

ELECTION OF FELLOWS, MEMBERS, AND ASSOCIATES.

FELLOWS:

Dr. Arthur Augustus Allen, Ithaca, N. Y.

CORRESPONDING FELLOWS:

Dr. Arthur Gardiner Butler, 124 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent, England.

A. H. Chisholm, Daily Mail Office, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

Dr. William David MacGillivray, Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia.

Dr. Erwin Streseman, Königl. Museum für Naturkunde, Invalidenstrasse 43, Berlin, Germany.

Dr. Arthur Landsborough Thomson, 9 Addison Gardens, Kensington, London, W. 14, England.

Dr. Claude Buchanan Ticehurst, 121 London Road North, Lowestoft, England.

MEMBERS:

Donald Ryder Dickey, San Rafael Heights, Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Alfred Otto Gross, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.

Wharton Huber, 225 St. Marks Square, Philadelphia, Pa.

Tracy Irwin Storer, Museum Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Calif.

John Todd Zimmer, Field Museum Natural History, Chicago, Ill.

ASSOCIATES:

The Associates elected number 269. The names of those who qualify will appear in the annual Directory of Members in 'The Auk' for April and consequently are omitted here to save space.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

BY T. S. PALMER

FIVE years having intervened since the election of the present incumbent as Secretary of the Union it is fitting that a brief statement should be submitted showing the progress during this time.

Since 1917 we have passed through a period of war and reconstruction, a widespread epidemic of influenza which prevented the holding of one of the regular meetings, and have encountered unusual obstacles in publication due to strikes, high cost of paper and printing. During all this time the Union has maintained its work with unimpaired vigor, has increased the size of its journal without raising its dues, and has materially enlarged its membership and resources. Since 1917 it has increased its membership from 891 to about 1457 and its invested funds from about \$3600

to nearly \$10,000 and in addition has a special Brewster Memorial Fund of \$7,200 the income from which is awarded biennially for the most meritorious paper on American birds.

Membership: The Union now has members in every State except Mississippi; in Alaska, Hawaii and the Philippine Islands and in about 20 foreign countries. The distribution of membership as compared with conditions in 1917 and 1921 is shown by the following statement:

Year	Fellows	Retired Fellows	Honorary Fellows	Corres- ponding Fellows	Members	Asso- ciates	Total
1917	49	3	14	59	77	689	891
1921	46	4	20	80	91	1110	1351
1922	49	5	25	87 ¹	91	1200	1457

The total gain for the five year period is about 566 and the increase for the past year about 106. The gain during the year comprised the election at the last annual meeting of 14 Corresponding Fellows and about 250 Associates but this apparent increase of 264 was offset by losses of 12 by death, 28 by resignation, 57 by failure to qualify, and a number by delinquency. The deaths included those of 2 Corresponding Fellows, 1 Member and 9 Associates. The effort to increase the number of life members has made little progress and has been offset by the death of 2 life associates. The Union now has nearly 50 life members including 6 Fellows, 11 Members and more than 30 Associates. The foreign membership includes 25 Honorary Fellows and 87 Corresponding Fellows. The Honorary List is full for the first time in several years, only a single vacancy remains in the class of Fellows, and there are 9 vacancies in the class of Members and 13 in that of Corresponding Fellows.

Activities of Members Abroad: During the past year Ernest G. Holt who has been collecting in Brazil has returned home and N. Gist Gee has resumed his work in China with headquarters in the vicinity of Peking. Beck has continued explorations in the South Pacific in behalf of the American Museum and H. C. Raven has been engaged in collecting for the same institution in Australia.

¹ During the meeting the names of Adolf B. von Echt and Frederic Ringer were transferred to the Deceased List and six new names added (see p. 115). Total now 91.

Henry W. Fowler has left for a year's stay in Honolulu and Dr. William E. Hughes has made a trip to the Fiji Islands. South America, as in recent years, has been the scene of considerable activity. William Beebe and John Tee Vann occupied the tropical station of the New York Zoological Society in British Guiana for several months during the winter and early spring. Dr. Casey Wood also spent some time at Georgetown and made a trip into the interior of British Guiana. Dr. F. M. Chapman and Geo. K. Cherrie have been engaged in work in the western part of the continent chiefly in Ecuador, and Zimmer has recently left for South America to collect for the Field Museum of Natural History. Several members have been in Europe. Dr. Dwight and Dr. Casey Wood visited England, C. H. Rogers has been in France and T. Gilbert Pearson spent some weeks in England, France and Holland in connection with matters of bird conservation. Mrs. V. M. Reichenberger was occupied in special work in Munich and Dr. Leonard Stejneger visited the Commander Islands in Siberia, and Japan.

The Journal.—The total number of complete sets of 'The Auk' now known is 191 of which 79 are in public libraries and 112 in private ownership. Much interest has been aroused in completing sets and it is possible that the total may be increased to 200 in spite of the fact that several owners of such sets have recently died and their volumes have changed hands or become dispersed. In the last five years the Union has disposed of eight full sets and has furnished the volumes or numbers necessary to complete ten others.

Service.—In addition to answering a large number of miscellaneous inquiries and requests of various kinds, efforts have been made to assist members and public libraries in completing sets of 'The Auk' and furnishing full names and biographical data regarding members or other ornithologists.

The survey of the principal collections of birds undertaken some time ago has been continued and a special inquiry has been made as to the relative completeness of some of these collections. From the meager data at present available it is perhaps safe to say that at least 250 of the 2810 genera recognized in Sharpe's 'Hand List of Birds' are at present unrepresented in any of the museums of the

United States. This estimate refers only to recent forms and does not include any of the genera of fossil birds. Data are wanting as to the number of fossil genera represented in American collections but will probably be available later. In this connection it may be observed that specimens of fossil birds unlike those of recent forms can be readily duplicated and there is no reason why some of our larger museums should not have not merely a representative but a practically complete series of plastotypes representing the genera of fossil birds of the world.

The Coming Year: The work of immediate importance for 1923 is the completion and publication of the Ten Year Index of The Auk for the years 1911-1920. This index is already well under way but some time and considerable work will be required for its completion.

The coming year will mark the anniversaries of two events of considerable interest to American ornithologists, the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Nuttall Ornithological Club and the centennial of the birth of Spencer Fullerton Baird, founder of the United States National Museum and the United States Fish Commission. Both of these events should be observed with appropriate exercises. A National Committee has been organized to determine the most appropriate form for a Baird Memorial and the Union having been invited to participate in this undertaking, the invitation has been accepted and the Secretary has been appointed as the representative of the Union.

DECEASED MEMBERS, 1921-1922.

JOHN LEWIS BONHOTE, Corresponding Fellow, aged 47, died at Bourne-mouth, England, October 10, 1922.

WILLIAM HENRY HUDSON, Corresponding Fellow, died in his 81st year at London, England, August 18, 1922.

GEORGE SPENCER MORRIS,¹ Member, died in his 55th year at Olney, Philadelphia, Pa., April 12, 1922.

WILLIAM BOWEN BOLTON, Life Associate, died at Morristown, N. J., in September, 1922.

CHARLES MORLAND CARTER, Associate, died in his 70th year at St. Joseph, Mo., in August, 1922.

HOWARD EATON, Life Associate, died in his 72d year at Wolf, Wyo., April 5, 1922.

¹ For obituary notice see Auk, Vol. XXXIX, pp. 451-453.

THOMAS HOOPEES JACKSON,¹ Associate, died in his 74th year at West Chester, Pa., February 27, 1922.

ENOS ABIJAH MILLS, Associate, aged 52, died at Longs Peak, Colo., September 21, 1922.

JAMES STIRTON WALLACE, Associate, aged 54, died at Smith Falls, Ontario, July 24, 1922.

CHARLES HENRY WEEKES, Associate, died at Harwich, Mass., November 14, 1921.

FRANK ERNEST WOODWARD,² Associate, aged 66, died at Brookline, Mass., August 5, 1921.

ROY CHURCH WOODWORTH,³ Associate, died in his 45th year at Kansas City, Mo., June 29, 1922.

GENERAL NOTES

Notes on the Diving of Loons.—Mr. Edward Howe Forbush's recent interesting report entitled 'Some Underwater Activities of Certain Wild-fowl' (Bulletin 8, Massachusetts Department of Agriculture), and the conclusive evidence therein offered, that a Loon may or may not use its wings when swimming under water, brings to mind two absolutely contrary experiences of mine.

Once when I was fly-fishing just outside a shallow, muddy backwater above the upper dam on Lake Mooselukmaguntic in Maine, my guide and I managed to corner a Loon, and I have never forgotten my surprise when I saw it apparently fly under water, as it escaped just beneath our boat which we had placed across the outlet. It certainly was using its wings, but whether or not it was using its feet I am unable to say.

On June 10, 1920, I found a Loon sitting on a nest on an island in Upper Sisladobsis Lake, Maine. The nest was built among some sweet gale bushes at the top of a rather steep bank, and perhaps four feet from the edge of the water. A well-worn runway led from it down to a small, shallow pool, several feet across, and with an outlet perhaps a foot wide between two boulders leading to deeper water.

At one side of this pool lay the stub of a large dead tree extending out to a huge boulder ten or fifteen feet beyond, and we ran the bow of our canoe up on the other side, placing it in such a position that the bird when escaping would have to go under it.

Then leaving my guide in the stern of the canoe I stepped slowly and carefully from boulder to boulder until I had approached within perhaps three feet of the nest, and reaching down, actually pulled some small dead brush from in front of it, so that my guide could better see the bird.

¹ For obituary notice see *Auk*, Vol. XXXIX, pp. 299-300.

² " " " " " " XXXIX, pp. 453-454.

³ " " " " " " XXXIX, pp. 592-593.