

type every individual bird set free simply vanishes and is never heard from again. In another category, the new birds, "especially if put down late in winter or early in spring, make a pretense at nesting or actually do nest the first season;" but no completely successful breeding of the birds takes place and they all disappear within one or a few seasons. In a third category, successful breedings take place the first year and perhaps the second and third years; but the species never gains more than a local foothold, so that after a brief term of years "it gradually, or sometimes suddenly, after a severe season, disappears." In a fourth type of response, the results may be astonishingly favorable (from the sportsman's point of view); there is promptly great increase, with resulting impulse to gain territory. Outstanding instances of this are afforded by the Ring-necked Pheasant and the Hungarian Partridge in the Northwest. But—we now ask—what is, or will be, the ultimate effect of these rare "successes" upon our native wild life? Leaving out of account the vast cost of this experimentation in transplanting wild animals from place to place, are not the far-reaching hazards too serious to warrant any such attempts at all?—J. G.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS NORTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division was held in Room 101, Zoology Building, University of California, Berkeley, on Thursday, May 24, 1928, at 8:00 p. m., with 37 members and visitors in attendance. In the absence of the president and vice-president, Mr. J. Grinnell occupied the chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read and approved. The name of Miss Muriel M. S. Pettit, 917 Cole St., San Francisco, was proposed for membership by Miss Cornelia C. Pringle.

The program of the evening consisted of extempore reports of field observations by members and covered many localities in the state, from San Diego to Clear Lake. These reports dealt with birds of the desert, sea shore, inland marsh, salt marsh, lake, canyon bed, and hillside. The largest number of species seen in one day

was reported by Mrs. Kelly and Mr. Pursell who were fortunate in being able to take a trip to and from the desert east of San Diego on the Monday following the annual meeting of the Cooper Club. Among the 91 species identified along the route, Blue Grosbeaks, Phainopeplas and Road-runners were of especial interest. Mr. Pursell told of birds found in Balboa Park, San Diego, and of the thrill of listening to a Cardinal singing in the top of a eucalyptus tree there.

Mr. Whitmore reported finding in the Berkeley hills a nest of a Spotted Towhee containing four Towhee eggs and three of the Valley Quail. Mr. Swarth spoke of finding a set of eggs of the Desert Quail in the nest of a Palmer Thrasher in Arizona and then told of seasonal changes in bird population as noted during his daily trips across the Bay.

During the third week of May, which she spent at Clear Lake, Mrs. Allen found many Western Grebes on the lake, an enormous colony of Cliff Swallows nesting on the piling under an old building on the edge of the water, and many Violet-green Swallows along the shore. On the dry hillsides were Slender-billed Nuthatches, Western Gnatcatchers, Valley Quail, and Mourning Doves. Alden Miller told of seeing a pair of Lawrence Goldfinches carrying nesting material near the upper edge of the Stadium in Berkeley, and Mr. Cain reported having seen all three species of goldfinches, Lawrence, Willow and Green-backed, in a comparatively small area near Claremont Heights. Miss Wythe told of the behavior of wild Valley Quail on the Berkeley Campus, attracted by some caged quail. Dr. Ritter spoke of a recent visit to the vicinity of Visalia where the fine old valley oaks attract many California Woodpeckers, which there store acorns in the furrows in the bark of the trees instead of boring holes for their insertion. Mr. Dexter said that at the power substation at Lake Temescal, woodpeckers have bored many holes through redwood boarding.

No mention is here made of the birds recorded during the outing trip of the Cooper Club to Los Coronados Islands on May 6, as it is believed that a list of these is to be published elsewhere. Adjourned.
—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

JUNE.—The regular meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Di-

vision, was held in Room 101, Zoology Building, University of California, Berkeley, on Thursday, June 28 at 8 p. m., with 55 members and friends present. President Bassett called the meeting to order, after which the minutes of the May meetings of the Northern and Southern divisions were read, the former being approved as read.

As there was no business to be presented, a few minutes were devoted to reporting observations by different members. Mr. Chester Lamb then gave the program of the evening, an account of a summer field trip to the delta of the Colorado River. He reported the region to be one where heat, abundance of water, cheap labor and cheap land have made it possible to grow cotton with great success. During the summer, the high temperatures (105° to 121°), swarms of mosquitoes and the necessity of wading for miles through dense willow thickets, make collecting difficult. Specimens of both mammals and birds show the very light coloration of desert species. Muskrats and pocket gophers which destroy the levees bring bounties of twenty-five and ten cents each, the gophers being taken at the rate of from 200 to 300 per day. Many of the birds, such as thrashers and the Gila and Cactus woodpeckers, which nest in the cactus on the higher land, breed also in the willows in the overflowed areas. Mr. Lamb proved to his own satisfaction that Blue Grosbeaks and other species which attain full plumage when several years old breed in the duller plumages.

Among the specimens taken were such rare birds as the Least Bittern, California Cuckoo and the Little Brown Crane. The Cranes were so shy that it was necessary to hide before dawn within sight of the field where the birds were in the habit of feeding. By this method Mr. Lamb was able to watch 200 cranes for three hours.

Mr. Bassett gave an interesting account of the arrival of migrants on Mount Rainier, Washington, comparing the conditions at different altitudes during successive weeks in May. Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary pro tem.*

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Los Angeles

Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, May 29, 1928, at 8 p. m., with about 35 members and friends present. In the absence of President Chambers, Vice-President Harris presided. The minutes of the March meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved, there having been no April meeting. The minutes of the March and April meetings of the Northern Division were read by title only.

The following applications for membership were read: Raymond B. Cowles, Biology Dept., University of California at Los Angeles, proposed by Wright M. Pierce; William Homan Thorpe, Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, California, and Mrs. Eunice M. Meehan, Big Creek, California, both proposed by Harold Michener.

At an invitation from the Chair, Dr. Loye Miller told briefly of the annual meeting at San Diego and emphasized strongly his appreciation of the successful manner in which the San Diego members carried out their plans for these meetings.

Mr. George Willett, the speaker of the evening, told of Alaskan bird life, dealing principally with the birds of the coast region upon basis of his many years of experience there. Beginning with a description of some of the geographical features of Alaska, which most people do not understand, he followed with an account of the strange distribution of birds and mammals in the islands of the Alexander Archipelago, where many species apparently do not cross from island to island although the channels between are very narrow. Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary.*

JUNE.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, June 26, 1928, at 8 p. m. The meeting was called to order by President Chambers with J. R. Pemberton acting as Secretary. Five members were present, and the meeting, though small, was enthusiastic. Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Willett told of some recent interesting collecting experiences.

A motion that the Southern Division hold no meetings during July and August was made by Mr. C. O. Reis and seconded by Mr. Willett. The motion was unanimously carried. Adjourned.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Secretary pro tem.*