



Fig. 48. Henry W. Carriger, for forty years member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, and member of its Board of Governors from the date of the institution of that body; authority on bird-nesting in central California and author of many articles in the *Condor*.

namely, to expand the following initials into their full designations: COC, AOU, WOC, DVOC, NAAS, AAP, IOU, NOU, ECOC, NOC, MAS, MBC, NBBA, WBBA, SLBC, ASM, PNBMS, TOS, ASSV. The above are all American societies. How about these foreign ones: BOU, BOB, RAOU, RHCBO, SOP, SAOA, DOG, DVSV, SOMF, NOC, DOF, RSPB, AS, NOV?—J.G.

There is one section of the ornithological field that shows as yet no sign of exhaustion. This concerns the subspecies question. In volume 1 of the *Auk* (1884, pp. 102, 197, 381, etc.) there appeared spirited discussion of one or another phase of this subject, by J. A. Allen, Elliott Coues, and others. And now, in the 52nd volume of the *Auk* (January, 1935, pp. 31-39), Witmer Stone presents "Some Aspects of the Subspecies Question." The "lure" that Dr. Stone points out as pertaining to that

question is *there*, and doubtless contributions will recur far into the future. No modern worker who ventures to use the subspecies concept intelligently in his own writings can afford *not* to read this latest, most searching discussion, of Dr. Stone's; and said worker will profit still more if he will pursue the discussions back through the preceding 50-year period.—J.G.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

JUNE.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on June 27, 1935, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with 27 members and guests present and President Miller in the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read, corrected and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for May were read. The name of Mr. William H. Twisselman, 415 Capitol St., Salinas, Calif., was presented for membership by Mr. O. P. Silliman.

Mr. Joseph Grinnell reviewed and commended "The Hawks of North America," by John B. May. This book has just been issued under the auspices of the National Association of Audubon Societies. It presents a thorough and well illustrated summary of the economic values of these raptorial birds, and shows clearly by the maps the alarming shrinkage in territory of certain of the species once wide-ranging.

Miss Selma Werner described the wanton murder of a duckling on one of the lakes of Golden Gate Park by a female Mallard, whose own four young were close by, and asked for a possible motive. The Chairman said he had once seen a half-grown Cormorant so dealt with when, in scrambling down a cliff, it came within reach of a sitting adult of the same species. He thought that in both instances the act resulted from a maternal instinct to protect young from an approaching threat of danger.

Mr. Eric C. Kinsey told of his trading about of broods of young Black Phoebes into alien nests—with only happy results. In one instance nearly-grown young were substituted for fresh eggs. These nestlings were accepted first by the male foster parent; when the female saw them being fed she followed the example set by the male. Mr. Kinsey told also of the behavior of Western Bluebirds in his aviary.

Mrs. Kinsey said that she found that the young bluebirds were being cared for by the male parent only. The Secretary quoted a letter from a correspondent in San Luis Obispo County which recorded a similar experience with Western Bluebirds. The Chairman read two notes submitted by Mr. Ben C. Gerwick, Jr., one recording an Olive-sided Flycatcher noted in Berkeley on June 1 and the other, Ashthroated Flycatchers seen near San Pablo Reservoir on May 24. Mr. G. S. Thompson reported the expectant lingering of Linnets about his Bartlett pear tree, which last year supplied abundant fruit, but which this year holds forth only a single pear. Mrs. J. R. Davis gave an instance of unusual fearlessness in Brown Towhees, which habitually entered an open window when they failed to find their usual supply of crumbs on the windowsill.

Mr. Alden Miller's much appreciated account of birds observed about his camp in an aspen grove on the Pine Forest Mountains of Nevada closed the evening's reports.

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

STANFORD CHAPTER

APRIL.—The monthly meeting of the Stanford Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by President Rich on the evening of April 4. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as read.

Mrs. Hackley stated, for the information of the Bay Shore Refuge Committee, that Mr. Roydon, of the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, is to leave his post here at Palo Alto in the near future. She advised the Committee to get in touch with him before he leaves. Chairman Price responded that as far as he had investigated, the plans for a bird refuge were unsatisfactory, and the whole matter should be dropped. Mrs. Borchert stated that the fact that she had found small birds in the proposed refuge area which had been shot, apparently by small boys, led her to believe that protection of some sort was quite necessary. Dr. Linsdale of the University of California stated that there was a distinct need for a bird refuge on the marshes, provided it could be made somewhat permanent. The probability of permanence has become an important consideration, and it was suggested by the Chair that the original proposal by the City of Palo Alto, with the cooperation of the Mackay Radio and

Telegraph Company, be investigated, with an attempt made to determine what ideas were entertained in the minds of both parties with regard to the permanence of the refuge.

A change of meeting date was proposed by Dr. McCracken in order to make it more convenient for visiting speakers to attend the meetings. After some discussion, it was voted and carried that the meeting date should be on the second Friday of each month, except as necessary, at the discretion of the president and the secretary.

A member asked if the second week in April was an early date for a Bush-tit's nest with young. Dr. Linsdale replied that he thought it was an early date, and that the previous week-end he had seen seventeen Bush-tits' nests being built at Point Lobos. A Meadowlark's nest with young was reported on the Stanford Campus for the fourth week of March. A California Quail with some white feathers on the top of the head was reported from the Stanford Campus by John Price.

President Rich then introduced as speaker for the evening, Dr. Jean M. Linsdale of the University of California, who spoke on "The Natural History of the Magpies." Dr. Linsdale sketched the distribution of the magpies throughout the world, and proceeded to tell many of the interesting facts of the life history of this bird as revealed by careful study. His studies were centered about the Yellow-billed Magpie which is completely confined in its distribution to this State.

Adjourned.—WILBUR V. HENRY, *Secretary*.

MAY.—The monthly meeting of the Stanford Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by President Rich on the evening of May 9. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. There were no reports from committees. The Chair reminded those present of the necessity of choosing officers for the succeeding year on the occasion of the June meeting. A motion carried for the Chair to appoint a nominating committee of three to determine proper candidates for office.

In the field of literature, Dr. Rich reported the availability of P. A. Taverner's "Birds of Canada," published by the National Museum of Canada at a price of \$2.00. The suitability of this work for the use of local students was discussed. "The Hawks of North America" by Dr. John B. May, published by the National

Association of Audubon Societies at a price of \$1.25, was also mentioned. The appearance of a folio of bird pictures made by Dr. Gayle B. Pickwell at a price of \$6.00 was mentioned by Dr. Rich. Inquiry was made by a guest as to the probable time of the appearance of a book published by the Stanford Press containing photographs by the late Donald R. Dickey and dealing with southern California birds. Dr. Rich replied that the book was to be published this summer.

Mr. John Price reported 500 nests of the Brandt Cormorant on Bird Rock off the Seventeen Mile Drive, which he visited on May 5. He said that all stages of nesting were represented at the time of his visit.

President Rich then introduced as the speaker for the evening, Mr. John B. Price of Stanford University, who showed several reels of motion pictures dealing with various California birds. New inclusions in the pictures have extended the interest and value of his work.

Adjourned.—WILBUR V. HENRY, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, May 28, 1935, at 8:00 p. m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Cowles in the Chair and forty members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for April were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read. The application for membership of Leonard William Wing, University of Wisconsin, New Science Building, Madison, Wis., proposed by J. Grinnell, was presented.

On motion by Mr. Willett, seconded by Mr. Michener, the Chair appointed Dr. Loye H. Miller and Mr. J. L. Partin to represent both divisions of the Cooper Club at the meeting of the Affiliation Committee, Pacific Division, A. A. S., to be held on Wednesday evening, June 26, at the University of California at Los Angeles. An invitation to attend their 29th Annual Meeting, Thursday, June 6, extended to the Cooper Club by the California Audubon Society, was read.

Mr. Willett spoke regarding the consummation of the incorporation of the Cooper Ornithological Club and read the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held Friday evening, May 24; the minutes of the meeting of the Board

of Directors held Saturday morning, May 25; and the minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Governors held on Saturday evening, May 25.

Mr. Pierce gave a short impromptu review of the program of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Club. He also told of the scarcity of bird life seen on his recent trip to Berkeley after leaving the Ridge Route until over Pacheco Pass to Gilroy, and of his surprise at the great number of dead Horned Larks on the boulevard—112 were counted in a distance of three miles. The possibility of death to the Horned Larks and to other bird life being caused by the increased speed of automobiles, also that many of the dead are young birds, was brought out in discussion. President Cowles reported having seen literally thousands of Horned Larks in Antelope Valley this year and that they are apparently breeding everywhere.

The nest of a Black-chinned Hummingbird built from the down of sycamore leaves, on an oak branch and with the outside of the nest decorated with lichens typical of the Anna's nest, was shown by Dr. Parsons. The nest was fashioned on an old one of a previous year, and a leaf of the oak had been utilized for one side of the nest. A typical Black-chinned's nest of sycamore down, and a typical lichen-covered nest of the Anna, were also exhibited.

Mr. Glassell, who had just returned from a trip extending to the Gulf of California, reported having noticed many Red-tailed Hawks nesting; seeing quite a few mergansers, some Heermann Gulls, and a few terns, grebes, and Lark Buntings. Other members gave recent nesting and sight records of various water birds.

Mr. Robert T. Moore was kind enough again to read his paper on "The Protection and Conservation of the Zoological Life of the Galapagos Archipelago." The first formal announcement of the passing of this important milestone in the worldwide conservation of bird life was made at the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club. Mr. Moore called attention to the fact that one hundred years ago, Charles Darwin made his visit to the Galapagos Islands, from which developed the Darwinian theory of evolution. It was thus particularly fitting that this should be the year when steps should be taken for the preservation of the remarkable and very valuable life on those islands. Dr. V. M. Egas, former Ecuadorian Consul to the United States, who

has given splendid assistance in the furtherance of plans for the protection of Galapagos wildlife, was present as a guest and courteously responded when introduced by Mr. Moore.

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

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday, June 25, 1935, at 8:00 p. m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. In the absence of President Cowles, Vice-President Little occupied the Chair, with 35 members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for May were read and approved. The applications for membership of Mr. Fred Richter, 4282 La Salle Avenue, Culver City, California, proposed by George G. Cantwell, and of Mrs. C. G. Fairchild, Tule Lake, California, proposed by Carl Richardson, were presented.

Dr. Loye Miller mentioned having read in a current issue of *Science* that the President of Ecuador has permitted the establishment of a monument on the Galapagos Islands which is to take the form of a research institution to be maintained by endowed funds, and that a lava shaft is to be erected as a memorial to Charles Darwin. Mr. Robert T. Moore said it was his understanding that a special issue of stamps by the Ecuadorean government was to be one of the methods of raising funds for the proposed research institution.

A dried specimen of what appeared to be a male Allen Hummingbird was shown by Dr. J. J. Parsons. This bird had been given to him and was said to have been found in Monrovia last year dead on the nest where it had been seen sitting, on several occasions, and that eggs were under the bird when found. In corroboration of the statement made by Dr. Parsons last month, regarding the Black-chinned Hummingbirds using lichens to decorate their nests, Mr. Moore told of having in his collection a female hummingbird and the lichen covered nest on which she had brooded, and that the bird appeared to be a typical female Black-chinned. Mr. Moore further stated that he had found no stability in three of the four characters generally used for distinguishing between the female Black-chinned and the female Costa. He had, however, discovered two characters which were quite stable and that he had not seen mentioned in any literature, one with regard to the slope

of the six inner primaries and the other relating to the width of the web of the fifth primary.

Mr. Chester C. Lamb, in remarking that one rarely hears of the Knot being reported from the coast of California, said that during early May, 1934, he saw thousands of Knots along the coast of Sinaloa. In the fall migration none was seen. He also stated that 90 miles across the Gulf on the coast of Lower California one finds no Black Vultures, while on the Mexican coast they occur in great numbers, as do the Grackles.

The return of a pair of Sparrow Hawks to nest on the Merritt Building, 8th and Broadway, Los Angeles, was reported by Mr. Howard Robertson.

For observation of plumage and behaviorism, Mr. Wright M. Pierce exhibited a six weeks old Prairie Falcon that he had taken as a fledgling from a nest on the desert and raised. The bird was much tamer than the one Mr. Pierce raised and exhibited last year.

Mr. A. Brazier Howell, of Baltimore, Maryland, a visiting member, when introduced by the Chair spoke of his interest in bird conservation and gave quite a vivid account of the slaughter of thousands of hawks during fall migration in the Kittatinny Mountains in Pennsylvania. Mr. Howell said that some 2200 acres were being purchased in an endeavor to protect the hawks and to maintain an inviolate sanctuary for both birds and mammals. In answer to questions asked regarding the duck situation and the possibility of securing federal authority for a closed shooting season, Mr. Howell had nothing favorable to report.

Mr. John McB. Robertson, the only member from the Southern Division to enjoy the field trip planned for the Tenth Annual Meeting held in Berkeley last month, gave a short account of the pleasurable time had during the visit to Mr. Kinsey's aviary, where 41 species of native birds are living and several of them nesting, and of the many interesting birds seen as the field trip continued on to Point Reyes.

Mr. W. Lee Chambers was heartily sustained in his suggestion that it was none too soon for the Southern Division to begin preparations for the Eleventh Annual Meeting; the Chair appointed Messrs. Wright M. Pierce, J. R. Pemberton, Loye H. Miller, and Robert T. Moore as a Ways and Means Committee for the 1936 program.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.