

authors appear to be opposed to the baiting method of attracting and holding ducks on shooting grounds. Indeed, they suggest that such procedure may upset the exercise of the migratory instinct to such extent as to operate for disaster to a local duck population irrespective of shooting.

The use of the repeating gun is unequivocally condemned. "The pleasure to be derived from increased skill in the use of the ordinary double gun will far outweigh any dubious thrills which the modern shooter gets from the operation of a machine gun."

There is one contention of the authors that does not appeal to us—indeed which seems not consistent with some of the facts they themselves set forth. They say (p. 239) that "the most important element in securing our future game supply is that great group of enlightened sportsmen whose confidence and cooperation must be retained at all costs;" and elsewhere they speak rather disparagingly of the claims of the field-glass, "sentimental", and theorist type of conservationist, as if it were not *per se* just as worthy an aim to seek out a duck to look at, to admire, to study, as to shoot at. Yet, on another page they stress the need of "an entirely new game policy", of limited shooting for the economically favored few; there is not, and there never can be, enough game birds to go around; equal opportunities cannot be accorded every man desiring to shoot. There *must* be a great reduction in number of shooters. Supplantation of shooters by recreationists with other objectives, seems to us quite as practical a thing, to expect and now to encourage, as the "policy" in question, in properly justifying the conservation of not only game waterfowl but also the rest of our native fauna in so far as the interests of our entire citizenry permit. More and more the influence of the non-shooting public will weigh in these matters; and already they have begun to weigh—to good purpose along certain lines, though admittedly not so well in other directions, just as the authors point out.

The 2000 or so ducks on Lake Merritt contribute to the enjoyment of more people per day who merely look at and admire them, than they would in a year in serving as targets for hunters, with their "economic end" served, one by one, with the killing.

While one after another of the factors

discussed by Phillips and Lincoln might thus be debated, with resulting agreement or disagreement with them, we must again declare that their book contains so much of fact and of sound induction that it might well serve as a textbook of general vertebrate conservation.  
—J. GRINNELL.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### SOUTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, July 29, 1930, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. About twenty members and friends were present and President Willett occupied the chair. The minutes of the June meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved.

As no formal program had been planned for the evening, President Willett called for experiences and observations from those present. Dr. Miller was asked about the Asiatic Minas recently reported in the newspapers as having become established here. He told of having them called to his attention and in turn calling them to the attention of the County Horticultural Commissioner, who then went with Dr. Miller to investigate. Dr. Miller identified the birds, and the local reports indicated that at least one brood of young had been raised. Two specimens were collected that day, and the Horticultural Commissioner has reported four more killed since then. It is hoped that if this is not all of them, the remainder will be disposed of shortly. Dr. Miller told of the Mina in the Hawaiian Islands where it had spread Lantana and Guava over the pasture lands of the islands and had been a factor in driving out the native birds. He also stated that it has proven a nuisance where it has been introduced in South Africa.

Mr. Reis told of seeing an albino Light-footed Rail near Balboa. Mr. Willett reported the conditions favorable for birds in the country around Alturas, in the northeastern corner of California, where he spent a few weeks this summer. Dr. Test, of Oberlin, spoke of the change from eastern to western species of birds observed as he drove westward. Mr. Quattlebaum told of the birds he saw on a recent trip via Central America, northern South America, and Cuba. Dr. Miller told of

"hooting" two Horned Owls to the dividing line between their respective territories, but he was unable to get either owl to cross that dividing line either when the other owl was close to the line or far distant from it. Mr. Partin reported seeing nesting Farallon Cormorants at La Jolla.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

AUGUST.—On Tuesday evening, August 26, 1930, the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. About twenty members and friends were present. In the absence of President Willett, Vice-President Pemberton presided. The minutes of the July meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved.

Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of Tucson, being present, was called upon for a talk. He spoke chiefly of the characteristics of the Nighthawks in Arizona, which differ from those of the Nighthawks of the northwestern United States.

The remainder of the meeting can best be recorded by quoting from the minutes of a meeting held some twenty odd years ago as follows: "The balance of the evening was spent in ornithological chat, very interesting to those participating, but hard to record." In the present case, nearly every one present participated and many birds were discussed. Mr. Chambers, after telling of his efforts to find Sage Hens, suggested that the Cooper Club should try to get a completely closed season for these birds.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

SEPTEMBER.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, September 30, 1930, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with thirty members and friends present and President Willett presiding. The minutes of the August meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. The minutes of the August meeting of the Northern Division were read. The membership application of Mrs. Charles A. Harris, R. 1, Box 100, Carmel, Calif., proposed by Mrs. Hilda W. Grinnell, was read.

President Willett reported the receipt of a letter from Mrs. Clary enclosing a

newspaper clipping stating that the Division of Fish and Game is considering the establishment of a game preserve on a part of Salton Sea. Mrs. Clary will endeavor to keep in touch with this situation.

Dr. Bishop reported briefly on the birds encountered on Vancouver Island where he spent a part of the summer; he attributed the scarcity of birds there to the unusually dry summer, contrasting this condition with that reported by Mr. McCabe in the Northern Division minutes, of the abnormally cold, wet summer weather in central British Columbia and the accompanying scarcity of birds also there. Again the nesting place of the Marbled Murrelet came in for discussion and speculation. Dr. Miller in speaking of bird migrations told of seeing some of our northern birds arriving in Salvador in August, when he was there in the summer of 1925.

President Willett had arranged a display of African birds which had been donated to the Museum by Mr. Wilbur May, of Los Angeles. The remainder of the evening was devoted to the examination of these birds.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

OCTOBER.—The October meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday evening, October 28, 1930, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with twenty-five members and friends present and President Willett in the chair. The minutes of the September meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved as corrected. The membership application of Charles D. Klotz, Box 142, Pearisburg, Virginia, proposed by W. Lee Chambers, was read.

President Willett called upon Miss Miller who read extracts from a letter from Miss Pratt asking that a representative of the Cooper Club be appointed to be one of a delegation from bird study organizations to wait upon the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles on Friday, October 31, to express the desire that Eagle Rock Park be leased by the City of Los Angeles and turned over to the Park Department to be administered as a bird sanctuary. After discussion of the subject, Mr. Pemberton moved that the Cooper Club support this movement, appoint a representative as requested, and in addi-

tion address a letter to the Mayor, over the signature of the President, urging that this park be procured and made a bird sanctuary. The motion was unanimously carried and President Willett appointed W. Lee Chambers as the representative.

Mr. Chambers announced that Dr. Bryan, Director of the Museum, had asked him to extend to all Cooper Club members an invitation to attend the opening of the new wing of the Museum on November 7. This new wing contains a hall of African mammals in wonderful habitat groups, as well as exhibits of birds, insects and marine life from other parts of the world.

Dr. Bishop gave an interesting account of the recent A. O. U. meeting as he had learned of it through correspondence. The announcement that Dr. Loye H. Miller had been elected a Fellow was greeted with applause. Dr. Bishop's comment on the titles of the papers, the authors, and the newly elected officers, fellows and members contained information and sidelights that were otherwise unobtainable by most of his hearers. The remainder of the evening was devoted to the reports of birds observed by various members present.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—The November meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday evening, November 25, 1930, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with twenty-five members and friends present and President Willett presiding. The minutes of the October meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. Membership applications were read for Wm. Youngworth, 3119 East Second St., Sioux City, Iowa, proposed by John McB. Robertson; and Harry C. Lillie, 411 S. Mariposa Ave., Los Angeles, proposed by G. Willett.

In regard to the proposal to have the City of Los Angeles obtain Eagle Rock Park for a wild life sanctuary President Willett's letter on the subject to the Mayor of Los Angeles and the Mayor's reply were read. The Mayor stated that the matter is now before the Park Commission and that he understands them to be favorable to the proposition. Dr. Miller moved that Mayor Porter's letter be accepted and filed. It was so ordered.

The following resolution proposing Dr. Charles Wallace Richmond for Honorary Membership in the Club was presented.

We, the undersigned members of the Cooper Ornithological Club propose for Honorary Membership in the Club, Dr. Charles Wallace Richmond, of Washington, D. C. Dr. Richmond's high attainments as an ornithologist have been placed at the disposal of others, individuals and organizations, and in other countries as well as our own, to an extraordinarily generous degree; ornithologists the world over are directly benefitting by his researches. We, ourselves, can show our appreciation of his altruistic spirit by making him an Honorary Member of our Club, secure in the conviction that the organization itself will gain merit and standing thereby.

Signed: Harry S. Swarth, Joseph Mailiard, Barton Warren Evermann, Tracy I. Storer, Loye Miller, W. Lee Chambers, G. Willett, Harold Michener.

Dr. Rich's motion that the resolution be adopted was seconded and unanimously carried. Mr. Chambers told those present of Dr. Richmond and his work.

President Willett read a letter from Mrs. Clary and one from Mr. M. D. Witter, Assemblyman from the Seventy-eighth District (Brawley), both in regard to the establishment of a game refuge on Salton Sea. These letters indicate that some progress is being made toward the creation of such a refuge and the education of the general public to the need of this refuge. In commenting on Mr. Witter's statement that some people think the Pelicans breeding on the islands of Salton Sea are a menace to the attempt to propagate striped bass, Mr. Willett stated that he had made for the Biological Survey a considerable study of the food of Pelicans in their nesting colonies and had found no evidence that they were feeding on food fish or game fish. He also referred to similar conclusions reached by those who studied the nesting colonies at Pyramid Lake.

President Willett spoke in favor of the adoption by the Southern Division of the resolution relating to a proposed ten-year poison campaign which had been prepared for the Northern Division by Dr. Linsdale (see p. 48, under Northern Division Minutes). In discussing this resolution Mr. Appleton told of a campaign of ground squirrel poisoning which the County conducted on and around his ranch in

Ventura County some two years ago. He stated that in so far as he could determine very few birds were poisoned and the only mammals killed, other than ground squirrels, were rabbits which were about as destructive as the ground squirrels. Mr. van Rossem spoke of Dr. E. W. Nelson being much interested in the control of predatory animals and having much first-hand information on the subject and suggested that the Southern Division should invite Dr. Nelson to speak on the subject at its next meeting before taking action on the proposed resolution. Dr. Miller stated that, while he is strongly opposed to any indiscriminate campaign of destruction of wild life, the animals destroyed by the proposed program would be almost entirely mammals and that, since the Cooper Club is an ornithological organization, it should not pass such a resolution. He said such action should be left for the mammalogists and no attempt should be made to make a mammalogical society of the Cooper Club. No action was taken on the resolution.

Mr. van Rossem moved that Dr. Nelson be invited to speak before the Southern Division on the subject of predatory animal control or any other subject suitable to Dr. Nelson. The motion was carried and the Secretary was instructed to write such an invitation to Dr. Nelson.

A letter was read from J. Murray Luck, Secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in regard to a meeting of the Affiliations Committee to be held at Stanford University on December 22 and requesting that two delegates to that meeting be named. Dr. Miller moved that the Southern Division request the Northern Division to instruct its delegates also to represent the Southern Division at this meeting. The motion was carried.

Dr. Burt gave a brief review of the "Vertebrate Natural History of a Section of Northern California through the Lassen Peak Region", by Grinnell, Dixon and Linsdale, this being volume 35 of the University of California Publications in Zoology, University of California Press, Berkeley, California.

Dr. Miller, Messrs. Willett and van Rossem discussed the relative abundance of the Heermann Gull along the southern California coast during past years, the conclusion being that about twenty years ago they were very common, then during the past ten years they have been very scarce, until the last eighteen months

when they have materially increased in numbers.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday evening, September 25, 1930, at 8 p. m., in the Life Sciences Building, Berkeley. Members and guests numbered about fifty. Since all the officers of the club were absent, Mr. Swarth presided and Mrs. Allen acted as secretary. Minutes of the August meeting of the Northern Division and also of the July and August meetings of the Southern Division were read. Two applications for membership were presented: Mr. Eustace Lowell Sumner, 1652 Euclid Avenue, Berkeley, California, by E. L. Sumner, Jr.; and Mr. Angus M. Woodbury, 248 University Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, by J. Grinnell.

Mr. Swarth announced that he would repeat his talk on "British Birds in Field and Museum" at the San Francisco Public Library on October 1. Reports of interesting species observed during the past month included a Long-eared Owl in Marin County, two Black Rails at the head of Tomales Bay (de Fremery), and Golden-crowned Sparrows just arrived at Los Gatos (Miss Emily Smith). Mr. Swarth showed two specimens of the Mikado Pheasant which was first described from a few tail feathers retrieved from the helmet of a savage and brought to London. Later, a few live birds were taken to England and of these, three came into the possession of Mr. Beebe. More recently a shipment was received by a San Francisco dealer. Of these, three failed to survive and were preserved at the Academy of Sciences in San Francisco.

The program for the evening was presented by Mr. E. L. Sumner, Jr., who showed in lantern slides the results of a study of young eagles made near Chino in San Bernardino County. In the nest in a sycamore tree three birds were hatched. The youngest and smallest was taken into the laboratory and fed by hand but died of rickets probably caused by the lack of bone in the rat diet; the second was successfully reared in the laboratory and then exchanged for ten days with the third which had been raised in the nest. From observations made, both in the laboratory and at the nest site, Mr. Sumner presented many interesting and

valuable contributions to what is known about the growth and behavior of young eagles.

Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Acting Secretary*.

OCTOBER.—The Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its October meeting on Thursday the 25th at 8 p. m. in an auditorium of the Life Sciences Building on the University Campus. President Storer presided and about fifty-five members and friends were present. The minutes of the September meetings of both Northern and Southern divisions of the club were read. The name of Clifford C. Presnall, Assistant Park Naturalist, Box 332, Yosemite National Park, Calif., was presented by Mr. C. A. Harwell.

The following recommendation was read:

We, the undersigned members of the Cooper Ornithological Club, propose for Honorary Membership in the Club, Dr. Charles Wallace Richmond, of Washington, D. C. Dr. Richmond's high attainments as an ornithologist have been placed at the disposal of others, individuals and organizations, and in other countries as well as our own, to an extraordinarily generous degree; ornithologists the world over are directly benefitting by his researches. We, ourselves, can show our appreciation of his altruistic spirit by making him an Honorary Member of our Club, secure in the conviction that the organization itself will gain merit and standing thereby.

Signed: Harry S. Swarth, Joseph Mailiard, Barton Warren Evermann, Tracy I. Storer.

Mr. Swarth and Mr. Storer spoke of the personality, scientific attainments, method of work, and publications of Dr. Richmond.

When observations were called for, Dr. Evermann gave an interesting account of a visit made to the upper Sacramento Valley the second week in October to investigate possible refuge sites for ducks and geese. The largest numbers of these birds were seen at Spaulding's ranch near Williams. At dawn on Sunday morning, October 12, after a rainy night, Dr. Evermann observed from a blind continuous lines of White-fronted Geese which numbered many thousands. About fifty American Egrets were seen, beside other herons, Yellow-legs, Killdeer, Coots, Tule Wrens, and Blackbirds.

Mr. W. Otto Emerson described a visit to the fruit ranches of the San Joaquin Valley in the company of Mr. Rollo Beck. Mr. Dixon told of the draining of the Tule Lakes from which the water is being diverted to alfalfa fields below with a consequent shrinkage of the lakes to about one-fifth of their former size. Mr. Cain reported seeing the Slender-billed Nuthatch on October 18 at the Boy Scout camp, where also the Red-breasted Nuthatch has remained all summer; also from the Sears Point road a few Long-billed Curlew, a number of American Egrets and four White-tailed Kites; and at the mouth of the Russian River a Red-throated Loon. Hermit Warblers were seen by another Club member in the canyons back of Mt. Hamilton on October 5. Mr. Storer quoted Mr. Boyd who wrote of the arrival of the Ross Goose on October 16, and of the presence of about 100 American Egrets and two Snowy Egrets near Marysville, where the rice growers are beginning to complain that these dainty birds tread down the rice.

The evening's program was given by Mr. A. M. Woodbury who showed beautiful colored slides of the Zion National Park and commented upon the birds found in the different sections of that park.

Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary pro tem*.

NOVEMBER.—The November meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday evening, November 25, 1930, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, with about seventy-five members and guests present. Mr. Alden Miller presided. Minutes of the Northern Division for October were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for October were read.

Attention of members was called to a letter from Dr. Luck, Secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, announcing that a meeting of the entire Association will be held in Pasadena, California, June 16 to 20, 1931. Dr. Luck requested the appointment of two delegates from the Northern Division of the Club to be present at the meeting of the Affiliated Societies to be held at Stanford University on December 22. The Chair appointed Dr. Barton W. Evermann and Mr. Joseph Mailiard.

The following resolution was read by

J. M. Linsdale and its adoption requested:

*Whereas* the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club stands for the conservation of wild life in general; and

*Whereas* the experience of members of this club shows increasingly serious conditions for wild life, resulting from the extensive and often indiscriminate campaigns planned and sponsored by governmental executives, ostensibly for the control of animals occasionally detrimental, which campaigns, especially through the use of poison, are leading toward outright extinction of animals known to be beneficial; and

*Whereas* such destruction of harmless and beneficial wild life will be greatly increased by adoption of the ten-year cooperative program for the control of predatory animals as provided for in bills, numbered S. 3483 and H. R. 9599, now before Congress; therefore

*Be it resolved* that this proposed ten-year program should be abandoned; and

*Be it further resolved* that the executive officials of the Bureau of Biological Survey should: (1) Assume an impartial viewpoint, not stressing damage done by any species and underrating its benefits; (2) return to its former policy of recommending control only where need is shown on the part of the community at large, rather than in some special, minority interest; (3) develop field practice which conforms to stated official policy; and (4) abandon destructive poison operations (save in an emergency) in favor of a method less damaging to wild life in general.

Mr. Joseph Dixon moved that the resolution be adopted by the Northern Division. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried. Mr. Ward Russell moved that copies of the resolution be sent to members of the Biological Survey. This motion was duly seconded and unanimously passed. Mr. Cain, Mr. Follett and Dr. Ritter suggested names of other individuals who should be interested in receiving copies of the resolution and the Secretary was instructed to send copies to these persons.

Mr. C. A. Harwell read the following resolution concerning the selection of a State Bird and moved its adoption:

*Whereas* a campaign for the selection of a State Bird for California by popular choice was inaugurated by the California Audubon Society and was carried on for a two-year period ending January 1, 1930,

with the active support of the Audubon Association of the Pacific, the Cooper Club, and other interested organizations; and

*Whereas* every opportunity was taken to acquaint the people of the State with the campaign and with the list of bird candidates nominated through schools, clubs, organizations, lodges, the press, and the radio; and

*Whereas* one hundred sixty-nine thousand individual votes were received and tallied, and the California Valley Quail was clearly victor in this popular vote; therefore

*Be it resolved* that the Cooper Club, approving the campaign and the bird chosen, respectfully ask the Legislature of our State to enact suitable legislation to proclaim the California Valley Quail the official State Bird of California.

The motion was duly seconded and unanimously passed.

Upon the request of the Chairman, Mr. Joseph Mailliard briefly reviewed the booklet, "Birds of Golden Gate Park", of which he is the author, and which is issued by the California Academy of Sciences for the use of bird students in the park. Mr. Mailliard explained that the publication of this guide, selling at seventy-five cents per copy, was designed to fill the need often expressed by leaders of bird-study groups for a book of this type.

Seasonal bird observations included a White-throated Sparrow and Varied Thrush noted by Mrs. Allen, a White-throated Sparrow seen by Mr. Harwell and Mr. Ralph Hoffmann at Santa Barbara, Golden-crowned Kinglets seen by Mr. Cain at the Oakland Scout Camp, and Band-tailed Pigeons seen November 11 on Mt. Tamalpais by Leslie Hawkins and recently in Strawberry Canyon by Alden Miller. Mr. Mailliard stated that he had found birds much less numerous than usual this fall about his place at Woodacre, Marin County. Last year by November 25 he had banded 500 White-crowns, whereas this year only 150 have come into his traps.

The evening's speaker was Mr. Joseph Dixon whose camera this past summer recorded many beautiful pictures showing the rearing of young Trumpeter Swans in Yellowstone National Park. Mr. Dixon's photographs were supplemented by valuable comments upon the life histories of these rare birds.

Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, Secretary.