

form here adopted is confusing to one used to more extended treatment of such subject matter, and it certainly would not be a popular innovation in the American volume. Then, too, in our own case, we have considered "range" (that is, the distribution of species and subspecies) as a matter of prime importance, to be stated with as much attention to detail as our knowledge permits. Here, it is given in the most general manner imaginable, much as though we were to describe subspecies as occurring in the "New England States", or in the "Northwest".

However, these details of treatment aside, there can be no question as to the authoritativeness of this Checklist, considering the personnel of the committee that had it in hand. The following principles that are followed, as brought out in the introductory "report of committee", will commend themselves to a good many, at least, of the ornithologists of this country, as they do to the reviewer. "(1) 'The same name for the same bird' as on British and American lists. Thus Australians took their place alongside the ornithologists of Britain and America, and accepted to the full the principles of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature and the decisions of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature; (2) 'large genera' as used by some British Ornithologists and advocated in America; (3) that where a series of races or forms connected up certain forms with others, the whole should constitute one species."

Certain compromises were effected with Mr. Gregory M. Mathews regarding nomenclatural usage, with, in particular, the happy result that Mr. Mathews consented "to accept large genera if the numerous generic names as used in his later lists were included as subgenera." It is fortunate that these compromises should have been arrived at, with the result that the Checklist may be generally adopted and used.

The several appendices (pp. 116-142), covering the derivation, meaning, and pronunciation of the accepted scientific names of Australian birds, constitute a feature of the volume that will be useful to bird students in all parts of the world. Incidentally, many of Mr. Wostenholme's comments upon names shed side-lights upon personal or national historical events that form most enthralling reading, and this on pages that to the casual glance appear to be about as dry as those of a telephone directory.

The reviewer has no knowledge of Australian birds, and can form no opinion regarding the treatment of any particular species or subspecies, but the course that has been followed by the committee in charge of the compilation of the Checklist, and the appearance of the volume throughout, carry the conviction of an excellent piece of work accomplished. The Australian Committee would appear to have done its share toward the accomplishment spoken of in the closing paragraph of its introductory report, where the hope is expressed "that this second edition of the Official Checklist . . . will prove that a considerable step has been taken towards the long-proposed authoritative official list of the Birds of the World—the *Systema Avium*—the aspiration of every student and bird-lover."—HARRY S. SWARTH, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, September 30, 1926.*

#### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

##### NORTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—The December meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, on December 16, 1926, at 8:00 P. M. In the absence of President Allen, and at the request of Vice-president Carriger, Mr. C. B. Las-treto occupied the chair, with about sixty-five members and guests in attendance. Minutes of the Northern Division for November were read. The name of Miss Anne R. Richardson, Berkeley Inn, Berkeley, California, was presented for membership by Mr. Daniel Rowen.

The following resolution was presented by Mr. Grinnell and unanimously adopted by the Division:

WHEREAS, in the death of Dr. Frank H. Knowlton on November 22, 1926, the Cooper Ornithological Club lost a loyal member of sixteen years standing, and one, furthermore, who has contributed to the general knowledge of birds worthily, on a basis of scholarly research, be it

RESOLVED that the Northern Division of our Club hereby place on record this statement of our high esteem of Dr. Knowlton as a man, and of his ornithological work; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Secretary transmit to his widow a copy of these resolutions.

(Signed) Joseph Grinnell, Ralph W. Chaney, E. Raymond Hall.

Nominations of officers being a function of the December meeting, Mr. Carriger presented the following slate: President, Mr. Tracy I. Storer; Vice-president, Mr. Joseph Mailliard; Secretary, Mrs. Joseph Grinnell. Nominations were then closed.

Mr. Joseph Mailliard reported upon his experiences with the Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk in northeastern California. After endeavoring on three separate field trips to secure a specimen, three came to hand within four days. Mr. Lastreto made some interesting remarks upon the status of the Mockingbird on the Peninsula, and Mr. Cain reported the fact that a bird of this species had been observed on the Stanford campus. Mrs. Carr announced the discovery of an exotic bird in Live Oak Park near the aviary. The bird proved to be a Japanese Robin, undoubtedly escaped from some cage.

Mr. Ralph W. Chaney then entertained the Club with a most interesting illustrated talk upon "Birds by the Wayside in Mongolia". Mr. Chaney modestly disclaimed the often heard statement that the American Museum Expedition discovered the dinosaur eggs, saying that the pre-Mongol race of man which inhabited the Gobi 25,000 years ago had done that, piercing fragments of the egg shells for necklaces. The expedition found most birds very tame, and nesting in accessible places, because the Mongols never molest wild things. It is to be hoped that Mr. Chaney will put his observations into permanent form, for the benefit of those members who were unable to hear him, as well as of those who did have that pleasure and who may wish to renew their acquaintance with the birds of the Gobi—birds from the foot-padded Sand Grouse of the desert to the Snow Cocks on the upper slopes of the Altai.

Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, on January 27, 1927, at 8:00 P. M. President Allen occupied the chair and thirty-eight members were present. December minutes of the Northern Division were read and approved. November minutes of the Southern Division were read. The following proposals for membership were read: Mary C. Alexander, 2570 Cedar Street, Berkeley, California, by J. Grinnell; George Buckman, 1001 Throckmorton Avenue, Mill Valley, California, by J. Grinnell; Roland G. Eisenman, 2102 Montana Street, Oakland, California, by Brighton C. Cain; Henry Warrington, Sutter Creek, California, by H. S. Swarth.

A letter from the Secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association

for the Advancement of Science was read and discussed. It was requested that the Cooper Club send two delegates to the meeting of the Affiliations Committee, to be held in San Francisco, February 5, 1927. Since, insofar as the Chairman was able to ascertain, no member of the Northern Division of the Club plans to attend the June meeting of the A. A. A. S. in Reno, Mr. Borell moved that no delegates be nominated to attend the meeting of the Affiliation Committee. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried.

Upon the motion of Mr. Borell the following, those nominated at the December meeting, were elected to serve as officers of the Northern Division during 1927: President, Tracy I. Storer; Vice-president, Joseph Mailliard; Secretary, Hilda W. Grinnell. Since neither newly-elected president nor vice-president was present, ex-President Allen, upon the suggestion of Mr. H. S. Swarth, consented to occupy the chair for the remainder of the evening.

When called upon for reports of recent literature Mr. Swarth read an earnest paragraph from "Descriptions of some South African birds' eggs" by Austin Roberts (*Ann. Transvaal Mus.*, vol. 11, 1926, p. 226), suggesting certain duties and privileges of oölogists, and Mr. Grinnell reviewed the new popular edition of Beebe's monograph of the Pheasants. Mr. Grinnell then turned to two older publications: Dana's "Two Years Before the Mast", from which he read the incident of Dana's meeting with Thomas Nuttall on the beach at San Diego in 1836; and a photostat copy of an article contributed to "Forest and Stream" in 1886 by Walter E. Bryant of the California Academy of Sciences and recording a visit to Cedros Island, Lower California.

Mr. Lastreto announced that the next meeting of the Audubon Association of the Pacific will be held in the Ferry Building, San Francisco, on the evening of February 10 and cordially invited Cooper Club members to attend. Mr. Brighton C. Cain reported being on the Stanford campus recently and noting many hundred Band-tailed Pigeons among the oak trees along San Francisco Creek. Mr. Raymond Gilmore announced that he had this week found the nearly completed nest of a pair of Bush-tits and asked if this were not an early record. No one present had found Bush-tits in previous years nesting earlier than February 24.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Jean M. Linsdale who gave an interesting and carefully prepared talk upon the

"Birds of Kansas". Mr. Linsdale described the topographical features and faunal areas of our central-most state and outlined the distribution of eastern and western birds within its borders. Mr. Linsdale pointed out the fact that many of the species of birds occurring in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys of California are also to be found in western Kansas. About four hundred species of birds are now known to occur in Kansas, while recently reported vagrants bring the number for California up to six hundred.

Mr. E. Raymond Hall reported an apparent influx of hawks and owls into the mouse-infested area about Buena Vista Lake. Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held at the Los Angeles Museum at Exposition Park, Tuesday, October 26, 1926, at 8:00 P. M. The meeting was called to order by President Bishop with thirty-six members present. The minutes of the Southern Division were read and approved. September minutes of the Northern Division were read.

Applications for membership were as follows: Clarence Bretich, 690 Broadway, Gary, Indiana; Oscar M. Bryens, 1312 3rd St., Three Rivers, Mich.; Raymond B. Ellis, 1013 Aetna St., Connellsville, Penn.; Dr. Herbert Friedman, Biol. Lab., Brown University, Providence, R. I.; Kenneth L. Gordon, 304 Garfield St., Fort Collins, Colo.; A. B. Gould, 617 N. Cherokee Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.; Bess R. Green, Zool. Dept., Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore.; Chas. O. Handley, 403 E. Jefferson St., Thomasville, Ga.; George T. Hughes, Box 153, Plainfield, N. J.; Aaron Marden, Eagle Island, So. Harpswell, Maine; Anthony W. Robinson, P. O. Box 426, Haverford, Penn.; and Mrs. Carl Tucker, 733 Park Ave., New York City; all proposed by W. Lee Chambers.

A communication from the Audubon Society was read regarding the movement to restore protection to the White Pelican and Cormorants. Dr. Bishop pointed out that the policy of the Club would of necessity be decided by the Board of Governors. However, it was moved by Dr. Miller that the sense of the meeting be in favor of the protection of these birds. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wyman and unanimously carried.

Due to the detention of Mr. Swarth in travel, the meeting was turned over to a

series of discussions. Mr. van Rossem said a word about the museum conditions in Salvador. Mr. Pierce reported on the duck season at Bear Lake. The implantation of the eastern Cardinal in the El Monte River bottom, and the most recent fossil material from the McKittrick horizon, were subjects presented by Dr. Miller. Mr. Wyman told of his capture of a Derby Flycatcher near Los Angeles. Numerous other matters were discussed during the course of the evening.

Adjourned.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday evening, November 30, 1926, at the Los Angeles Museum at Exposition Park. The meeting was called to order by Vice-president Appleton. About one hundred and twenty members and friends were present. October minutes of the Southern Division were read and approved, and October minutes of the Northern Division read. The application of Judge Guy R. Crump, 1517 Fair Oaks Avenue, South Pasadena, California, proposed by Loye Miller, was read.

Mr. Wyman, seconded by Mr. Reis, moved to reopen the question of indorsing the move for the protection of White Pelicans and Cormorants, and further moved that the Southern Division Secretary communicate with the proper authorities stating that the Southern Division is highly in favor of the protection of these birds regardless of the decision made at the last meeting to let the Board of Governors determine the policy in this matter. The motion was unanimously carried.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Vernon Bailey, gave an illustrated lecture on the Carlsbad Caverns and their animal life. Most unusual were the motion pictures that had been taken by magnesium torch light. The animal life within the caves was of course chiefly mammalian. Many species of bats and several mice were found in the caves. Mr. Bailey stated that no permanent modifications had taken place in the cave-inhabiting mice. Several lantern slides were shown of the birds found in the desert association about the entrance to the cave. The entire lecture was most interesting because of the many personal touches given by such a well-known and accurate naturalist as Mr. Bailey.

Adjourned.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Secretary*.