

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

BY T. S. PALMER.

THE forty-eighth year closed with the Union in a satisfactory condition as to its general activities and membership. Two important objects were achieved this year in the attainment of a membership of 2,005 names in the annual list which appeared in the April 'Auk,' and in the publication of the 'Check-List of North American Birds,' which has been under way for some years and was finally issued October 1. The 'Ten Year Index of The Auk' for 1921-30 which has been undertaken by a special committee is well under way and will probably be ready for the press in the coming spring.

Membership:—The total membership on October 15, 1931, was only 15 more than reported last year notwithstanding the election at the last meeting of 190 new Associates and 4 Corresponding Fellows. Losses due to death and resignations reduced the total of 2,005 names published in April to 1975 in October. As shown by the annual list, the members are distributed in all of the states and territories and in about 60 foreign countries and colonies. The following tabulation shows the figures of the present membership in comparison with those for the last year and ten years ago:

	<i>Fellows</i>	<i>Retired Fellows</i>	<i>Hon- orary Fellows</i>	<i>Corre- sponding Fellows</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Associates</i>	<i>Total</i>
1921	46	4	20	80	91	1110	1351
1930	47	3	23	79	103	1705	1960
1931	50	3	25	80	101	1716	1975

The Union has been fortunate this year in having no losses by death either among the Fellows or Honorary Fellows. The deaths include 1 Corresponding Fellow, 4 Members and 14 Associates, a total of 19.

Activities of Members Abroad:—As usual a number of our members have been active in foreign lands either in exploration or in travel.

Central America and the West Indies have been visited by at least 7 members. Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne spent several months in

British Honduras and Guatemala and returned with a representative collection of birds from that little known region. Dr. F. M. Chapman, as usual, spent several months at Barro Colorado in the Canal Zone, and the station was also visited by Dr. Thomas Barbour. Dr. Alexander Wetmore and F. C. Lincoln spent two months last spring in Haiti exploring some of the higher mountains in the eastern part of the Republic and also along the boundary line of the Dominican Republic. H. Radcliffe Roberts, George R. Clark and W. W. Bowen, have recently returned from an expedition to Trinidad on behalf of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and James Bond from the same institution has visited the Bahamas and Jamaica.

South America has been the field of activity of several members. Dr. William Mann, Director of the National Zoological Park left for British Guiana in July and returned October 10 with a general collection of some 400 live specimens, including a number of birds. E. G. Holt, representing the National Geographic Society, accompanied the Boundary Commission of Venezuela making collections of birds along the Brazilian and Venezuelan boundary and returned with about 3,000 specimens which are now in the U. S. National Museum. James A. G. Rehn, Secretary of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, has been collecting for several months in the Province of Matto Grosso, Brazil. M. A. Carriker has recently returned from another trip to Peru where he has been collecting birds for the same institution. D. S. Bullock, who has resided at Angol, Chile, returned to the United States for a visit this past spring. Mr. Bullock is Vice President of the Centro de Investigaciones Cientificas de Angol, and for several years has been making observations on the birds of that region. In 1929 he published a list of the species observed in the vicinity of Angol, containing a Ground Dove (*Columbigallina talpacoti*) which is said to be the first record of the species in Chile.

In Europe, Dr. Casey A. Wood has spent some months in Switzerland and in England completing his 'Introduction to the Literature of Vertebrate Zoology,' and Dr. E. C. Hellmayr has been working during the past summer in Vienna studying the collections in continuation of his work on the 'Birds of the Americas.' Mrs. W. W. Naumburg has, as usual, spent several months in Europe, Mrs.

C. A. Aspinwall has recently returned from a trip to England and Prof. C. F. G. Eifrig from a three months trip abroad.

In Asia, Miss Elizabeth D. Palmer made a trip to Japan, Chosen, and northern China visiting some of the collections in Tokyo and Seoul. N. Gist Gee, who has been working on the birds of China for several years and who brought out a list of Chinese birds in 1926-27, has recently published an addition to this list in the Peking Natural History Bulletin No. 5. Vice Consul Carter R. Whittaker has been transferred from Yokohama, Japan, to Foochow, China. In Siam, Dr. Hugh M. Smith while continuing his investigations on fisheries has been collecting birds and has recently forwarded a consignment to the U. S. National Museum. H. G. Deignan who has been at Chiengmai for several years, plans to leave Siam early next spring returning if possible via New Guinea and Australia.

In Africa, several of the expeditions which were reported in the field last year have now returned. Richard Archbold and P. A. DuMont, who accompanied the Delacour Expedition to Madagascar in the interest of the American, British, and Paris Museums, have returned, as has also Dr. James P. Chapin, who has been working in the Belgian Congo for more than a year. W. Rudyerd Boulton has also returned after completing his work in South West Africa.

Finally, Dr. Glover M. Allen has recently taken up work in the field in Australia, in behalf of the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Papers of the Salem Meeting:—Of the 60 papers presented at the last annual meeting more than one-third have been published—14 in 'The Auk' and 10 elsewhere. In the following list, the titles are given in the form in which the papers were finally published. Those which appeared in 'The Auk' include:

- No. 3. Sprunt's 'In Memoriam: Arthur Trezevant Wayne: 1863-1930.'
- No. 5. Redington's 'The Bird Work of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey.'
- No. 10. Mrs. K. C. Harding's 'Nesting Habits of the Black-throated Blue Warbler.'
- No. 12. Mousley's 'Study of the Home Life of the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii traillii*).'
- No. 13. Terrill's 'Nesting of the Saw Whet Owl (*Cryptoglaux acadica acadica*) in the Montreal District.'
- No. 19. Friedmann's 'List of Birds known to be Parasitized by the Cow Birds.'

No. 30. Farley's 'Nesting of the Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) in Alberta.'

No. 32. Phillips' 'Naturalists, Nature Lovers and Sportsmen.'

No. 32a. Adams' 'Wild Life Administration and the Fish and Game Commissioner.'

No. 41. Nichols' 'Notes on the Flocking of Shorebirds.'

No. 43. Jackson and Allan's 'Experiment in the Recolonization of the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*).'

No. 48. Shadle's 'A Grand Island, New York, Heronry.'

No. 49. May's 'Simultaneous Moults of the Flight Feathers of the Loon.' (Vol. 47, pp. 412-414, Oct. 1930).

No. 51. Stone's 'The New A. O. U. Check-List.'

Papers published elsewhere include:

No. 8. Harrison's 'Five Year Progress in the Bird Sanctuaries of the North Shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence,' in *Can. Field Nat.*, XLV, April 1931, pp. 73-78.

No. 15. De Lury's 'Sunspots and Living Things,' in *Trans. 17th Am. Game Conference*, pp. 211-212, 1931.

No. 16. Zimmer's 'Field Notes from Peru' in 'Birds of the Marshall Field Peruvian Expedition, 1922-23,' in *Field Mus. Nat. Hist. Pub.* 282, pp. 233-480, Dec. 1930.

No. 20. Sutton's 'A Year on Southampton Island, Hudson Bay,' in *The Cardinal*, III, pp. 1-5, Jan. 1931.

No. 27. Allen's 'Golf Clubs as Sanctuaries,' pp. 64, *Bull. Nat. Assn. Audubon Societies* (No date).

No. 31. Lincoln's 'Bird Banding, Its First Decade under the Biological Survey,' in *Bird Banding*, II, pp. 27-32, Jan. 1931.

No. 35. Lewis' 'The Relation of Canada Geese and Brant to Commercial Gathering of Eel Grass in the St. Lawrence Estuary,' in *Can. Field Nat.*, XLV, p. 57-62, Mar. 1931.

No. 38. Todd's 'The 1930 Expedition to Hudson Bay,' in *The Cardinal*, III, pp. 6-9, Jan., 1931.

No. 47. Wetmore's 'Bird Life of Ancient Florida,' in "The Avifauna of the Pleistocene in Florida," in *Smithsonian Misc. Coll.*, Vol. 85, No. 2, pp. 1-41, Apr. 13, 1931.

No. 58. Gross' 'Progress Report of the Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Investigation,' *Wisconsin Conservation Commission*, pp. 1-112, 1930.

Papers of Previous Meetings:— Recently 7 papers presented at previous meetings have appeared in print in addition to those noted in 'The Auk,' 1931, p. 84.

Ottawa Meeting—1926.

No. 47. Palmer's 'Audubon's Shearwater in the United States,' in 'The Auk,' 1931, pp. 198-206.

Washington Meeting—1927.

No. 61. Young's 'Further Notes on the Birds of the Magdalen Islands,' in 'The Auk,' 1931, pp. 240-245.

Charleston Meeting—1928.

No. 14. Lincoln's 'Some Causes of Mortality Among Birds,' in 'The Auk,' 1931, pp. 538-546.

Philadelphia Meeting—1929.

No. 12. Hadley's 'With Fuertes in Florida,' in *Am. Forests*, Vol. 37, pp. 71-73, Feb. 1931.

No. 13. Lewis' 'The Voice of the Double-crested Cormorant,' in *Nat. Hist. Double-crested Cormorant*, pp. 23-24, 60-61, Ottawa, 1929.

No. 32. Chapman's 'The Upper Zonal Bird Life of Mts. Roraima and Duida,' in *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, N. Y., LXIII, pp. 1-135, 1931.

No. 50. Lewis' 'Development of the Patella in Cormorants' in *Nat. Hist. Double-crested Cormorant*, pp. 46-51, Ottawa, 1929.

During the decade 1921-1930, 545 papers have been listed in the programs of the annual meetings of the Union, but only about 145 or approximately one quarter have been published, and of these less than 100 can be found in 'The Auk.'

DECEASED MEMBERS.

JOHN GUILLE MILLAIS,¹ Corresponding Fellow, aged 66, died at Horsham, Sussex, England, Mar. 24, 1931.

HENRY PHILEMON ATTWATER,² Member, aged 77, died at Houston, Texas, Sept. 25, 1931.

MAUNSELL SCHIEFFELIN CROSBY,³ Life Member, aged 44, died at Rhinebeck, N. Y., Feb. 12, 1931.

GEORGE LINCOLN FORDYCE,⁴ Member, died in his 71st year, at Youngstown, Ohio, June 25, 1931.

SPENCER TROTTER,⁵ Member, aged 71, died at West Chester, Pa., April 11, 1931.

HENRY REGINALD CAREY,⁶ Associate, died in his 41st year at Philadelphia, Pa., May 28, 1931.

CLEMENT WALKER ANDREWS,⁷ Associate, died in his 73d year at Chicago, Ill., Nov. 20, 1930.

GEORGE IRVING CARPENTER,⁸ Associate, died in his 53d year at Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 29, 1930.

1	For obituary notice, see 'Auk'	XLVIII,	pp. 472-473.
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FRANK WATKINS COMMONS,¹ Associate, aged 71, died in Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 28, 1930.

VICTOR JUSTICE EVANS,² Associate, died in his 66th year at Washington, D. C., Feb. 1, 1931.

DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH, Associate, aged 81, died at Stockbridge, Mass., Oct., 7, 1931.

JAMES STEWART HINE,³ Life Associate, died in his 65th year at Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 22, 1930.

CHARLES WILLIAM JENKS,⁴ Associate, aged 81, died at Bedford, Mass., Dec. 25, 1929.

MRS. EDWIN ROBERT JUMP, Associate, of Newton, Mass., died in 1931.

MRS. NETTIE LOUISE PURDY MOORE, Associate, aged 63, died at Detroit, Mich., July 3, 1931.

JOSEPH PARKER NORRIS, JR.,⁵ Associate, died in his 60th year at Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 18, 1931.

THOMAS SPENCER, Associate of Tobago, died in 1930.

MRS. EDGAR STURGE,⁶ Associate, aged 54, died at Scranton, Pa., Nov. 24, 1930.

HARRY WOLSTENHOLME,⁷ Associate, aged 62, died at Sydney, Australia, Oct. 14, 1930.

Mention should also be made of DAVID STARR JORDAN, who, prior to his resignation in 1917, had been on the rolls of the Union for 32 years—as an Associate from 1885 to 1901 and as a Member from 1901 to 1917. Dr. Jordan died in his 81st year at Stanford University, Calif., Sept. 19, 1931.

1	For obituary notice, see 'Auk,'	XLVIII,	pp. 474-475.
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