

Kuroda made a trip to Fujiyama, to study the bird-life there. Later, in April of 1926, he delivered a lecture on "Birds of Fujiyama" in Tokyo. This led him to write the present book. The text is written in Japanese; western ornithologists can make use of the English index. There is a good bibliography of 48 titles, briefly annotated.

An appendix concludes this volume, in which the vertebrates, other than birds, are treated. There are 41 mammals, 12 reptiles, 9 amphibians, and 14 fishes. Again, the student is struck by similarities to the corresponding faunas on the Pacific coast of America.

Dr. Kuroda's book is an admirable one in many ways. It will form a good foundation for future workers, who will go into life-histories, we hope, as he has not been able to do. People of the land of the cherry-blossom will, we trust, welcome the appearance of Dr. Kuroda's book, which contributes to a naturalist's view of the famous Mount Fuji.—TSEN-HWANG SHAW and J. GRINNELL, *Berkeley, California, March 5, 1927.*

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### NORTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, the evening of February 24, 1927, with about fifty members and visitors present. Vice-president Mailliard presided.

January minutes of the Northern Division were read and approved, and January minutes of the Southern Division were read. The following proposals for membership were presented: Seth B. Benson, 2511 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, by J. M. Linsdale; Herbert L. Mason, 2531 Channing Way, Berkeley, by A. E. Borell; George S. Meredith, Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank, Oakland, by F. A. Leach; Amy Rinehart, 540 East Seventh St., Oakland, by M. W. Wythe.

Mr. Carl P. Russell of the Yosemite Park Museum was present and expressed his appreciation of the action of the Club in presenting publications to the Park Museum. Mr. Swarth reported upon plans for the Annual Meeting of the Club and asked members wishing to contribute to the program to communicate with him. Mr. Lastreto exhibited the January issue of the *Standard Oil Bulletin*, containing

an article describing the efforts being made by the Standard Oil Company to prevent the pollution of coastal waters by oil. He suggested that the Secretary be instructed to write to their officials expressing appreciation of their action. It was so ordered. Dr. H. C. Bryant reported having this day heard the first Lutescent Warbler of the season. Mrs. Mead announced that Robins are just now present by thousands in the park near the Senator Hotel, Sacramento.

"Birds of the Emeryville Shellmound" was the subject of the evening's program, presented by Miss Edna M. Fisher and Miss Hildegard Howard. Miss Fisher described the locations and nature of the larger of the four hundred shell mounds found along the northern California coast, and the ideal environs of the Emeryville mound with its strip of sandy beach, fresh water stream, marsh land, and willow thicket. She also told how the artifacts and animal remains were obtained by Miss Howard and herself at the time of the razing of the mound, as well as of the work done upon the location by earlier investigators.

Miss Howard spoke of the immense quantity of bird, mammal and fish bones available for study and also of the difficulty of sorting material where skeletal remains are so completely disarticulated and where material for comparison is often hard to obtain. Among other interesting facts, Miss Howard called attention to the large number of bones of young murrets and cormorants found and asked whether young of these two species were ever to be found nearer than the Farallones. Mr. Mailliard replied that he had often seen very young murrets in the bay and that cormorants used to nest on Arch Rock, near Alcatraz Island, a rock dynamited some years ago in the interests of navigation. Members present expressed great interest in the work of Miss Fisher and Miss Howard.

An unusual feature of the evening was the exhibition of bird drawings in several media, displayed by Mr. Edmund J. Sawyer of the National Parks Service. Mr. Sawyer's versatility was further proven by his reading of a clever dialect poem, "Ranger Batiste and the Coyote Hunt". Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary.*

MARCH.—The March meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of

Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, the evening of March 24, 1927, with Vice-president Mailliard in the chair and about seventy members and visitors in attendance. February minutes of the Northern Division were read and approved. February minutes of the Southern Division were read.

Miss Margaret W. Wythe reported upon the bird baths which have recently been placed upon the University Campus, giving the location of each bath and enumerating the species of birds attracted. Mr. Bunker commented upon the unusual abundance of Hermit Thrushes during the past winter and told of an individual in his garden which was discovered by Mrs. Bunker to have an additional note to those usually heard, a chest note resembling the rubbing of a file on thin iron. Dr. Bryant announced that certain sportsmen have introduced into the legislature a new bill removing protection from the Black-billed Magpie, Crow and Kingfisher. Mr. Mailliard called attention to the decision to hold the regular April meeting of the Northern Division as a session of the annual meeting instead of on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Mr. J. Grinnell spoke upon "bird populations and conditions that control them". He enumerated the characteristic birds of the Berkeley hills toward Grizzly Peak as he first knew them eighteen years ago, when there were grassy areas dotted with groups of baccharis bushes on shaded slopes and clumps of artemisia on sun-facing slopes. Then there were planted acres of Monterey pines, and as these grew up and flourished the bird-life changed. And finally, now that the area has been devastated by fire and insects, there is a third group of birds which has come to occupy it. What will be the next phase?

To illustrate his point, that species are the playthings of their environments, Mr. Grinnell sketched the environment of the California Clapper Rail and discussed several factors which are steadily operating to change this environment and perhaps bring about the extinction of the species. Such a catastrophe might be delayed indefinitely by the setting aside somewhere in the Bay region of a Salicornia "refuge" or "park", where the rails would be protected from some, at least, of the factors which threaten them. In closing, the speaker suggested that a person wishing to attract any certain species of bird to a garden area could do so by providing the special environment which supports that particular species in nature.

In the discussion which closed the evening many interesting points were brought to light; but no one was able to solve Mrs. Taylor's query as to why House Wrens prefer dust baths to water baths. This query resulted from her own nineteen years of observation in a region where House Wrens are plentiful, and yet they were observed to dip into bird baths only eight times in the nearly two decades.

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

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday evening, December 28, 1926, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park. The meeting was called to order by President Bishop with twenty members present. Minutes of the Southern Division for November were read and approved. Minutes of the November meeting of the Northern Division were read.

The following applications for membership were read: Malcolm H. Finley, 270 S. Allen Ave., Pasadena, Calif., by M. W. de Laubenfels; Francis L. Jaques, American Museum of Natural History, New York, by Harry Harris; Frances Lauderbach, 1519 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena, Calif., by Myrtle S. Edwards; Alexander G. Lawrence, City Health Dept., Winnipeg, Canada, by J. A. Munroe; William E. McGee, R. 4, Nampa, Idaho; Edwin A. Meserve, 82 Fremont Place, Los Angeles, Calif.; and W. Dan Quattlebaum, 191 Prospect St., East Orange, N. J., by W. Lee Chambers.

Mr. Chambers called the attention of members to the new publication, "The Birds of Western Canada", by P. A. Taverner, pointing out the value of this work, and announcing the special price to club members. Announcement was also made concerning the Audubon Society lecture on the "Courtship Performances of Birds", by Ralph Hoffmann, to be given at the Los Angeles Public Library, December 30. On the motion of Mr. Wyman the chair was asked to appoint a nominating committee to report at election time next meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Rich and carried. Dr. Bishop appointed Mr. Wyman, Dr. Rich, and Mr. Chambers to serve on this committee.

Dr. Bishop presented the paper of the evening in the form of an account of a collecting expedition to the North Dakota lake region. The party spent an entire summer on the prairies along the Cana-

dian border, and encountered many interesting birds which are even now poorly known. Much of this area has been drained or otherwise changed since the time of the expedition in 1895. Baird Sparrows, Chestnut-collared Longspurs and Leconte Sparrows were some of the interesting birds of the sparrow family which, in many cases, are now extinct in this region. Great numbers of ducks once inhabited these prairie areas.

Mr. Hubricht gave an account of observations made upon the Painted Redstart which he discovered in Elysian Park, Los Angeles. Adjourned.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday evening, January 25, 1927, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park. The meeting was called to order by the president with sixteen members present. Minutes of the December meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved, and the December minutes of the Northern Division were read. The following new applications for membership were presented: L. V. Compton, 409 W. Webster St., Pittsburg, Kansas, and Henry Tucker, 1818 Pine St., Philadelphia, Penn., by W. Lee Chambers; Malcolm T. Cotter, Box 241, Big Creek, Calif., by E. D. Sismey.

Mr. Wyman, chairman of the nominating committee, reported the following ballot: Mr. Appleton, president; Mr. Chambers, vice-president; and Mr. Michener, secretary. On motion of Dr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Reis, it was voted to accept the report and close the nominations. On motion of Dr. Miller, the secretary cast a unanimous ballot in favor of the nominees. Mr. Appleton then took the chair and asked the past secretary to act in Mr. Michener's absence.

Dr. Miller, on behalf of Mr. Swarth, chairman of the committee on papers, urged contributions to the program for the Annual Meeting, the 28th to the 30th of April, in Berkeley. Mr. Appleton gave an account of catching shearwaters on baited hooks in the Santa Barbara channel. Mr. Hubricht reported Gila Woodpeckers and Townsend Solitaires at Griffith Park, Los Angeles, and an Evening Grosbeak at Sierra Madre. Dr. Miller gave an account of a Prairie Falcon attacking and driving away a Red-tailed Hawk, describing the repeated turning over in the air on the part of the hawk

in order to ward off the charging falcon. This incident was observed near Victorville, California.

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

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on February 22, 1927. President Appleton called the meeting to order at 8:00 P. M., with about sixty members and friends present. The minutes of the January meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved.

The following applications were read: Cyril Guy Harrold, 183 Notre Dame Ave., East, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, by H. S. Swarth; Mrs. James R. McDonald, 2035 Lyon St., San Francisco, Calif., and Mrs. Lyman O. Perley, 3420 Lincoln Blvd., Omaha, Nebraska, by Annie M. Alexander; G. Elmer Reynolds, 1148 West Rose St., Stockton, Calif.; Arthur Henry Hardisty, Shelbourne, Vermont; Willard H. Broomhall, Stockport, Ohio; J. P. Jensen, Dassel, Minnesota; Robert Shore, Box 440, Indian Head, Sask., Canada; and Hugh Everett Hart, 511 Prospect St., Medina, New York, by W. Lee Chambers; Frank Forest Gander, P. O. Box 395, East San Diego, Calif., and Robert Bruce Jerrard, Calcite, Colorado, by Harold Michener.

A letter was presented from the secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in regard to the annual meeting of that organization which is to be held at the University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, June 22 to 24. On the motion of Dr. Rich, seconded by Dr. Miller, the letter was ordered placed on file. Dr. Miller urged that all members of the Southern Division contribute to the success of the second annual meeting of the Cooper Club by filling in promptly the cards addressed to Mr. Swarth, and by co-operating in every other way possible.

Mr. George Willett, who has spent several years in Alaska, was the speaker of the evening. He gave an interesting report of a trip along the Alaskan coast and the Aleutian Islands, telling of the birds he saw. After the report of this trip was concluded the audience asked many questions which led to further discussion by Mr. Willett of the occurrence and habits of various birds in Alaska.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.