

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

Another popular-style bird book has appeared relative to the birds of Africa—this time restricted to a southern subdivision of that continent. The author, Captain Cecil D. Priest, contributes what impresses us as promising practical help to beginning bird students, done in a workmanlike way. Under the title, "A Guide to the Birds of Southern Rhodesia and a Record of their Nesting Habits," there are presented 233 pages of text together with 14 colored plates and 112 black and white drawings. As is well stated in the "Foreword," what is probably "the most effective method of preserving bird-life is to excite an interest in the study of it." It appears that Captain Priest's work is the first of this sort pertaining to Rhodesia, where heretofore there has been a lamentable disregard of bird-life as an asset of the country worth preserving.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The July meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on July 23, 1930, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. In the absence of the president and vice-president Mr. Alden Miller presided. Forty-five members and guests were present. Minutes of the Northern Division for May were read and approved. Applications for membership from the minutes of the Southern Division for May were heard.

The secretary read a report of the committee appointed by President Storer to place a memorial tablet in the Hayward Public Library to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of James Graham Cooper, upon whose old homesite the library stands. The report was written by Mr. Joseph Mailliard, who stated that the tablet had been duly prepared, bearing the following inscription: "To recall the homesite of James Graham Cooper, M. D., June 19, 1830–July 19, 1902, foremost ornithologist of California. Noted for his book, 'Ornithology of California', issued in 1870. This plaque placed here by the Cooper Ornithological Club".

This tablet was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on June 19. Mr. Emerson moved that the report of the committee be accepted and that the committee be thanked and discharged. It was so ordered. Mr. Emerson added that he himself had hung a framed photograph of Dr. Cooper, taken in 1879, above the plaque and that he had presented to the Hayward library a hand-colored copy of Dr. Cooper's "Ornithology of California".

Mr. Miller told of his pleasure in becoming acquainted with the Broad-tailed Hummingbird during field work in Nevada, and Mr. Emerson reported the killing of the male of a pair of White-tailed Kites in an orchard near Hayward, the owner mistaking the birds for "hen hawks".

"British Birds in Field and Museum" was the subject of the evening's main talk given by Mr. H. S. Swarth, who explained that his recent trip abroad was undertaken with two objectives—to study bird-skins in the British Museum and at Tring and to attend the Seventh International Ornithological Congress held at Amsterdam during the first week in June. Mr. Swarth's talk covered many other items besides those indicated in his title, some scarcely avian but all most interesting.

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

AUGUST.—The August meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday evening, August 28, 1930, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, with forty-five members and guests present and President Storer in the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for July were read and approved. The following applications for membership were read: Dean Blanchard, Hotel Durant, Berkeley, California, sponsored by Dr. Evermann and Mr. Swarth; Richard N. Lewis, Inverness, Marin County, California, sponsored by Mr. Clinton G. Abbott.

Mr. Grinnell announced that the printer is at work upon Avifauna number 20, the ten-year index to the *Condor*, prepared by Mr. George Willett. Mr. B. C. Cain reported noting, as of especial interest