

It is, therefore, recommended that, for purposes of communication between banders and about banding, forms like "*Melospiza melodia*, subsp.," "*Passerella iliaca*, subsp.," etc., be used. By this method banders will avoid responsibility for an added burden to the growing confusion of authenticated and unauthenticatable records which comprise our ornithological literature. Banding, for the present, at least, is occupied with what the individual bird does, rather than with its family tree. A simple nomenclature suffices.

Banding Nestlings.—Nestlings nearly fledged had best be left undisturbed, for they can rarely be persuaded to stay in the nest after being removed for banding, and when out their chance of survival is materially reduced. They can be banded without danger of stampede at any younger stage, after the 'tarsus' is long enough to receive the band. Remove all in the nest to a box, best soft lined, and return them to the nest, one by one, as banded. Deliberate motions on the part of the bander frighten the nestlings least. Use the size of band which an adult of the species requires.

If trapper's lore is correct, approach to the nest should be made before mid-afternoon, in order that night prowling predators will not have the fresh scent of the bander to guide them to the nest. One needs, also, to be alert for spying shrikes, jays, and crows, which are always on the lookout for nestlings. If such are about, drive them from the neighborhood until the parents of the nestlings are again in charge.

Unfeathered nestlings must not be exposed to the direct rays of a hot sun nor to chilling winds. They succumb quickly to either, and especially quickly to the former.

If one observes these simple cautions, nestlings suffer no inconvenience from being banded. By all means, lose no opportunity to band them.

Los Angeles Chapter.—On February 10, 1924, the Los Angeles Bird Banding Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club reorganized with 16 members present. A similar meeting, a year ago, had proved premature. Under appointment by the Southern Division of the Club, J. Eugene Law acted as chairman, and Mrs. Ella H. Ellis was named as secretary. The roll of charter members, which includes the other banders who have signified a desire to be included but were unable to be present at the meeting, is as follows:

C. A. Barnes	Mrs. C. H. Hall	Loye Holmes Miller
Frances V. Barnes	A. B. Howell	Helen S. Pratt
Elbert Benjamin	H. W. Johnson	Ethel Randall
Mrs. F. T. Bicknell	George L. Kaeding	J. McB. Robertson
Elizabeth F. Burnell	Margaret Kaeding	Roland C. Ross
Carl Chambers	J. Eugene Law	Jesse H. Taylor
W. Lee Chambers	Laura B. Law	L. E. Wyman
M. W. de Laubenfels	Luther Little	
Ella H. Ellis	R. J. Middleton	

Meetings are to be held on the second Sunday of each month.

J. EUGENE LAW, *Altadena, California, April 5, 1924.*

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

FORBES AND GROSS: "On the numbers and local distribution of Illinois land birds of the open country in winter, spring, and fall."*—In view of the Government's interest in bird censuses and the growing popularity of such censuses as are conducted by the National Association of Audubon Societies, this paper is significant. It seems that Professor Stephen A. Forbes, Chief of the Natural History Survey Division of the Board of Natural Resources and Conservation of the State of Illinois, and an assistant,

Alfred O. Gross, made some intensive censuses of the bird life of three sections of the state of Illinois in the years 1906, 1907, 1908 and 1909. The results did not appear in print until October, 1923.

Inability to make a complete census of the birds of the state at any time being recognized, these men resorted to the method of random sampling. Their listing of methods used is as follows:

1. A careful selection of the sample tracts surveyed, with a view to making them as nearly as possible fairly representative of the whole area from which they were chosen. [Our method of enumeration limited us to birds of more or less open country, excluding us from aquatic situations and from dense forests or lofty trees.]
2. The accurate recognition and complete enumeration by two observers of all the birds present on long strips or belts of uniform width, one ob-

*Bulletin of the State of Illinois, Department of Registration and Education, Division of the Natural History Survey. Vol. XIV, Article X, October, 1923, pp. 395-458.

server recognizing and counting the birds seen on each kind of habitat, and the other recording the distances traveled over each. [To make sure that practically all the birds were seen by these observers, several trial trips were made with a third person walking between and some distance behind the two; with the result that the number of additional birds thus flushed was altogether negligible.]

3. The form of field notes written on uniform slips day by day for each trip, the slips being numbered consecutively for convenient reference.

4. The method of tabulation of the observations in a way to make them available for consolidation in various ways and for complete discussion.

5. A species index of the numbered notes such that all the data for each species may be readily assembled.

6. The grouping and tabulation of "residence classes."

7. Use of the tables thus formed in comparing the composition of the bird population in different seasons and especially in different stages of the fall and spring migrations, and the tracing in detail by this means of the successive steps of each migration.

As one glances over the numerous tables, which by the way are not numbered, it is to be noted that emphasis is placed upon the numbers of birds per square mile. Many furnish an array of percentages and ratios. Practically all of the tables show subdivisions, indicating the three sections of the state, southern, central, and northern.

Confirmatory evidence that resident species diminish rapidly to the northward is given. The southern part of the state shows 82.9 per cent; the central, 64.3 per cent; and the northern, 57.2 per cent. Percentages for the winter visitants are practically the same, whereas the summer visitants increase in numbers northward according to the following percentages: 00 per cent; 14.3 per cent; 19 per cent. At the end of the paper ten and one-half pages are devoted to a general list of 195 species arranged according to their residence and their seasonal presence in the three sections of the state. A sample of the field notes, index cards and the percentage tables made from them follows.

Admitting the value of such statistical data, the reviewer has not been favorably impressed with the presentation, for it appears that even to one familiar with reports of this kind, the data are rather mixed and it is difficult to pick out the outstanding findings of the authors. The treatment of the methods used in the survey is to be found thirty-eight pages away from the introduction. Whereas most tables give the common names of birds, one important table, dealing with the more abundant birds found in various habitats, lists them only by A. O. U. numbers. It takes considerable "digging" to locate comparative tables for the various sections of the state and no summary is available to determine the authors' success in demonstrating what they set

out to show.—HAROLD C. BRYANT, *Berkeley, California, April 23, 1924.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Thursday evening, March 27, 1924. President Wyman was in the chair and the following members were present: Mesdames Ellis and Law; Miss Potter; Messrs. Barnes, Bishop, Campbell, Dawson, Law, Nokes, Rich and Wyman. Visitors were Mesdames Bishop and Wyman; Messrs. Baldock, Goldfrank, Short and Short.

Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved, followed by the February minutes of the Northern Division. The following names were presented for membership: Henry Boardman Conover, 6 Scott St., Chicago, by W. Lee Chambers; Craig R. Duer, Newberg, Oregon, by Stanley G. Jewett; Harry Warren Dunkelberger, Box 6, Flourtown, Montgomery Co., Pa., by W. Lee Chambers; A. T. Gausebeck, 60 Broadway, New York, by W. Lee Chambers; Stephen S. Gregory, Jr., 345 Barry Ave., Chicago, by Donald R. Dickey; Anna H. L. Holden, 2835 Divisadero St., San Francisco, by H. C. Bryant; Elmer L. Knapp, Route 2, Troy, Pa., by W. Lee Chambers; L. R. Orton, Fillmore, by L. G. Peyton; Colin Campbell Sanborn, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, by Henry K. Coale; Manfred Kenwood Spaulding, Box 984, Westwood, by W. Lee Chambers; John Le Moyne Stafford, Box 128, Gresham, Oregon, by W. Lee Chambers; James Douglas Turnbull, 2065 48th Ave. West, Vancouver, B. C., by W. Lee Chambers; Geo. C. Withey, Deering, North Dakota, by Geo. W. Morse. The Northern Division sent the names of E. Raymond Hall, Berkeley; Hildegard Howard, Los Angeles; Cavendish Moxon, Los Altos.

A letter to Mr. Wyman from Mr. Ralph Hoffmann was read, again inviting the Club to hold a meeting this spring at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. Upon motion of Mr. Law, seconded by Dr. Rich, it was voted to accept Mr. Hoffmann's invitation for the last Saturday evening in June.

Mr. Wyman was also in receipt of a communication from the Board of Park Commissioners stating that the Board ex-