipelago, where the burgeoning rabbits wiped out the greenery on which they fed, and helped exterminate three species of birds endemic to the island. Laysan honeycreeper, Laysan Millerbird, Laysan flightless Rail/

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 25 October 1976, page C-7, Obituaries: Herbert C. Shipman, the

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 25 October 1976, page C-7, Obituaries: Herbert C. Shipman, the "savior of the Nene goose," died last week on the Big Island. He was 84. ...

The saving of Hawaii's state bird, the nene, was just one of the conservation efforts that earned him the "Conservationist of the Century" award from the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts in 1974...Mr. Shipman also was involved in saving rare plants that were threatened with destruction. He joined in the effort to save the Mauna Kea silversword plant, a different plant from the Haleakala variety, that had dwindled to less than 100 plants two years ago. When he leased land to the Puna Sugar Co., he required that whenever a tree was destroyed, two must be planted in its place. ...Long before the U.S. Soil Conservation Service was formed in 1936, he was bringing grasses here to arrest soil erosion. ...When the County Council on the Big Island named Shipman Park in March, it praised him in a resolution as "a man who has achieved in all aspects of his community, business and humanitarian endeavors and, especially, for his service and dedication to the people and district of Puna."

ALOHA to New Members:
Harry H. Bailey, Rt 4, Box 625-J, Grass Valley, California 95945
Mrs. A. Krogh Hansen, 1434 Punahou St, Apt 817, Honolulu, HI 96822
Doris M. Harwood, 1434 Punahou St, Apt 337, Honolulu, HI 96822
Asleain Hodges, 3328-B Benoit Place, Honolulu, HI 96817
Jaclyn Brandt Leong, 3029 Alapali Place, Honolulu, HI 96815

Donations: We are grateful to the following non-members who have donated their change from the purchase of HAWAII'S BIRDS: Peggy Lou Stebbins-\$4.75 and Mrs. Evelyn F. Cox-\$1.38. MAHALO NUI LOA for your generosity.

**** The nominating committee (Dr. Sheila Contact Chairperson; Unoyo Kojima, Leilani Pyle) presents the following slate for election to the 1977 term of the Board of Directors: President-Robert L. Pyle; Vice-Presidents-Francis G. Howarth & Robert Shallenberger; Secretaries-C. John Ralph (corresponding) & Leilani Pyle (recording); Treasurer-Timothy A. Burr; Board Members-Hilde K. Cherry & Richard H. Davis.

Members will vote on this slate at the annual meeting of the Society on 13 December, at which time nominations will be accepted from the floor.

HAWAII'S BIRDS, a field guide, is now available. Price per copy: \$3.00 + postage & tax postage: U.S. 25¢ book rate, 57¢ first class; foreign--variable, weight 50zs; sales and mailing in Hawaii--add 12¢ sales tax. Send in orders to Book Order Committee, Hawaii Audubon Society, PO Box 22832, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES: PLEASE NOTE DATES.

BER ACTIVITIES: PLEASE NOTE DATES. No Board Meeting.

13 December - Annual meeting at Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.
Program: 1.Elect officers 2.Work out details of the Christmas bird count 3.Breeding Biology of the Japanese White-eye by Sandra Guest (color slides)

18 December - Kapaa & Lihue, Kauai, Christmas Count. For Kapaa information call 822-3271, Delano Kawahara. RR 1, Box 261 A 21, Kapaa, Kauai 96746 or before 10 December only 828-1431, Fred Zeillemaker, PO Box 87, Kilauea, Kauai 96754. Lihue-call 822-3045, Winona Sears, 190 Lulo Road, Kapaa, Kauai 96746.

19 December - Waimea, Kauai, Christmas Count. Call 335-5889. Takeshi Fujita. PO Box 228, Hanapepe, Kauai 96716 or 335-5008, David Boynton, PO Box 651, Waimea, Kauai 96796.

19 December - Honolulu Christmas Count. Call 262-4046 (evenings), Dr. Robert L. Pyle, 741 N. Kalaheo Avenue, Kailua. Oahu 96734.

2 January - Big Island Christmas Count. Call 967-7416 (home) or 967-7311 (office), Larry Katahira, PO Box 100, Hawaii National Park, Hawaii 96718.

II AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD: President-Dr. Sheila Conant; Vice Presidents-

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD: President-Dr. Sheila Conant; Vice Presidents-Charles van Riper III (program) & William F. Burke (education); Secretaries-Catherine R.C. Unabia (recording) & Leilani Pyle (corresponding); Treasurer-Timothy A. Burr; Board Members-Dr. Francis G. Howarth & Dr. Robert L. Pyle
Representatives: Mae E. Mull. Big Island; James M. Bradley, Midway; Dr. Warren B. King, Wash. DC
'ELEPAIO: Editors-Charlotta Hoskins & Unoyo Kojima
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 22832, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 (PLEASE NOTE)
DUES: Regular-\$3.00 per annum, Junior (18 years and under)-\$1.00 per annum,
Life-\$100.00 (may be paid in four annual installments).

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