

OUR FIRST 50 YEARS—1902-1952

By Tom McAllister

Audubon Society of Portland, one of the first in the Nation, has blazed a trail of nature protection and appreciation that has shone for a century.

Our vibrant young state was a land of unlimited opportunity and was filling fast when Portland Audubon had its origins with the opening of the 20th Century. The Lewis and Clark Centennial and American Pacific Exposition and Oriental Fair of 1905 was held in Northwest Portland at the site of Guilds Lake. Wintering swans, ducks and geese gathered here before the lake was filled. That fir was the bash that put the City of Roses on the world stage.

There was still “free land” for homesteaders in the public domain. The deep loess soils of the Columbia Plateau were ripe for transformation from native Bluebunch Wheatgrass into wheat and the upper Rogue and Hood River valleys into orchards. Vast forests of Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar and Sitka Spruce were the finest in the Nation. Hard rock mining, salmon canning, wool and wheat for local mills and export and lumber formed the basic industries.

In 1902 Portland had 90,400 population. Astoria was then Oregon’s second largest city, 8,400, and Baker City, 6,600, was third. Commerce with the markets of the world, fishing and mining were the job foundations for that one, two, three, ranking. Incomparable runs of salmon, virgin soils, mineral riches and a wealth in timber just opening for rapid extraction with the onset of railroad logging filled Oregonians with boosterism and optimism.

While we struggle in the 21st Century with overcrowded highways and the expense and pollution of our cars our founding members traveled cheaply and conveniently by railroad, trolley and interurban lines, the latter powered their first electricity from turbines at Willamette Falls and new dams on the Clackamas and Sandy rivers. Comfortable sternwheelers and fast packet boats kept schedules all along the Columbia and up the Willamette to Salem, Albany, Corvallis and Harrisburg.

In the beginning Portland birders formed a John Burroughs Club in 1898 under the leadership of the Reverend William Rogers Lord.

Lord authored the “The First Book of the Birds of Oregon and Washington” (1902) and was a lecturer of national prominence. He illustrated his programs with stereopticon slides of paintings by his artist friend Louis Agassiz Fuytes.

Burroughs at his “Slabsides” log house on the Hudson River and Fuytes in Ithaca, N.Y. were esteemed by our founders, the one as a writer of books and features on outdoor life for both children and adults and the other as the foremost illustrator of birds.

From 1904 to 1927 Fuertes illustrated almost every issue of Bird-Lore magazine (Audubon Magazine after purchase by National Audubon). Those color prints were integrated into leaflets that became a prized part of membership in junior Audubon classes that our Society supported in the public schools from 1912 into the 1940s.

Astoria birders organized as the Oregon Audubon Society (OAS) in 1901, and in 1902 the John Burroughs Club of Portland merged with them under that name.

In the November-December, 1905, issue of Bird-Lore is a section with state reports, including one from Miss Metcalf, secretary for OAS, and a United States map. That map shows a date of origin for each society. Our date is 1902.

Over the years OAS reached out to establish other chapters, but changed its name to Audubon Society of Portland in 1966 when the members voted to affiliate with National Audubon Society. This was a good will gesture to recognize the independence of those other Audubon societies within Oregon.

National Audubon Society began with a 1901 meeting of state Audubon societies that joined to form a loose-knit group called the National Committee of Audubon Societies.

There was a convergence of kindred souls at our founding. Vice-president Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt entered the White House in 1901 on the assassination of Pres. William McKinley. And a charismatic young naturalist, writer, lecturer, photographer, William L. (Bill) Finley, and his partner, Herman T. Bohlman exposed their 5 x 7 glass plate negative to wildlife scenes that entranced the nation.

Roosevelt reveled in the robust outdoor life and was a whirlwind of physical and political action. It puzzled Whitehouse staff when the new President walked outside to stand motionless for long periods under the trees.

They were unaware that here was a published ornithologist who debated the identification of Genus Empidonax flycatchers when he met with John Muir by a Sierra Mountain campfire. That genus remains a puzzle for most birders.

In the formative years of Oregon Audubon Society the nation had a president who jumpstarted the conservation movement. With an eye to the future Teddy Roosevelt modeled a 230 million-acre public lands legacy that included national forests, parks, monuments and refuges.

“We want the active and zealous help of every man far-sighted enough to realize the importance from the standpoint of the nation’s welfare in the future of preserving the forests,” declared Roosevelt.

Finley and Bohlman spent weeks, even months, on location once their camp and blind were established. They followed the development of Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, and Great Blue Heron nests from egg to fledgling. They spent a full four months by a

cliff side California Condor nest. Finley and Bohlman were key personalities in the early OAS.

These boyhood companions attended the old Portland High School and worked as a team from 1896 to 1908 transporting ponderous cameras, glass plates, developing equipment and camp gear deep into marshes and onto treetop platforms.

They rowed a 14-foot dory through the breakers with all their gear and used block and tackle to raise their equipment onto the ledges of offshore sea stacks. Foremost among these wild settings that teemed and resounded with colonial nesting birds were Three Arch Rocks, Lower Klamath Lake and Malheur Lake.

Bohlman was the reserved and skilled photographer who drove a 1908 air-cooled Franklin car and favored a handle-bar mustached. Finley was the clean-shaven extrovert who through his illustrated lectures and magazine articles spread a message across the land of the need to save habitat as well as pass protective bird legislations.

Their derring-do and the results captivated audiences and readers nationwide. Finley packed the lecture halls.

When Roosevelt saw their work he must have bellowed his “Bully! Bully!” for he made all three Oregon sites federal refuges by executive order. Three Arch Rocks in 1907 became the first bird refuge in the West. Lower Klamath and Malheur lakes were designated refuges in 1908, but that was only a beginning in the Society’s long struggle to secure these refuges from drainage and water diversion.

In the South Park Blocks of Portland members can reflect on this presidential connection to our Society in time and deed. The 12-foot “Rough Rider” monument of Theodore Roosevelt was gifted to the City by Dr. Henry Waldo Coe. The two hunted and ranched together as young men on the Little Missouri River in the Dakota Territory. Coe also gave Portland its statues of Joan of Arc, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln

Because there were no federal or state regulations in 1902 that protected wildlife, other than game species, the first major OAS undertaking was passage of an Oregon model Bird Protection Act in the 1903 Oregon legislature. It was essentially to protect non-game birds and to strike the trade in bird feathers and plumes. The Oregon bill was drafted by the American Ornithologists Union.

Before passage the markets in Portland as well as cities across the land displayed strings of robins, thrushes, meadowlarks, warblers and even screech owls along with the usual wild ducks, geese and upland game birds. Many of the small birds went into meat pies, like the “four and twenty blackbirds” of the nursery rhyme. And fashion called for lots of decorative bird plumage.

Miss Metcafe reported that Oregon Audubon Society’s efforts in 1904 were directed toward educating the public and getting the new Model Bird Law enforced.

Continuing from Metcalf's report: "Saturday outings during nesting season and sunrise meetings arouse the greatest enthusiasm and bring us members we would not have obtained otherwise."

"Many of those attending walked miles in early dawn, carrying lunch basket, notebook and opera glasses, to a commanding height (Council Crest) overlooking Portland where we viewed the glorious panorama of snow clad mountains and winding river under the reddening sky. We enjoyed hot coffee and sandwiches while listening to the sunrise chorus of birds. "

The Society started an annual John Burroughs cash award for presentation to the Portland school child that showed the greatest knowledge of birds through field tests and composition.

Alfred Webster Anthony, the 1904 Society president, collected birds for years in the Tualatin Valley (his specimens are in the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pa.). He was the first to publish a list of birds from Portland and vicinity, and it was used by Florence Merriam Bailey in her "Handbook to the Birds of the Western United States" (1902).

The keenest of those early birders were often collectors of birds and their eggs for what they believed was a contribution to science. State records were not accepted without a bird in the hand. Fine optics and scopes, critically illustrated field guides, bird recordings and compact but versatile photographic equipment were yet to come.

In 1906, the year Finley married Nellie Irene Barnhart, like Finley a 1903 University of California graduate, he became president of OAS and continued to direct the Society for 20 unbroken years.

The Finleys acquired 10 acres at Jennings Lodge on the bank of the Willamette River for their new home. It became a gathering place for the close knit Oregon Audubon family and an array of visiting natural science luminaries. Irene Finley shared completely in her husband's activities and became a wildlife photographer and writer in her own right.

Through Bill and Irene's work and the stature of the OAS lecture programs, every Friday night from October to June, drew speakers like T. Gilbert Person from the National Audubon Society; Vernon Bailey, Chief Field Naturalist for the U.S Biological Survey; H.F. Stone, head of federal bird refuges; E.W. Nelson, chief of the Biological Survey; Carved Wells, adventure travel writer; Florence Merriam Bailey, the foremost woman ornithologist, and Dallas Lore Sharp.

Sharp, a popular natural history lecturer and author of that era, was invited from Hingham, Mass., to Jennings Lodge. After adventuring across Oregon with Finley between Three Arch Rocks and Steens Mountain he authored "Where Rolls the Oregon" (1914) which covered those adventures. A reprint edited by Worth Mathewson, Sand Lake Press (2001) is available as "Eastern Naturalist in The West."

When OAS programs were held in the Multnomah County Library Hall, with a seating capacity of 600, the City Fire Marshall intervened to make the standing room attendees clear the aisles.

In spite of the Oregon Model Bird Law fashion still called for bird plumage, much of it shipped from states without protection and from local plume hunters who flouted the law, especially on the marshes of southeast Oregon. In 1907 the Society sent every lady in "Portland's Blue Book" a set of leaflets describing how their plumes were gathered in bloody destruction of whole colonies, with fledglings left to starve in the nest.

This canny move touched the women's hearts and sped a fashion change. A note from the first Society board meeting after incorporation tells how, as a result of fines imposed on Portland millinery firms for selling egret plumes, Finley received \$46 as informant in the cases. The reward went into the Society treasury.

The Society also obtains \$150 for the wages of two state game wardens sent to patrol Klamath area nesting colonies in the 1904 season.

Official records for the Oregon Audubon Society begin with the 1909 articles of incorporation. The stated purpose of the Society was:

"To use any and all means for the protection of the wild birds and animals of the State of Oregon and elsewhere; and by literature, lectures and all other available methods to disseminate knowledge and appreciation of the economic and esthetic value of wild birds and animals.

Signers to those articles were William Finley, president; Horatio H. Parker, vice-president; Herman Bohlman, treasurer; Emma J. Welty, corresponding secretary and Elisabeth Watson, recording secretary.

In Finley's first annual report after incorporation he cited Roosevelt's establishment of Malheur and Klamath lake refuges and the importance of providing patrol and protection until Congress provide money. The salaries of two wardens, one at each reserve, and the services of a patrol boat, "Grebe", on Upper and Lower Klamath Lakes, was furnished by the National Audubon Society with a \$300 supplement from Oregon Audubon.

He also reported on the arrival of Prof. F.L. Beal of the Biological Survey to make a study of the relationship of Oregon wild birds to agriculture. Great emphasis was then placed on the economic value of birds in controlling insect and rodent pests in farm and garden. The Society used results of food habit studies in outreach programs for granges and supported bird box building and contests in the grade schools.

There were prizes for the best bird houses made in manual training classes. A half-day holiday was given students with bird boxes so they could accompany Society members to

erect their bird boxes. Department of Agriculture Farmer's Bulletin No. 609 provided box dimensions, entrance diameters and location information.

Reflect that fifty years later Audubon societies across the country were harking to Rachael Carson's "Silent Spring" and the widespread and unregulated use of chemical sprays that killed target and non-target insects as well as the natural controls

Finley also said in that 1909 report, "Lumbermen are becoming aroused at the waste destructive insects are causing. This will mean better protection because the birds are the natural enemies of the whole insect world." And fifty years later the forest birds were dosed with DDT.

In 1910 the president said both market and plume hunting had ceased in the lake basins of southeast Oregon because of protection afforded by state and federal wardens. Only one arrest was made for exhibiting egret plumes in Portland that year.

In 1912 Finley reported to the Society, "After searching for a number of years I visited a colony of American egrets on July 15. they are nesting on Silver Lake in Harney County. This is the only colony that survived the raids of plume hunters. There were 11 nests and 23 adults on a small willow island."

A setback for the great Lower Klamath Bird Reservation came that year when the Bureau of Reclamation put a dike across Klamath River and diverted flow from the lake.

In the ensuing years the marshland dried to peat and alkalai dust. Peat fires burned form months. Attempts to farm the old lake bottom failed. The destruction was final until later battles to restore some flow for wildlife.

In 1913 U.S. Senators George E. Chamberlain and Harry Lane of Oregon were honored by the Society for their having introduced and guided the passage of a tariff measure that prohibited the importation of wild bird plumage and skins into the United States.

Winters were hard on the birds with deep drifted snow and prolonged freezes that on several occasion saw the Columbia River frozen across to Vancouver, Wash. The winter of 1914-15 the Society undertook a fundraising campaign to buy bird feed and build and distribute shelters.

Around the loop at the top of the Council Crest trolley the beneficiaries were Sooty Grouse, Ruffed Grouse and flocks of Mountain Quail.

In the 1920s with more deep-freeze winters the Society ran a feed program for waterfowl at Crystal Springs Lake and the Westmoreland ponds, and the grain was supplied by Crown Flour Mills.

The first Christmas Bird Count for Portland was held Dec. 27, 1915. It was a walk around town with no count circle. The center point, with a 15-mile circle and district

leaders, was started in 1926 and continued unbroken. The continuity of these counts provides a valuable record of bird population dynamics within the Portland count area.

In 1917 the Society celebrated passage of what it called “the most important single act in the protection of birds,” the Migratory Bird Treaty Act with Great Britain (for Canada). It included the insectivorous and song birds.

Antelope were down to a few remnant herds, and the Society focused attention on their plight and the need for rigorous protection. It offered a reward of \$500 for information leading to the arrest of any person killing an antelope in Oregon.

In 1918 Oregon Audubon Society started annual art exhibits held on the top floor of the Main Library. Exhibitors included Bohlman with his wildlife prints and R. Bruce Horsfall, noted bird and wildflower painter from the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Finley had encouraged Horsfall to settle in Portland.

Bohlman soon gave up photography to run the family plumbing business but studied oil painting under Clyde Keller and specialized in pastoral landscapes. His scenes of Columbia Slough, Sauvie Island and Mount Hood are notable. The University of Oregon became a cosponsor of the Society art exhibits.

Malheur Lake was under threat again in 1920. The Oregon State Land Board claimed the floor of the lake and offered it for development. The Society resolved to have the state cede its disputed lands to the federal government to stave off a drainage scheme. A state initiative called the Roosevelt Bird Refuge Measure was put forth but was narrowly defeated.

Litigation over Malheur Lake simmered for years, but the cycles of wet and dry weather, with inflow from Silvies River, determined the amount of productive wetlands for the lake. With the drought of the 1930s the lake went dry

Finley, in concert with two Society members who worked for the Biological Survey in Portland, Ira Gabrielson and Stanley Jewett, prevailed on his Izaak Walton League friend Jay N. “Ding” Darling, Chief of the U.S. Biological Survey, to purchase the famous “P” Ranch in the Blitzen Valley. It was owned by Swift and Company, the meat packers.

This major addition to the refuge included wet meadow or wild hay land attractive to Sandhill Cranes and a host of other waterfowl. The ranch storage-diversion dam on Blitzen River was the key to spreading water in the valley.

In 1922 the Society fought an attempt to wipe out the Northern Sea Lion rookeries along the coast. To counter claims that sea lions feed mostly on salmon the Society used recent stomach analysis studies showing that sea lions ate primarily bottom fish and lamprey

By 1923, a Hart Mountain National Wildlife Refuge for the Pronghorn Antelope was sought, and the annual report that year notes, “This has failed so far because of the

combined efforts of sheep and cattlemen who were opposed to limiting their grazing privileges.”

In 1925 resolutions were sent to Pres. Calvin Coolidge asking him to proclaim a Hart Mountain Antelope Refuge and to the U.S. Reclamation Commissioner for the return of water into the still dry Lower Klamath Lake.

Finley ended his 20 years as president in 1926 and was succeeded by a founding member, Willard Aryes Eliot who worked for the downtown YMCA. Eliot had a passion for birds and trees. Eliot wrote “birds of the Pacific Coast” (1923) with 56 color plates by Society member Bruce Horsfall who returned east to become staff artist for Nature Magazine.

Bill Finley was a regular contributor to that magazine and was listed as staff on the masthead until 1938 when he retired. But Irene Finley continued writing and illustrating with her photos in Nature Magazine until 1947. It became today’s “Natural History” magazine upon incorporation into the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

Thos Horsfall paintings for Eliot’s book hang at Audubon House where they are a cherished part of the Society’s heritage. The book was so popular it went through seven impressions in Putnam’s Sons series of Nature Field Books.

Putnam’s also published Eliot’s “Forest Trees of the Pacific Coast” (1938). It was written at the original Pittock Sanctuary cottage.

The first published Christmas Bird Count in 1926 tallied 51 species and the district leaders were: Eliot and Bohlman on Sauvie Island; Earl A. Marshall at Mt. Tabor; Leo Simon at Columbia Slough; W.H. Crowell on Portland heights; Mrs. M.V. Ballard in Kenton; Mrs. Wm. Hammond for Gladstone and Miss M.B. Gavin for the St. Johns district.

Professor B. A. Thaxter was chairman of the educational committee that oversaw the Nature Study classes that were then part of the Portland grade school curriculum.

On Tuesday nights Prof. Thaxter held teacher instruction classes at Lincoln High School followed by Saturday bird hikes.

From their home A. L. and Mamie Campbell procured, stored and supplied the schools with those Junior Audubon Club leaflets with insert color prints for each bird. Junior membership was 10 cents, and the member buttons had a new species each year. Nothing the Society did had more far reaching impact than its nearly 35 years of support for the school Nature Study program. The Society’s Mamie Campbell Award honors the lady the children called “Big Bird Woman.”

The writer's interest as a boy of 12 was kindled by that program. It set my life's course as a wildlife biologist, then outdoor writer and currently as a naturalist/historian for Linblad Expeditions.

An affiliation called "Allied Outdoor Clubs" brought the Society a working relationship with the Mazamas, Izaak Walton League, Trails Club and boy Scouts. They jointly sponsored the weekly Library Hall programs.

Audubon Societies were active in 1927 in Baker, LaGrande, Salem and Joseph and W.S. Raker was the state organizer.

Another Society achievement that year was the naming of the Oregon state Bird by vote of the grade school children. Their candidates were: Western Bluebird, Varied Thrush, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow and Western Meadowlark.

With 80,000 votes cast meadowlark won a wide majority. It was a time when you could still hear meadowlarks sing throughout the Willamette Valley and in the vacant fields while walking to school in Portland. Governor I.L. Patterson issues a proclamation and the legislature confirmed.

Meadowlark was on the Oregon Audubon Society logo until replaced by the Great Blue Heron with the changeover to Audubon Society of Portland.

The Society wanted a home of its own and optioned 12 acres on Balch Creek on NW Cornell Road for \$3,750. The trustees of the H.L. Pittock estate gifted another 18 acres with the proviso the Pittock name be honored. Pittock was publisher of The Oregonian newspaper.

By 1931 Pittock Bird Sanctuary on NW Cornell Road was secured, and the Society had its own home. Member W. H. Crowell, a prominent Portland architect, designed the original Audubon House where the Society would now meet. It has been twice enlarged.

Crowell also designed the caretaker's cottage, and its first occupants were Society President Eliot and his wife, Lillian.

This peppery little man and his gentle wife were Society hosts for almost 20 years at the Sanctuary. As part of his studies and for future educational work Eliot collected and planted native trees from across Oregon. His trees were eventually overtopped by Douglas Fir and Big Leaf Maple.

The Eliots ran the original wildlife care center with the bird patients living with them in the cottage. "Cheery" the Western Tanager, who was picked up as a fledgling, was so imprinted to humans he refused to leave. On release the tanager would return to hand, head or shoulder.

Many drove to the sanctuary just to observe the saucy smart bird that got such publicity in local newspapers. The morning breakfast ritual was for Cheery to share the Eliot's orange juice.

Society President Crowell in 1940 wrote the Portland City Council that there were ample facilities for golfers and that Crystal Spring Lake and all adjacent public property north of Bybee Ave. should be set aside as a wildlife and botanical sanctuary with a natural history museum.

Board member emeritus Dave Marshall grew up in the Society with parent, aunts and uncles all involved from early times. Hi Great Uncle Norman Seaman built the gazebo and created the sanctuary pond with shovel and wheelbarrow. He was an authority on Indian lore and artifacts and wrote the book "Indian Relics of the Pacific Northwest" (1946).

In Eliot's 1945 Sanctuary report he said a pair of Common Yellowthroat were residing at Seaman Pond and, surprise, were using the bird feeder. But his joy was a Black-and-white Warbler with spectacular striping over its entire body. It bathed in the fountain. It was a first-of-state record.

Dave's parents, Earl and Dorothy Marshall, climbed peaks and lead hikes and outings with the Mazamas and Audubon Society. His mother climbed Mount Rainier in 1917 with Bill Finley when they used alpenstocks and high hob-nailed boots.

Those early Audubon field trip leaders and lecturers covered a range of subjects side birds and animals—Indians, botany, northwest history and geology. Dave's Uncle Lou and Aunt Edna Marshall, along with his parents, had a specialty of photographing wildflowers and hand coloring their glass slides for public showings.

Lilla Leach the botanist who with her muleskinner husband, John, did the pioneering plant work in the Siskiyou Mountains did a plant inventory for the sanctuary..

When the Eliot's retired in 1947 Dr. and Mrs. Normal Coleman arrived as caretakers. Coleman was president of Reed College for 10 years and an English professor at Lewis and Clark College. He first worked with Eliot in France after the 1st World War when they both ran education programs for the Army.

Thornton T. Munger, one of the early graduates from the Yale School of Forestry, wrote the first report on Ponderosa Pine forests of Oregon in 1917 and became the first Director for the Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station where he initiated the Research Natural Areas. It was Munger's work at Wind River Experiment station that established the role of Red Alder trees in fixing nitrogen in the forest soil.

This Society president and early member planted the Sequoia that now towers alongside the wildlife care center.

The longest lived and active Society member was the infallible Leo Simon who, when anyone was stumped about any bird, rock, flower, fossil, tree, mushroom, mammal or other critter, would be told, "Ask Leo—he knows!"

Twice president and 42 years on the board he lived 96 years. In his photographic studio Simon did most of the slides after Finley's separation with Bohlman. As a boy Simon collected specimens along Johnson Creek, took up taxidermy and joined Oregon Audubon in 1914.

His lack of education never hindered his pursuit of natural sciences. Much of his knowledge was acquired in the Multnomah County Library and at lectures. Oregon Museum of Science and Industry presented Simon with a gold trophy that carried the inscription, "OMSI's most outstanding authority on things scientific."

Try as they may, no Christmas Bird count district leader could outdo Leo Simon in his Sellwood-Moreland district count.

Harold Gilbert rose in the Library Hall audience to recite a bird poem he thought appropriate in the midst of a lecture. Gilbert believed the security of songbirds lay in cat control, trapped with vigor on Portland Heights and sank the cats to the bottom of the sanctuary pond—a "family skeleton" not revealed until years afterward when it was drained.

Gilbert had the best ornithological library in town, including the rarest. He lent his books to Society members and held court at his office. The frosted glass door window had a black lettered sign, "Harold S. Gilbert Pianos." This front for birders had one battered upright piano. It was a gathering spot for field trips with everyone packed into his vintage Franklin car. Gilbert actually used John James Audubon hand-tinted 19th Century octavo (book size) lithographs from "The Birds of America" as field guides. He carried them in threeOringed binders. Some bore his penciled notes.

They were donated by Gilbert's widow, and the Society sold all 164 at auction with values ranging from \$75 to \$800, depending on condition.

Mary Raker was a birding prodigy who joined the Society in 1913, and at age 14 was giving illustrated lectures. She had her own color slides for a program presented to agricultural groups on "The Commercial Value of Birds." Bird-Lore magazine called her "a child marvel." Years later on returning to Portland she was a board member and married Frank Bartlett, the 1952 president.

Ira N. Gabrielson, known to the Society as "Gabe", worked in partnership with Stanley G. Jewett in the Biological Survey's Portland office, and both men were premier birders within the Society. They co-authored our first definitive city and state bird publications: "Birds of the Portland Area, Oregon" (1929), The Cooper Ornithological Club, and "Birds of Oregon" (1940), Oregon State College.

At the Christmas bird counts Jewett's was the last word on unusual records. "Possible but not probable" was the final rejection

Gabrielson was appointed director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (old Biological Survey) early in the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration and retired from federal service to head the Wildlife Management Institute in Washington, D.C.

The Society in its first 50 years was full of remarkable, strong but outgoing and committed people, but the space for this recall has run its course. Standby for the next 50 years in the June Warbler when the Society is infused with a new generation, unparalleled growth and professional management.

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