

led to *think* they are absorbing "scientific" matter. But it seems to me that this claim cannot be made honorably by any person or organization, unless the greatest possible care has been expended to insure scientific accuracy *in fact*. This should be the primary concern, rather than be secondary to speed of publication and length of subscription list.

Better one thoroughly good book every ten years, than ten poor books discreditable to the science for which it is aspired to serve as popular interpreter. Popularization of a science is a worthy service, but it requires rare fidelity as well as exceptional talent.—J. GRINNELL.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### NORTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, on Thursday evening, October 18, at eight o'clock. Dr. Evermann was in the chair, and the following members were present: Messrs. Bryant, Carriger, De Groot, Evermann, Grinnell, Lastreto, Mailliard, Wheeler and Wright; Mesdames Allen, Ferguson, Grant, Grinnell, Head, Knappen, Newhall, Schlesinger. Visitors: Mr. Austin, Mr. Schlesinger, Mesdames Bamford, Lenfest and Wheeler. The minutes of the September meeting were read and approved, and the August and September minutes of the Southern Division were read.

Mr. Carl Lien, proposed before the Southern Division, was elected to membership, and the following were proposed for membership: Mrs. G. L. Bamford, Oakland, by Miss Margaret Wythe, and Mr. Albert J. Kirn, Paola, Kansas, by H. W. Carriger; also three names from the August and September minutes of the Southern Division.

After a number of informal notes on migration offered by different members present, Mr. Dudley S. De Groot gave a talk on "The Breeding Birds of the Coronado Islands". Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, November 15, 1917, at eight o'clock. The meeting was called to order by President Evermann, with the following members and friends in attendance: Members: Messrs. Bryant, Carriger,

Dixon, Grinnell, Hansen, Kibbe, Labarthe, Lastreto, Smythe, Squires, Wheeler and Wright; Mesdames Allen, Culver, Ferguson, Grinnell, Gunn, Kibbe, Kluegel, Knappen, Lueddemann, Meade, Schlesinger and Smythe; Visitors: Mrs. Bamford, Mrs. Labarthe and Mr. Schlesinger.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved. Mrs. G. L. Bamford and Mr. Albert J. Kirn, whose names were proposed at the October meeting, were elected to membership, as were also Capt. Gosse, Mr. Leach and Miss Young, whose names were sent by the Southern Division for approval. The resignation of Mrs. H. C. Bryant was accepted. Mr. Squires rendered an oral report of the work of his committee in its efforts to insure the protection of non-injurious birds in Golden Gate Park.

Professor Grinnell, the speaker for the evening, then described the Great Basin Avifauna as represented in California. Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, on the evening of December 20, at eight o'clock. Dr. Evermann called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Messrs. Bryant, Carriger, Davis, Dixon, Evermann, Grinnell, Hansen, Heller, Kibbe, Labarthe, Lastreto, Leach, Mailliard, Snyder, Swarth, Wheeler and Wright; Mesdames Allen, Grant, Kibbe, Kluegel, Meade, Parsons and Schlesinger. Visitors present were Miss Newlin, Mrs. Labarthe, Mrs. Wheeler, Professor Hall and Mr. Schlesinger.

The name of Mr. H. Van Straaten, Oakland, was proposed by Dr. Frederick B. Davis. Mr. Lastreto appealed to Club members to support Mr. Dawson in his efforts to complete "The Birds of California". Mr. Lastreto also reported for the committee appointed to investigate the effect upon sea birds of the presence of oil on the water to the effect that certain of the oil companies have agreed to instruct their captains not to discharge oil from their vessels.

Nominations for officers for the ensuing year resulted in the following names being placed before the Club: President, Dr. Barton W. Evermann; Vice President, Professor J. O. Snyder; Secretary, Mrs. A. S. Allen; representative to the Associated Societies for the Conservation of Wild Life, Mr. A. S. Kibbe.

A letter from the Audubon Association of the Pacific asking that the Cooper Club

appoint a member to cooperate with their committee, which had been appointed to investigate and report upon the destruction of bird life by the light-houses on the Pacific Coast, was read, and the appointment, duly authorized, was left to the Chair.

On the suggestion of the President, it was moved and carried that the Executive Committee of the Northern Division enter into communication with the Executive Committee of the Southern Division to arrange for representation on the program at the meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, to be held in connection with the next meeting of the Pacific Association for the Advancement of Science.

With the concurrence of Professor Snyder, the program announced for the evening was postponed, and the Club was entertained by a talk by Mr. Edmund Heller, field naturalist of the American Museum of Natural History, on his recent collecting trip in the Orient. His description of the lack of insectivorous birds in Japan, with no visible detrimental effects upon the crops or forests, led to a discussion of the real explanation of this seeming discrepancy. Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

NOVEMBER.—Regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division, Cooper Ornithological Club, was held at 8:00 p. m. at the Museum of History, Science and Art. President Miller officiated. Members present were Messrs. Bishop, Brouse, Dickey, Enoch, Hannaford, Holland, Howell, Granville, Lamb, Owen, Rich, John Robertson, Trenor, Willett, and Wyman; and Mrs. E. F. Husher. Visitors were Mrs. Bishop, Miss Brouse, and Mr. Volney Enoch.

Minutes of the August and September meetings were read and approved, followed by reading of minutes of the Northern Division for the same months. On proper motion, the Secretary was instructed to cast an electing ballot for Pauline Rodgers Young, Canille, Arizona, whose name was proposed at the previous meeting. New names were proposed as follows: Grace McCormac French, Carlton, Oregon, by Mrs. R. Bruce Horsfall; Alfred M. Bailey, Louisiana State Museum, New Orleans, Louisiana, by Geo. Willett; W. P. Stormont, Los Angeles, by J. Eugene Law; James George French, Victoria, B. C., Canada; E. A. Doolittle, Painesville, Ohio; and John Williams, Iowa City, Iowa, by W. Lee Chambers; Frederick Greenwood, Spokane, Washington, by Walter P. Taylor.

On motion by Dr. Rich, seconded by Mr. Willett, the members approved the action of the Secretary in sending out postcard notices covering stated meetings for the ensuing six months.

Followed considerable discussion of the troubles of bird and egg collectors in the state of Utah. Dr. Bishop told recent collecting experiences in the San Bernardino Mountains. Inspection of several trays of owl skins proved interesting to all. Adjourned.—L. E. WYMAN, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—Regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division, Cooper Ornithological Club, was held at 8:00 p. m. at the Museum of History, Science and Art. President Miller occupied the chair, with the following members in attendance: Messrs. Bishop, Brown, Chambers, Daggett, Esterly, Hannaford, Holland, Howell, Enoch, Law, Rich, Stormont, Wall, Willett, and Wyman; Mrs. Husher and Mrs. Law. Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Anderson were visitors.

Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved. On proper motion the Secretary was instructed to cast an electing ballot for the following names, presented at the last meeting: Frederick Greenwood, John Williams, E. A. Doolittle, James George French, W. P. Stormont, A. M. Bailey, and Grace McCormac French; also Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smythe, and Augustus S. Kibbe, proposed by the Northern Division. New names presented were: Volney A. Enoch, Tropic, by L. E. Wyman; Thomas D. Burleigh, Pittsburg, Pa., by W. Lee Chambers; and Mrs. G. L. Bamford, Oakland, and Albert J. Kirn, Paola, Kansas, from the Northern Division. Dr. Rich moved that nominations, for the coming election, be made from the floor. Carried.

Business ended, the usual informal discussions followed. Mr. Howell read letters from a man who claimed to have found a "red gull" dead on the beach—and sent some poorly dyed feathers as evidence. Dr. Bishop related recent experiences collecting birds in the desert, while Mr. Howell told of collecting mammals on the same trip. Judge Wall reported finding a nest of young meadowlarks in December; and Mr. Law told of a recent collecting and hunting trip in the Mogollon Mountains of New Mexico, also of receiving Thick-billed Parrots in the flesh from Arizona. Inspection of several trays of woodpeckers, kingfishers, etc., completed the evening. Adjourned.—L. E. WYMAN, *Secretary*.