

when from two-thirds to three-quarters of the year is spent elsewhere, is not convincing. It is probably not too much to predict that if environment and variation can ever be effectively correlated in birds, the year-round environment will have been taken into account, as with other organisms. Granted that races must be distinguishable and their ranges delimitable without the aid of any marking system, none the less knowledge of the manner in which the *indistinguishable* component fractions of races or undivided species are isolated, or are likely to have been isolated before differentiation—of the nature of the units from which we must believe races to have sprung—must be of great importance to the theory of geographic differentiation among birds. Such facts, reasonably self-evident for most land vertebrates, require proof among creatures of unlimited mobility. To become conscious of such a problem and to take long steps toward solving it in some cases, marks an important point of progress.

It is an extraordinary fact that under present world conditions Germany can issue such a piece of work (assistance was received from the Prussian Ministry of Science, Art, and Public Instruction) in so sumptuous a style, while the results of American banding, increasing at such a rate as soon to be beyond hope of reduction and organization in usable form, continue to accumulate, of little use to anyone who cannot go to Washington and work there at length.

Dr. Schüz is stationed at the Rossitten bird observatory of the Kaiser Wilhelm Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Weigold is director of the Natural History Museum at Hannover, and has spent much time at the Helgoland bird observatory. Both have published many papers on similar subjects. Dr. Schüz's *Ergebnisse der Vogelberingung* in the Proceedings of the VII International Ornithological Congress is the best general commentary on the contents of the present publication.—T. T. McCABE.

THE BIRDS OF FRANCE (Les Oiseaux de France, Par A. Menegaux. Volume I. Introduction à l'Etude de l'Ornithologie Rapaces, Gallinaces, Colombins, Pici-formes. Paul Lechevalier, Paris, 1932).—This book, volume XXVI of the *Encyclopedie Pratique du Naturaliste*, is the first of three in process of preparation upon the birds of France. A short introduction

explains rules of zoological nomenclature, and discusses briefly general distribution of birds over the surface of the globe (with map). The first part contains chapters upon the topography and anatomy of birds; eggs, nests and incubation; migration; longevity; manner of collecting and preserving skins and eggs; and insect parasites of living birds.

The second portion of the book contains classification of the four included groups: birds of prey; gallinaceous birds; pigeons and doves; woodpeckers. When subspecific names are reached in the keys the reader is referred by plate numbers to the "atlas," which constitutes the third portion of the book. Here each of the included sixty-four representatives of the avian fauna of France is given one page of descriptive information, accompanied by a full-page colored portrait. Method of treatment is the same for all: scientific name, common names (French, German, English, Italian, Spanish); color description; measurements; habits and habitat; geographic distribution. The volume ends with: list of black-and-white figures (appearing throughout the text); list of colored plates; table of contents; alphabetical index of all names used.

The author has thus gathered together under one cover a useful handbook of general information upon birds for the purpose of aiding both French bird students and foreign visitors more readily to become acquainted with the avifauna of France. As stated in the preface, of the volumes to complete the series the next will deal with water birds, the third with passerine birds. This last volume will include chapters on usefulness of birds and on the protection of birds.—MARGARET W. WYTHE.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on January 26, 1933, at 8:00 p. m. in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with about seventy-five members and guests in attendance. In the absence of officers Mr. Alden Miller presided. Minutes of the Northern Division for December were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for December were read. Proposals of names for membership were as follows:

William H. Behle, International House, Berkeley, Calif., by Margaret W. Wythe; Miss Elizabeth L. Curtis, 5648 Beach Drive, Seattle, Washington, Edwin D. McKee, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, Arizona, and Florence Ann Sumner, P. O. Box 739, Elk Grove, Calif., by E. L. Sumner, Sr., through Western Bird Banding Association; Hubert O. Jenkins, Sacramento Junior College, Sacramento, Calif., by J. Grinnell; Muriel Cunningham, 2259 Cedar St., Berkeley, Calif., H. Beverley Fisher, 811 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, Calif., Mrs. Vivian P. Smith, 2285 Cedar St., Berkeley, Calif., and Mrs. Inez D. Troxell, 636 Coventry Rd., Berkeley, Calif., all by Jean M. Linsdale.

Mr. J. Grinnell, chairman of the nominations committee appointed to propose officers for 1933 presented the following names: for president, Gayle B. Pickwell; vice-president, Alden H. Miller; secretary, Mrs. Joseph Grinnell. Mrs. Allen moved that the secretary be instructed to cast a ballot electing the above named to office. The motion was duly seconded and carried and the vote cast accordingly.

Mr. Grinnell brought to attention the very useful pocket list of "Birds of Lake Merritt and Lakeside Park" just issued by the Oakland Ornithological Club. This list may be obtained at 503 Plaza Bldg., Oakland, for the sum of five cents.

Mr. C. A. Bryant told of an outing on December 6 when under the guidance of Mr. Peyton he had the rare privilege of seeing six California Condors in Sespe Creek Cañon, Ventura County. Miss Rinehart told of the capture of a Mountain Bluebird recently by Mr. Brock at Sunol. Mr. Clabaugh asked whether anyone could report success with nesting boxes put up in this region. Mr. Cain replied that at the Scout Camp in Diamond Cañon titmouses, house wrens, flickers and a pair of red-breasted nuthatches had raised young in nest boxes, and screech owls had used the boxes as roosting places.

The evening's program was furnished by Mr. William H. Behle of Salt Lake City, who gave an illustrated talk upon "Bird Rookeries of the Islands of the Great Salt Lake." Mr. Behle's field work in this region had qualified him to make an excellent report upon the life histories of the birds of these rookeries which were first described by Captain Stansbury in 1849.

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

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, on February 23, 1933, with President Pickwell in the Chair and about seventy-five members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for January were read and approved. Applications presented at the January meeting of the Southern Division were read. Proposal of the name of Andrew G. Elder, Route 1, Bothell, Washington, for membership in the Club was made by E. L. Sumner, Sr., through the Western Bird-banding Association.

The following proposal for Honorary Membership was made: "We, the undersigned members of the Cooper Ornithological Club, propose for Honorary Membership in the Club, Arthur Cleveland Bent, of Taunton, Massachusetts. By favorable action on this proposal the Club will register its recognition of Mr. Bent's long period of active study in North American ornithology and especially its lasting appreciation of the resulting series of "Life Histories," already published through the ninth volume." Signed: Jean M. Linsdale, Joseph Grinnell, Alden H. Miller, T. T. McCabe. Dated February 21, 1933. The Chair remarked that following the provisions of the Constitution, no action would be taken upon this proposal until after its second reading.

Mr. Elmer Aldrich of the Oakland Ornithological Club announced that for the convenience of Cooper Club members wishing lists of the "Birds of Lake Merritt and Lakeside Park" he had brought copies with him for distribution.

Field notes were contributed as follows: On February 19, Mr. Bryant and companions saw a pair of White-tailed Kites near Greenbrae, Marin County, and later in the day thousands of Black Brant at Tomales Bay. On February 22 the same group saw a flock of fifteen Whistling Swans near Benicia. Mr. Harold W. Clark reported that during the Christmas holidays when on Pine Crest, 1800 feet elevation, on Howell Mountain he looked down upon a flock literally of thousands of robins, the sound of whose twitterings was all-pervading like the noise of falling waters. Miss Alice Baldwin reported that on the Stanford Campus on February 4, and again on the 7th of that month, she had seen paired Bush-tits leave the flock, evidently initiating the nesting cycle. Mrs. Kelly told of seeing a pair of Bush-tits in

Alameda actively engaged in nest-building on February 4. Miss Amy Rinehart told of seeing fourteen Red-breasted Mergansers near the head of San Leandro Bay recently. Mr. Jack Arnold reported having seen a flock of thirty-five or forty Lewis Woodpeckers near Orange Cove, Fresno County. Mr. Pickwell said that on August 15 an unfamiliar note caused him to look out into his garden in San Jose, whereupon he saw there a female Arizona Hooded Oriole in company with an immature bird of the same species. On August 17, Dr. Loye Miller saw what were doubtless the same birds in a near-by garden.

The evening's program was given by Mr. Walter W. Bennett of Sioux City, Iowa, who showed many beautifully colored slides of California and Nebraska birds, and also several motion picture films. Some of these latter were of nesting Yosemite birds and some were of birds of the sand-hill region of Nebraska. The films showing the nesting activities of the Long-billed Curlew and the Pied-billed Grebe were especially fine.

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

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Tuesday, January 31, 1933, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Michener in the Chair and about forty-five members and guests present.

Minutes of the Southern Division for December were read and approved. Applications for membership were read as follows: Dr. A. J. Maskey, Jr., Flagstaff, Arizona, and D. E. McHenry, Grand Canyon, Arizona, proposed by Lyndon L. Hargrave; Joseph C. Dunlevy, 177 S. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles, California, proposed by Loye Miller.

Mr. George G. Cantwell, chairman of the nominating committee, reported its selection of officers for 1933 to be: President, John McB. Robertson; vice-president, R. B. Cowles; secretary, Mrs. J. Eugene Law. No other nominations being offered, it was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and that the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot electing the above-named persons to office. This was done.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. M. P. Skinner, was introduced by President Rob-

ertson and gave a brief personal sketch of the life of W. Leon Dawson, followed by a series of lantern slides that were made from photographs used by Dawson in illustrating his book, "The Birds of California."

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m. on Tuesday, February 28, 1933, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Robertson in the Chair and about seventy-five members and guests present.

Minutes of the Southern Division for January were read and approved. Applications for membership were read, as follows: Dr. Isabel McCracken, Box 1545, Stanford University, California, and Vernon L. Marsh, Box 597, Great Falls, Montana, both proposed by W. Lee Chambers.

The evening's program was furnished by Mr. C. A. Harwell, Park Naturalist, Yosemite National Park, who introduced his subject, "Yosemite Birds and their Songs," with a very interesting talk on the songs of birds, how to remember them, how to analyze them. Many excellent imitations of birds' calls and songs were given, and suggestions were proffered on how a whistler might arrive at the desired pitch of any song. Mr. Harwell further illustrated his talk with a series of lantern slides showing the Yosemite Park as a very beautiful habitat both for man and bird. The bird population of Yosemite was well pictured, and the slides depicting life history scenes of the Water Ouzel were exceedingly interesting. At the close of his talk, Mr. Harwell graciously responded to questions asked by interested members.

President Robertson announced that an eastern member of the Cooper Ornithological Club was present, and called on Dr. Louis Bishop to introduce Mr. R. Magoon Barnes, of Lacon, Illinois. Mr. Barnes, well known to many of the members present as proprietor of the magazine "The Oologist," spoke of his pleasure at meeting with the Southern Division again and of his regret at not seeing familiar faces he had known in past years. A brief sketch was given of his early contact with the bird men in California, and the Cooper Club was congratulated on the work it had done and the record it had made.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.