

sarily devoted to the technical minutiae of descriptive histology and microtechnique, but Haecker indulges in pregnant speculation both as to possible concrete climatic factors which might be involved in the differentiation of the crows and as to possible physiological agencies involved. Reverting to his own earlier work on "Farbenrasen", and to that of Görnitz, he is eager to detect the mechanism of physiological regulation of the types and intensities of melanin pigmentation, and finds the most promising fields in metabolic gradients, regions of differentiated blood supply, and especially in the results of his own work of 1918 on the distribution of melanophores in the axolotl in correlation with areas of greater or lesser energy of skin development. For reasons not wholly clear to the reviewer, possibly through temporal as opposed to merely regional variations in such factors, he believes them capable of operating not only upon unit areas of body surface, but perhaps upon parts or periods of individual feather growth, and so of producing the patterns of individual feathers as well as of the feather covering as a whole.—THOMAS T. MCCABE, *Berkeley, California, January 7, 1934.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

NOVEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Thursday, November 23, 1933, in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley. About seventy-five members and guests were present. Vice-president Alden Miller occupied the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for October were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for October were read. The following applications for membership were presented: Mrs. Donald C. Frames, 1730 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, Calif.; Mrs. R. E. Hackley, 807 Waverley St., Palo Alto; Miss Lulu Sours, 1027 Bryant St., Palo Alto; all proposed by Mrs. M. E. Davidson; and A. C. Shelton, Suite 1, 224 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, Mass., by J. Grinnell.

Miss Margaret W. Wythe, Chairman of the program contest of the Northern Division, urged members to take advantage of the opportunities offered and presented each member with a memorandum of the contest rules.

Mrs. Allen asked for reports of Golden-crowned Kinglets and Mr. Cain replied that he had seen them on October 26 at the Oakland Scout Camp, where also on November 16 he had noted a Slender-billed Nuthatch and 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches. Miss Rinehart reported hearing and seeing a Barn Owl in the afternoon of November 13 at College Avenue and Dwight Way and asked whether the birds were Berkeley residents. Mrs. Price assured her that notes of the Barn Owl could be heard in that general neighborhood nearly any night in the year.

The evening's program was given by Mr. Ernest I. Dyer of Piedmont, who reported upon "A Year with the Thrashers" in a talk which for new natural history content has not been paralleled in the history of the Northern Division. A diagram of the oak-covered ridge on Selborne Drive at the head of Trestle Glen comprising the grounds about Mr. Dyer's home, and showing the sites of the five nests constructed by a single pair of the birds during the past nesting season, was drawn upon the blackboard. Lantern slides were used to illustrate the talk and at its close two reels of motion pictures of the Thrashers were shown.

There is a magic in the word "Selborne" and the secretarial mind reverts to the mood of Gilbert White when he wrote: "Faunists, as you observe, are too apt to acquiesce in bare descriptions, and a few synonyms: the reason is plain, because all that may be done at home in a man's study; but the investigation of the life and conversation of animals, is a concern of much more trouble and difficulty, and is not to be attained but by the active and inquisitive, and by those that reside much in the country."

All gratitude to Mr. Dyer for sharing with us these delightful observations from his suburban residence! Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary.*

DECEMBER.—The December meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m. on Thursday, December 28, 1933, in Room 2003 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with about forty-five members and guests present and President Pickwell in the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for November were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for November were read.

The following applications for member-

ship were presented: Miss Frances Carter, 1626 LeRoy Ave., Berkeley, Calif., by E. L. Sumner, Sr.; John Eldridge Cushing, Jr., 2525 Webster St., San Francisco, Calif., by James Moffitt; Prof. Willis H. Rich, 442 Jordan Hall, Stanford University, Calif., by Isabel McCracken, and Emery M. Whilton, Hotel Tulare, Tulare, Calif., by J. Grinnell.

The Chair announced the appointment of a nominations committee, to propose officers of the Northern Division for 1934, as follows: Mrs. Allen, Miss Pringle, Mr. Cain; the first named to act as chairman. Miss Wythe stated that entries for the program contest would remain open until the January meeting of the Northern Division.

Among observations of interest were the report of Mrs. Bracelin of a California Woodpecker seen on December 17 near the eastern end of Golden Gate Park; the shadow-fighting of a Hermit Thrush, noted by Mr. Swarth at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, and similar activities reported by Miss Wythe of a Pipit at Giannini Hall on the Berkeley Campus. Mr. Grinnell said that on the date of the meeting (December 28) Mr. Linsdale and he had seen a swallow flying over the Campus at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Upon looking up winter records it was found most likely to have been a Tree Swallow, as this species has been definitely reported from near Point Reyes in December. Looking from the window at about the same time, Miss Wythe said she had seen six or seven of the swallows.

Dr. Pickwell was the evening's speaker and talked about "Observations upon the Summer Birds of Sequoia National Park." His stay in the Park was from June 20 to 28, inclusive, and his interest lay in an analysis of the life zones, in watching the birds as individuals, and in testing avian relationships to forest-girt meadows. The little mountain meadows, fringed to their edges with tall trees, were constant homes to the Lincoln Sparrows and Pileolated Warblers, but only nurseries to the Juncos. About their edges, Traill Flycatchers nested; and fully half of all the forest species seen in the Park were observed to visit the meadows some of the time. That bird of the tree-tops, the Western Evening Grosbeak, came down daily to a little meadow stream.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bailey were guests of the evening and it was a great pleasure

to those present to meet them informally at the close of meeting. Adjourned.—
HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

NOVEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, November 28, 1933, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, at 8:00 p. m., with sixty-five members and guests present and President Robertson in the Chair. Minutes of the Southern Division for October were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for October were read. The membership application of James Tate, Route 1, Ontario, California, proposed by Harold Michener, and the application made by five Cooper Club members requesting the establishment of a local chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club to accommodate members residing at the southern end of the San Francisco Peninsula, were presented. At the suggestion of the Chair, the motion was made and duly carried that the December meeting of the Southern Division be advanced one week because of the Christmas holidays.

Dr. Loye Miller called attention to the annual meeting of the Cooper Club to be held in San Diego in the Spring of 1934, and stated that after canvassing members of the two divisions the last two days in March, and April 1, had seemed to be the most fitting for the dates of the meeting. Mr. Chambers gave a report on Avifauna No. 21, the "Revised List of the Birds of Southwestern California," by George Willett, and said that it was proving to be much larger than at first estimated and he urged members to place their orders as soon as conveniently possible.

Mr. Willett mentioned it had been suggested to him that something be said about the present status of ducks and geese in California, with the idea of making certain recommendations regarding a change in the present hunting regulations. Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Ross, and Mr. Pierce each presented his opinion and also what hearsay information he had regarding various areas shot over for ducks. A motion was made by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Willett, and duly carried, that the Chair appoint a committee of three to investigate the status of the ducks and geese in California and the need of certain species for better protection.

Wright M. Pierce, chairman, George Willett, and J. R. Pemberton were appointed to serve on this committee.

Two White-tailed Kites were reported by Dr. Cowles as having recently been seen by him on the gun club at Playa del Rey.

In introducing Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bailey, formerly of Washington, D. C., but now in residence at San Marcos, California, President Robertson spoke of the pleasure it gave the Southern Division again to greet them, and he expressed the hope that as they were now close neighbors they would frequently attend the monthly meetings of the Cooper Club. As speaker of the evening, Mr. Bailey presented his first topic, "The Asymmetrical Ears of the Owl," as an interesting bird study problem. He advocated the raising of young Saw-whet Owls and the close watching of their head movements to ascertain, if possible, just when and for what kind of sound the two different ears were used. The short talk on the owls was followed by motion pictures of the "Home Life of the Beavers," showing what has been done and is still being done by the Bureau of Biological Survey to assist in the rehabilitation of this valuable fur-bearing animal.

Meeting adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, at 8:00 p. m., Tuesday, December 19, 1933. Twenty-eight members and guests were present and President Robertson occupied the Chair. The minutes of the Southern Division for November were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division were read. The application of Mr. Robert G. Hannum, 3634 Hughes Avenue, Palms, California, proposed by Mr. George G. Cantwell, was presented.

Dr. Loye Miller spoke with regard to the Wild Life Administration and Pest Control Relations Committee, which is a committee provided for in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26, California 1933 Legislature, and is presided over by the president of the University of California. As president of the Board of Governors of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Dr. Miller had been asked to act for both di-

visions of the Club and to appoint a representative for membership on this committee. He announced the appointment of Mr. Thomas T. McCabe to represent the Cooper Club, because of his interest in conservation and because of his non-affiliation with the University.

Mr. Wright M. Pierce, chairman, gave the report of the Committee on the Present Status of Ducks and Geese in California. The content of this very able report was discussed. The term "three-shot gun" was explained by Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Willett outlined the provisions of the Duck Stamp Bill. On motion by Dr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Robert T. Moore, and duly carried, the report of the committee was accepted and adopted. The secretary was instructed to send a copy of the report to the Northern Division, with the request that after final action is taken the report be published in the Condor.

The Chair announced the appointment of the following members as a committee to present names of officers for the Southern Division for 1934: Dr. Louis B. Bishop, chairman, Mr. George Willett, and Dr. Loye Miller.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Adriaan van Rossem, recently returned from several months spent in Europe. Starting with the birds noted while on board ship, he outlined his trip abroad and his visits to some of the European museums. Mr. van Rossem's first visit was made to the National Museum of France, in Paris. From there the museums at Metz, at Lyon, and at Dresden, the Berlin Museum, the one at Munich, and the Leyden Museum, in Holland, were each visited and we were given a brief description of how the bird collections are displayed, the condition of specimens seen, and the facilities for study. From Germany, Mr. van Rossem went to England and spent some time in the British Museum, which houses the largest collection of birds in the world—over a million specimens. Questions were answered as to methods established in the European museums with regard to curatorial care, specimen data, cataloging, etc. In concluding his talk, Mr. van Rossem spoke of his attendance at the recent meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, held in New York, and of some of the papers that were presented.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.