

ammunition is too expensive to waste on small returns. The territory is so large that only a relatively small section is hunted frequently, and there is virtually untouched breeding ground in every district.—J. G.

The quality of certain illustrations appearing in the *Condor* in the last two years has been enhanced by aid rendered through the Works Progress Administration, Project W. P. No. 6079-5797. Maps constituting figures 4 and 32 in volume 38, and figures 7, 14, 21, and 69 in volume 39 have been reworked from the originals by this agency. Thus, good appearance and clarity have been insured, and the end-product of research has been made that much better.—A.H.M.

A tendency manifest in present-day ornithological activity is apparently somewhat away from systematics and faunistics, but at any rate definitely toward studies of the living birds. More and more qualified ornithologists are centering attention each upon a single species, or upon a small, nearly related group of species. And it is the *living* bird or population that is being concentrated upon, through disciplined observation in the field, supplemented, in some instances, by such techniques as banding. We think in illustration at the moment, of the following projects under way, some of them already published upon in part, but none, of course, ever to be considered as absolutely completed: Margaret M. Nice on song sparrows; Herbert Friedmann on cowbirds; Mary M. Erickson on wren-tits; Ernest I. Dyer on California thrashers; Barbara D. Blanchard on white-crowned sparrows; Jean M. Linsdale on magpies; the Micheners on mockingbirds; Anders H. Anderson on cactus wrens; E. Lowell Sumner, Jr., on California quail; Harry W. Hann on the oven-bird (reported upon in September, 1937, issue of *Wilson Bulletin*); Gayle Pickwell on horned larks; William E. Ritter on the California woodpecker; John T. Emlen, Jr., on crows; Elmer C. Aldrich on the Allen hummingbird; Howard H. Twinning on the Sierra Nevada rosy finch. And doubtless there are others. Choose your bird!—J. G.

#### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS NORTHERN DIVISION

**JULY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, July 22, 1937, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Kinsey in the chair and sixty-four members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for June were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for June were read.

The recording secretary made known the fact that large numbers of birds were meeting death by drinking at the cyanide tank of the Gold Crown Mine, within the Joshua Tree National Monument, near Twentynine Palms, California, and was authorized to write to the operators of the mine, protesting this condition.

The meeting was opened to field observations. Mr. Kinsey reported the capturing, in a Verbal trap, of a Spotted Owl, a species rare in Marin County. He also told of two pure albino Linnets which were taken from the nest and successfully reared at a local pet store. Another member mentioned having seen a Linnet with white markings on the tail. Miss Stedman told of two Cardinals, brought from Mexico, which had been in captivity in Oakland for a year and a half, and which were in good color and full song. Mr. Kinsey added that the color of the plumage of Cardinals and certain other species is often enhanced when the birds are kept in sunny aviaries. Mr. Grinnell cited a paper relating to temperatures of birds, by Dayton Stoner of the New York State Museum at Albany. His work indicates wide variation in temperature within a single species, or even in a given individual under different conditions. Mr. Alden Miller reported that his summer-session class, in seeking possible effects of recent extensive destruction of birds by oil from a submerged tanker, had found the Murre colony at Point Reyes to be as large this year as in previous years.

As speaker of the evening, Mr. Loye Miller, of the University of California at Los Angeles, gave a delightful account of his recent observations upon the Black-footed Albatross, off the coast of southern California. He prefaced his remarks by several examples of cycles of population among birds. The studies of the albatrosses were made from the State Fisheries ship "Blue-Fin," in use for field work by the Scripps Institute of Oceanography at La Jolla. Interesting discussion followed the talk, Mr. Miller answering a number of questions from members.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

**AUGUST.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, August 26, 1937, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with eighty-three members and guests present. President Kinsey turned the chair over to Vice-president Cain, who presided for the remainder of the meeting. Minutes of the Northern Division for July were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division were read. Names proposed for membership were: Victor H. Cahalane, Wildlife Division, National Parks Service, Washington, D. C., by J. M. Linsdale; Ian McTaggart Cowan, Provincial Museum, Victoria,

B. C., by J. M. Linsdale; Paul Atwood Harvey, 1515 Spruce Street, Berkeley, by J. Grinnell; E. Whitney Martin, 525 Lincoln Avenue, Palo Alto, California, by Wilbur V. Henry; Rosa Lee Moose, 3170 Valencia Drive, San Bernardino, California, by Alden H. Miller; Mrs. F. W. Pleas, Woodside, Route 1, Box 255, via Redwood City, California, by Isabel McCracken.

The secretary outlined the content of a letter from the Bureau of Biological Survey, in answer to the resolution regarding poisoning of native wild mammals which was passed by this club at its June meeting and sent to the President of the United States. A letter was also received from the Secretary to the President, acknowledging receipt of the resolution and stating that it had been referred to the Biological Survey.

Field observations were contributed by many members. Miss Werner told of having seen a female American Merganser followed by 16 ducklings, at Fallen Leaf Lake. Dr. Haley had seen a Surf-bird on the slopes of Mount McKinley in the interior of Alaska. Mr. Hargreaves reported Caspian Terns at Clear Lake, about the middle of August. Three caged Arizona Hooded Orioles were exhibited by Mr. Brock, two immature birds trapped on Wildcat Creek, August 1 and 8, and a young male in the dull first breeding plumage secured in San Leandro on May 15. Observations given by other members would indicate that this species is becoming more common in the Bay area. Miss Nold had noted a nest of the White-crowned Sparrow with three eggs, on August 3, north of Yosemite Valley. Mr. Cain recounted some observations made with the Boy Scouts during the summer at Diamond Camp, Oakland, and in the Yosemite region. A so-called "marmot circus" witnessed by a large group of boys on the Tioga road was described. Mr. Covell reported two pairs of Ospreys, July 12, on the Eel River near Garberville.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Edmund Heller, Director of the Fleishhacker Zoo, San Francisco. In presenting his subject, "Birds of the Zoo," he revealed some of the problems confronting the director of a zoo, which is appraised by the public chiefly in terms of its "circus animals." A great many types of birds, including nearly every group except the finches, are classified by zoo men as "soft-bills" and usually cannot be kept successfully. The Peacock enjoys the greatest popularity. Mr. Heller read excerpts from some highly entertaining pamphlets written by him for visitors to the Milwaukee Zoo and dealing with myths surrounding the Road-runner and the Australian Laughing Jackass, both popular zoo residents. In concluding his talk, Mr. Heller showed pictures of many of the birds most frequently kept in zoos.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, July 27, 1937, at 8:00 p.m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Little in the chair and thirty-five members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for June were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for May and June were read by title only. The name of W. E. Selbie, Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, California, was proposed for membership by M. C. Badger.

George Willett announced that Alfred M. Bailey, Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, would be the speaker for the August meeting, if the date could be advanced to Wednesday, August 25. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the August meeting be held on that date, and everyone was urged to be present and bring interested guests.

Mr. Charles H. Feltes of Modesto was introduced and read a paper on "Field and banding notes on the Texas Nighthawks." He then showed a series of slides taken of one of the nests under observation. The pictures brought out very clearly the protective coloration of the eggs in the nest, of the young after they were hatched, and of the old bird sitting on the eggs.

Adjourned, SIDNEY B. PEYTON, *Secretary*.

AUGUST.—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 Wednesday, August 25, 1937, at 8 p.m., with President Little in the chair and about one hundred and fifty members and guests present. Owing to the length of the program, the regular routine business was dispensed with and only proposals for new membership were read. Names proposed were: Charles Champion Vandervort, Laceyville, Pennsylvania, by John McB. Robertson, and Elmer Paquette, Santa Paula, California, by M. C. Badger.

George Willett was called on to introduce the speaker of the evening, Alfred M. Bailey, Director of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado. Mr. Bailey then showed several excellent reels of motion pictures of birds taken in different parts of the United States, and told of many incidents that occurred in their filming. Especially striking were the reels showing birds in natural colors. Sage Grouse on their strutting grounds, White-faced Glossy Ibis at their nests in the marshes, Golden Eagles building their nests, Western Grebes with young just hatching, and Chestnut-collared and McCown longspurs at their nests on the prairie were some of the subjects of especial interest that showed Mr. Bailey's great ability as a wild-life photographer.

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