

reasons, is one that will be warmly commended by all naturalists who are concerned over the welfare of our native bird-life.—J. G.

Of decided historical as well as ornithological bearing is the contribution entitled "Birds of the Southwest" [By Charles Edward Howard Aiken] (Colorado College Publ. No. 212, Colorado Springs, March, 1937, 78 pp., map). This is a compilation painstakingly done by Edward R. Warren from the notes and collections left by Aiken and now owned by the Colorado College. The feature of greatest interest, perhaps, to readers outside of Colorado is Aiken's journal of his trip to New Mexico and Arizona in 1876. This includes many data concerning the birds met with, some of which must be new to published literature and have importance for a knowledge of the changing status of bird-life in a 60-year period. Mr. Warren not only edited this entire contribution, but also is responsible for the extended biography of Aiken which forms part of it.—J. G.

#### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS NORTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, May 27, at 8 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Kinsey in the chair and about fifty members and guests present. The president took occasion publicly to thank Mr. William H. Behle for the large part which he, as general chairman, played in the success of the annual meeting in April. Minutes of the Northern Division for March and of the Southern Division for March and April were read by title only. Applications for membership were read from A. E. Culbertson, Fresno State College, Fresno, California, proposed by William T. Shaw, and W. Lawton Hargreaves, Lakehurst Hotel, 1569 Jackson Street, Oakland, proposed by Hilda W. Grinnell.

Mr. Kinsey praised the work of the Junior Audubon Societies of Marin County in protecting nesting birds on the school grounds. Mr. Dyer said that young thrashers which he is hand feeding had begun to sing, although only a week out of the nest. Mr. Hargreaves described the nesting site of a pair of Western Bluebirds in the garden of an old house on Broadway at Webster Street in Oakland, a section having heavy traffic. Mr. Kinsey told of the almost complete extermination of formerly large colonies of Yellow-billed Magpies in Hall's Valley, near Mt. Hamilton, due probably to shooting and to poison set out for rodents, in spite of protection on the extensive privately owned ranch of J. B. Grant. There was discussion of the attraction of rock salt for many bird species in their natural state. English aviculturists have long considered table salt detri-

mental but are now experimenting with rock salt.

Mr. Gordon H. True, Jr., Economic Biologist of the State Division of Fish and Game, spoke on "Introduced Game Birds in California." He outlined the history of game introduction in this state, which began with individual attempts and is now carried on by the California Fish and Game Commission from a center at the Yountville Game Farm. Present methods he illustrated with three examples: the Chinese Pheasant, a distinct success, the Hungarian Partridge, not successful, and the Chukar Partridge, whose status remains an unknown quantity. He concluded that the importing of exotic species is justifiable where an unoccupied ecologic niche may be filled, but questioned the propriety of bringing in species which would compete with native species.

A reel of motion pictures of Utah shore birds, taken by Dr. John W. Sugden, was shown by Mr. Behle. These pictures were taken at the Bear River Refuge, the heronries of the Jordan and Bear rivers, and islands of Great Salt Lake and Utah Lake. A nesting colony of Franklin Gulls was of particular interest. Mr. Dyer very kindly loaned his motion picture projector for the occasion, and he himself presented a reel in colors showing Allen Hummingbirds in his garden in Piedmont and ducks on Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, June 24, 1937, at 8 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Kinsey in the chair and about thirty members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for May were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for May were read. Names proposed for membership were as follows: Mrs. Victor Bello, Ross Grammar School, Ross, California, by Mrs. Otis H. Smith; Mr. Arthur W. Jefcoat, care Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Paynes Creek, California, by J. M. Linsdale; Mr. Chandler P. North, 68 Tamalpais Road, Berkeley, by Frank Richardson.

Mr. Alden Miller read a letter from Mr. John H. Baker, together with a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the National Association of Audubon Societies condemning the practice of poisoning native wild mammals by Federal and State agencies. Mr. Baker requested the adoption by this club of the same or a similar resolution, and the sending of notice of action taken, with copy of the resolution, to the President of the United States, White House, Washington, D. C. The resolution was unanimously adopted and the action authorized.

Mr. Covell asked whether or not the Cooper

Club wished to post notices of its meetings, or notice of the existence of the Club, on the bulletin board at Lake Merritt, as had been suggested at a previous meeting. After some discussion, the question was laid aside.

The topic for the evening, "June in the Field," brought many valuable contributions from members. Mr. Grinnell gave two outstanding observations from his recent trip to the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada. In Walker Pass, a clump of tree yuccas has contained a nest of the Scott Oriole each year visited since 1911, when the nest of that year was brought to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. As an example of a bird species occurring in many kinds of places, he cited the Western Chipping Sparrow, from the waterless Waucoba Pass, in the Inyo Mountains, and from Ebbetts Pass, abundantly watered by melting snow, in the Sierra Nevada. Mr. Alden Miller reported on a month of field work in eastern Oregon, stressing the shore birds and waterfowl. Frank Richardson outlined woodpecker habitat relationships as observed on the same trip; and Joe Marshall discussed the *Empidonax* flycatchers met with. Mrs. Kelly described a visit to the Lake Malheur Refuge in Oregon, and noted a seeming scarcity of birds there.

Mr. Danforth told of a trip to Cleveland, Ohio, where he had found indications of local increase of many species, including the Orchard Oriole, Cardinal and Scarlet Tanager. Mrs. Bamford, who had made a trip down the west coast of Mexico in March, spoke of such interesting species as the Snowy Heron, Vermilion Flycatcher and Clarino, and, on the east coast, the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. Miss Rinehart told of observing twenty-five bird species while studying native plants in the Blakesly Botanic Garden, Santa Barbara. Mr. Kinsey had gone to Eagle Lake for Townsend Solitaires and had searched for a number of species in the deserts of southern California. He expressed his deep appreciation of the delightful reception given in honor of him and of Mrs. Kinsey by the Marquess Hachisuka and other members of the Southern Division of the Cooper Club, jointly with certain other ornithological groups.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, May 25, at 8 p.m. at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Little in the chair and fifty-five members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for April were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for March were read.

President Little spoke on the recent publication by the National Museum of Bulletin 167, The

North American Birds of Prey, by A. C. Bent. Members who had not secured a copy were urged to do so before the supply was exhausted. Mr. Michener spoke on a recent article in "Bird Banding" on the banding of Herring Gulls with different colored bands, so that observers could tell from the color of the band where a bird was banded. He also told of the damage to electric power line poles by California Woodpeckers. Dr. Bishop told of seeing a male English Sparrow catching and feeding an insect to an adult male Black-headed Grosbeak.

Mr. James Fassero of Pasadena then showed several reels of motion pictures of young Bald Eagles in a nest on Catalina Island. Mr. Arthur Barr, of Pasadena, who assisted Mr. Fassero in taking the pictures, explained the pictures as they were run off and gave an interesting account of how the pictures were taken, and of the development and actions of the young birds. After the eagle pictures, two reels showing the development of a family of young Pacific Horned Owls were shown. The entire family of owls entered into the picture and their actions were most interesting. The female was very tame and would not leave the nest after the third visit; she allowed herself to be petted and moved about without showing any signs of being vicious. Usually these owls are very wild and sometimes are quite vicious, especially when there are young in the nest. Mr. Barr took one of the young owls when it left the nest and has raised it to maturity, keeping it in a cage with "Joe," another Horned Owl that he has kept for a number of years.

Adjourned.—SIDNEY B. PEYTON, *Secretary*.

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, on Tuesday, June 29, at 8 p.m. In the absence of both president and vice-president, Howard Robertson was asked to preside. The minutes of the Southern Division for May were read and approved. As there was no program for the evening, different members were called on to tell of anything interesting that they had observed. George Willett spoke on the recent bulletin of the Biological Survey on the speed of birds. Miss Fossler reported on the article on Falconry in the last issue of the National Geographic.

George Willett told of his trip over the previous week end on J. R. Pemberton's yacht out to the Cortez Banks, 100 miles off-shore, and of the birds observed on the trip. John McB. Robertson and Mr. Sheffler told of their recent trips to Buena Vista Lake and the lower part of the San Joaquin Valley. At the present time the lake is still rising and covers a large area, offering a fine feeding and nesting place for a large number of different kinds of water birds.

Adjourned.—SIDNEY B. PEYTON, *Secretary*.