

ter" Sutton take rank as "Mr." among the trained reporters of bird life.

The bird biography for this issue is by Witmer Stone and is concerned with the Catbird. Mr. Stone does his four page stunt conscientiously and hits off the character of the bird with scientific accuracy as well as verbal distinction. The economic homily at the end of his treatment is pleasantly sugared and his concluding paragraph of appreciation leaves us with hearts thoroughly warmed towards his hero.

Stone knows his Catbird. We wish we could say as much for the artist who paints him. Bruce Horsfall's plate of the "Catbird" is just another colored representation of two bird-like objects—nothing more. They are not "Catbirds." Paint them brown and they might pass for languid wrens. Paint them green and they would do for Warblers badly stuffed. Candidly now—and however regretfully—one wonders why Horsfall persists in trying to paint birds.—W. L. D.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division was held at the Museum of History, Science and Art, Thursday evening, October 30, with President Law in the chair and the following members present: Messrs. Chambers, Daggett, Grey, Howell, Judson, Law, Miller, Morcom, Rich, Snyder, Swarth, Van Rossem, Willett, Wood, and Wyman.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, followed by the reading of the Northern Division minutes for October. The following were elected to membership in the Club: W. C. Bradbury, Denver, Colorado; J. W. Eggleston, Los Angeles; C. B. Lastreto, San Francisco; H. A. Edwards, Los Angeles. New names submitted were: Allan J. Stover, Corvallis, Oregon, proposed by Geo. F. Sykes; E. F. Pope, Colonesneil, Texas, proposed by H. W. Carriger; Amelia Sanborn Allen, Berkeley, proposed by J. Grinnell.

At the request of Mrs. E. H. Husher announcement was made that the Mozart Theatre, 730 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, had agreed, by an arrangement with the Audubon Society, to exhibit moving pictures of birds during the last week of each month.

The action of the Northern Division in regard to the proposed conservation congress to be held in San Francisco in 1915 was ratified, and the president and secretary of the Southern Division were authorized to sign the letter which had been drawn up by the Northern Division's committee for transmittal to various institutions and individuals.

Business disposed of, Mr. Willett entertained the Club with some of the experiences of his past summer's work in southeastern Alaska. He exhibited skins of the Dixon Rock Ptarmigan and the Alexander Willow Ptarmigan, adults and young in summer plumage, and also a series of photos taken during the summer.

Mr. Wood told of a disastrous mortality to which he found nestling birds subject in the late summer in the vicinity of Prescott, Arizona. The blow-fly of the region was found laying its eggs on the newly-hatched young, the resulting larvae boring under the skin and there feeding on the living flesh. Mockingbirds were especially studied, though other species also were observed thus afflicted, and it seemed to be a common and widespread source of suffering to the late hatched broods.

Mr. Howell spoke briefly of his season's collecting in southeastern Arizona. Adjourned.—H. S. SWARTH, *Secretary*.

### NORTHERN DIVISION

AUGUST.—A meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Cal., on Saturday evening, August 9, 1913. Vice-president H. C. Bryant presided with the following members present: Messrs. Boyce, Clarke, Cooper, Emerson, A. K. Fisher, W. K. Fisher, J. Grinnell, and Storer. Mesdames Allen and Cooper and Messrs Belt, Parker, and Martens were present as visitors.

Dr. A. K. Fisher as speaker of the evening told of some of the work of the Biological Survey along the lines of economic mammalogy and ornithology. He first told of the work being done toward checking the increase of harmful rodents and of the results obtained in that work. Of particular interest to the members of the Club were his remarks on the work which is now being done in examining the stomachs of various species of birds. From these examinations the Survey has among other things determined the commoner food plants of the game birds and a plan has been formulated to establish farms for the propagation of these food plants so that the seed may be distributed to the various parts of the country. By this and other methods it is hoped that some of the now transient species may be induced to breed in local areas.

No business was transacted at the meeting. Adjourned.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 101, East Hall, University of California, Berkeley, on

September 23, 1913, at 8 p. m., with President Carriger in the chair and the following members present: Mrs. Burnham, Messrs. Bryant, Burnham, Camp, Carriger, Heinemann, J. Mailliard, Pemberton, Ray, Shelton, Storer, and W. P. Taylor. The meeting was open to the public and about one hundred visitors were present.

Mr. Oluf J. Heinemann spoke on "Bird Photography" and illustrated his remarks with numerous lantern slides. He described the methods used in photographing birds with fixed focus, view, and reflecting cameras. The various accessories useful in various situations were described and their uses explained.

Mr. Heinemann then showed a series of lantern slides made by himself and others of local birds. Among the pictures were those of the Grey-crowned Leucosticte and the California Pine Grosbeak which have appeared recently in *THE CONDOR*. A very good series of slides made by Mr. Heinemann on a recent trip to the Farallon Islands concluded the exhibition. The several species of cormorants, the Western Gulls and the California Murres were well represented in these views.

After the lecture the business of the meeting was considered. The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved and the Southern Division minutes for August were read.

Mrs. A. S. Allen was elected to membership. The names of Edwin S. Parker, 1737 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, Cal., proposed by J. Grinnell, and P. C. Dutton, 26 Litchfield Road, Stone Staffs, England, proposed by H. W. Carriger, were read.

Following a suggestion from H. S. Swarth, secretary of the Southern Division, it was decided to enter the names of new members only once in the minutes of each division and not twice as heretofore.

Mr. A. L. Cowell, Field Secretary for the California Bureau of Conventions and Societies, of the Panama Pacific International Exposition, was present and spoke to the Club on the matter of having as many as possible of the ornithological societies of the United States meet in San Francisco in 1915 during the exposition. The members expressed a hearty sympathy in the matter. Mr. Cowell also discussed the possibility of an international conservation congress being held at the time of the fair and read several letters showing the world wide interest in the idea. Mr. W. P. Taylor and others discussed the matter. It was decided to have the President appoint a committee of three members to consider the matter and report at the October meeting. Adjourned.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.

**OCTOBER**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 101, East Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California, on Thursday evening, October 23, 1913, at 8 p. m. President Carriger was in the chair with the following members present: Mesdames Allen and Grinnell, the Misses Atsatt and Wythe, and the Messrs. Bade, Bryant, Clarke, Dawson, Grinnell, Moran, Silliman, Storer, Trenor, Weed and Willett. Over twenty-five visitors were present. The program of the evening was first presented. Mr. W. Leon Dawson gave an illustrated account of some of the more interesting species of birds that he has encountered in his field-work in the interests of his "Birds of California."

The business of the meeting was then taken up. The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved and the minutes of the Southern Division for September were read. The names read at the last meeting were elected to membership. The following new applications were read: Miss Louise Le Bris, 2569 Clay St., San Francisco, proposed by J. Grinnell; Miss Olive Swezy, 533 Durant Ave., Berkeley, proposed by Tracy I. Storer; and Chas. H. Culp, Pacific Grove, proposed by O. P. Silliman. In addition the names presented at the Southern Division were read.

A communication from Mr. W. Leon Dawson stating the progress of the work on the "Birds of California" and making certain requests for aid and cooperation from the Club was read. The aid is requested on the following points: (1) knowledge of the little-known species accredited to the State; (2) data as to the migrations of the various species in the State; (3) appointment of a committee or individual to visit the technical portions of the work. Mr. Dawson commented briefly on the contents of the letter. It was decided to use the columns of "THE CONDOR" to secure information regarding the little known species and regarding migrations. A motion was carried authorizing the President and Secretary of the Northern Division to act with the corresponding officers of the Southern Division as a committee in selecting one member from the Club at large to confer with Mr. Dawson.

The Committee consisting of W. P. Taylor, H. C. Bryant and Joseph Mailliard, appointed in accordance with a motion passed at the September meeting to look into the matter of a conservation congress in San Francisco in 1915, rendered its report, which was accepted.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.