

## EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The Cooper Club's business staff has been augmented by the addition to it of Mr. John McB. Robertson. Under the title of Assistant Business Manager, Mr. Robertson will take over from Mr. W. Lee Chambers certain of the routine that has fallen to the latter's lot in increasing measure the past year or two. It should be fully realized by our membership that every hour of service rendered by each of our business managers is an outright gift to the Club; there is no compensation forthcoming beyond the satisfaction in helping along a worthy enterprise. And further, the recent notable growth in the size of *The Condor* has meant commensurate increase in the amount of business to be transacted. We can here suggest a way for everyone to cooperate, namely, by responding promptly to whatever Club notices our business managers find it in their province to send out.

Mr. Robert T. Moore, trochilidist, returned in November from a six months expedition into the high Andes of Ecuador. His party procured approximately 3000 specimens of birds, besides much other natural history material. Of hummingbirds, it proved possible to make exhaustive life-history studies of the rare *Metallura primolina* and *Chalcostigma herrani*, the latter found close to the snow line on the active volcano, Mount Sangay. Mr. Moore has recently associated himself with the department of vertebrate zoology at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena.

The stimulus furnished last year by Mr. John G. Tyler, President of the Northern Division of the Cooper Club, has resulted in disclosing widespread interest on the part of Club members toward more effective bird conservation in California. Mimeographed ballots have been sent to members residing in California, in order to give them an opportunity to indicate their willingness to help in the work. Returns are now coming in. Any person who has not received one of these ballots, or who would like further information concerning the project, or who has any sort of pertinent suggestion to offer, is invited to communicate with the Bird Conservation Committee of the Northern Division, through its chairman,

Mr. Jean M. Linsdale, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley.

Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 19 was formally issued on December 27. This is Messrs. Jewett and Gabrielson's "Birds of the Portland Area, Oregon", consisting of 54 pages of text, with 21 halftone illustrations. While of greatest immediate interest to bird students residing in the Pacific Northwest, ornithologists generally will wish to complete their files of the series in which this contribution appears. Copies may be had from Mr. W. Lee Chambers.

An account of the unusual movement or migration of Canada Jays that has been taking place in parts of their general range since last summer, and is still going on, is being prepared by Doctor Harrison F. Lewis, National Parks of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, who will appreciate any information, however scanty, relating to this subject.

### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on September 27, 1929, at 8 p. m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, with Vice-President Willett presiding. The minutes of the June meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved, there having been no meetings during July and August. The minutes of the August meeting of the Northern Division were read.

Mr. M. P. Skinner, resident in the Yellowstone National Park for many years, was the speaker of the evening. His subject, "Animal Life in the Yellowstone Park," was beautifully illustrated with colored slides prepared from photographs taken by Mr. Skinner himself. Many of these, such as his prized picture of the coyote, were the results of years of photographic effort. Most of the pictures were of the large animals of the Park, such as the sheep, deer, elk, moose, antelope, bear and coyote. The talk that accompanied this continuous succession of slides was in itself an interesting, well or-

ganized and informative lecture, not leaning too heavily upon the slides for support.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

OCTOBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on October 29, 1929, at 8 p. m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with Vice-President Willett presiding and about thirty-five members and friends present. The minutes of the September meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. The minutes of the September meeting of the Northern Division were read.

The following applications for membership were read: Frederick P. Browne, M. D., 19 Croade St., Warren, R. I.; Dorothy Burgess, 220 South J Street, Madera, Calif.; Early Martin, Jr., 1909 Rio Grande St., Austin, Texas; Miss Ethel Adele Capen, 477 South Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Calif.; Irene M. Wilson, 247 Stedman Place, Monrovia, Calif.; Gerald B. Thomas, Jr., 1454 W. 53d St., Los Angeles, Calif.; Miss Lois Adelaide Book, 733 Franklin Street, Columbus, Indiana; Fred Bradshaw, Director Provincial Museum Normal School, Regina, Sask., Canada (all these proposed by W. Lee Chambers); Mrs. Ethel W. Shuey, 12763 Kling St., North Hollywood, Calif., and Dr. S. A. Watson, Whittier College, Whittier, Calif., both proposed by Loye Miller; Florence Knox, Hyland Apts., Salt Lake City, Utah; W. J. Sheffler, 215 W. 15th St., Los Angeles, Calif., proposed by J. Stuart Rowley; W. Warner Wilson, Box 128, Davis, Calif., proposed by J. Eugene Law; Mrs. Frank W. Commons, Crystal Bay, Minnesota, proposed by Harold Michener.

Mr. Law announced the receipt of the names of the newly elected officers of the American Ornithologists' Union, reading the list. It was a pleasure to learn that Dr. Joseph Grinnell had been elected president.

Mr. Herbert N. McCoy, the speaker of the evening, gave an entertaining talk on the birds and animals of the Canal Zone, particularly those that he encountered on Barro Colorado Island during a three months stay there last winter. At the laboratory maintained there by the Institute for Research in Tropical America, he had an opportunity to study and photograph many forms of tropical

life which he described to his audience largely by means of extracts from letters written at the time. This interesting talk was followed by a series of excellent photographs projected onto the screen.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on September 26, 1929, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 101, Zoology Building, University of California, Berkeley, with eighty members and visitors present. At the request of Vice-president Clabaugh Mr. Grinnell occupied the chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for August were read and approved.

Proposals for membership were: Miss Barbara D. Blanchard, 1524A Oxford St., Berkeley, by Margaret W. Wythe; Mr. W. B. Davis, Route 2, Oroville, and Miss Victoria E. Gillmeister, 405 Meridian Rd., San Jose, by J. Grinnell; Mr. Lionel A. M. Peake, Post Box 368, Nanaimo, British Columbia, by Allan Brooks.

Several interesting reports were made by members: Mr. Clabaugh told of the picking up, on Vancouver Island on July 2, 1929, of a Nuttall Sparrow banded by himself in Berkeley on December 14, 1928; Miss Stedman told of observing an individual Song Sparrow in her garden over a period of four years, identification being made possible by a certain blemish. An early Killdeer was reported on the field near Hilgard Hall; while Miss Wythe announced that on September 25 a Western Flycatcher was still lingering on the campus. One member exhibited a feather, apparently of the Varied Thrush; picked up a few hours earlier on a campus lawn, and asked whether it would be accepted as evidence of the arrival of the bird. The question was left open. Mr. Wanzer described a hummingbird which he had watched about a blossoming lavender bush at Pacific Grove between the fourth and the twenty-seventh of August. Observed at close range the bird appeared to have a patch of white feathers on the forehead and two white feathers on each side of the gorget. A note from Miss Werner was read delineating the slow-motion activities of an Anthony Green Heron at the Second Lake in Golden Gate Park.

The evening's talk was by Mr. Chester Lamb upon fifty-one weeks of field work

in the Cape region of Lower California. Mr. Lamb described the salient features of the mainland and the bird rookeries of Isabella Island. Many rare birds were exhibited, such as the Mangrove Warbler and the Mexican Grebe, and their haunts and habits were pictured by Mr. Lamb, whose hearers shared the thrill of "shining" Elf Owls at night in trees above rattlesnake-infested ground.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Sperry of Washington were guests of the Northern Division for the evening. Mr. Sperry is engaged this summer in reconnaissance work in the western states for the Biological Survey.

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

**OCTOBER.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on October 24, 1929, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 101, Zoology Building, University of California, Berkeley, with about one hundred members and visitors in attendance. Vice-president Clabaugh occupied the chair. Reading of all minutes was omitted. Proposals for membership were as follows: Jack Arnold, 2525 N. McCall Ave., Selma, Calif., by John G. Tyler; Miss Fanny Hodges, Box 34, Halcyon, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif., by C. A. Harwell; Donald McLaughlin, Goat Island, San Francisco, Calif., by Edith A. Pickard.

Mr. Joseph Mailliard reported upon bird banding in Marin County and Mr. Clabaugh upon banding in Berkeley. It was reported that Mr. Charles A. Bryant had recently seen a pair of Wood Ducks on Phoenix Lake, near Ross, Marin County. Dr. H. C. Bryant reported that the Black-billed Magpie first seen by him in North Berkeley on Thanksgiving Day of last year is still at large in the same vicinity. He added that it is apparently one of two young birds brought to Berkeley from the state of Washington in the summer of 1928, and known to have escaped from captivity.

Mr. Francis P. Farquhar then presented to the meeting a most interesting account of the Whitney Survey of California and of the personalities of the men who carried out the work. Some entertaining extracts were read from the journal of one of the members, William H. Brewer. Following the talk a series of beautiful colored slides of the Sierra was shown. Some of these were made

from photographs taken by Mr. Farquhar himself, while others were from the collections of fellow-members of the Sierra Club.

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

**NOVEMBER.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday evening, November 26, 1929, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 101, Zoology Building, University of California, Berkeley, with Vice-president Clabaugh in the chair and about fifty members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for October were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for October were read.

Mr. C. A. Harwell reported upon the progress of the voting for the State Bird and announced that the Valley Quail is leading by a very large majority. Mr. Mikesell told of meeting with a Road-runner on the Wildcat Canyon road, back of Berkeley, on Sunday afternoon, November 17, and of watching it in flight down the hillside. Mr. Cain said that during the past summer a Road-runner had been reported several times from the vicinity of Leona Heights Quarry and from the Livermore hills; he also told of noting Killdeer, Pipits and Juncos on the field at the Stanford stadium during the football game. On November 17, Mr. C. A. Bryant watched a Pigeon Hawk at Phoenix Lake, diving repeatedly into a flock of Pipits but securing none. On the same date Mr. Clabaugh saw a Road-runner in Wildcat Canyon, probably the same bird seen by Mr. Mikesell; and on the road farther east into the hills beyond San Pablo dam he observed four Great Horned Owls. Mrs. Allen reported the usual fall birds present at Saratoga, but in unusual abundance.

Mr. Swarth exhibited with pride a rare volume, a prodrome of one of Elliott Coues' papers on Arizona birds, issued by the author in 1866.

The paper of the evening was read by Mr. Alden H. Miller and dealt with his studies of the habits of the Loggerhead Shrike, carried on both in the field and in the laboratory. Mr. Miller's careful and detailed observations were of much interest, and those concerning the impaling of food were, at the close of the meeting, most ably verified by an enthusiastic young shrike.

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