

NOTES AND NEWS

Mr. A. C. Bent reports that steady progress is being made in producing his series of volumes on life histories of North American birds. The thirteenth volume, containing the remaining non-passerine birds, from parrots to hummingbirds on the old Check-list, is now in type and should be published in the near future. The fourteenth volume, containing the flycatchers, horned larks and swallows, is now nearly done and should go to the publishers before summer. The author is starting work on the fifteenth volume, which is to contain the Corvidae and the Paridae in the order of the new Check-list. This notice is to remind past and future contributors to this cooperative work that Mr. Bent is ready to receive contributions of notes, data and photographs, relating to birds in these groups. He wishes to thank his many friends for their help in the past and looks forward with pleasure to future cooperation.

A major event in Pacific coast ornithology is the publication of "The Birds of Oregon," by Ira N. Gabrielson and Stanley G. Jewett. Our copy was received on April 26, 1940. It is a book sponsored by Oregon State College, Corvallis, consisting of xxx+650 pages, with 97 plates, 20 text figures (maps), a colored frontispiece, and a folded life-zone map. No section of the western United States has had more need for a general book on its bird life than Oregon. The "Birds of Oregon" is designed in part as a text for the beginning student in that it contains introductory sections on birds in general that are of distinctly elementary stamp. These, with the descriptions of species quoted from Mrs. Bailey's handbook, should serve this purpose in adequate, though not distinguished, fashion. But, the book's major contribution lies in its value to the somewhat more advanced student of birds who is concerned with distributional problems in Oregon. The authors are eminently qualified to discuss occurrence, seasonal status, abundance, and habits of species in the State, and they do so interestingly and accurately. Wisely, for a book of this kind, they deviate in no significant degree from the nomenclature of the A. O. U. Check-list. There is no extended attempt at nomenclatural or systematic revision. Thus, none of the many subspecies described by Oberholser in 1932 from the Warner Valley area is accounted for, except that they are included with the list of species with type localities in Oregon. As explained in the introduction, the manuscript was completed in 1935, and we note that not all records published by the authors themselves subsequent to that year are incorporated. This does

not appear to us a serious deficiency, however. The illustrations are from photographs by the authors and by William L. Finley, Irene Finley, H. T. Bohlman, Alex Walker and Reed Ferris. These greatly enhance the value and beauty of the book which is nicely printed and bound. Every serious student of birds will prize this work and will be grateful to the authors for the excellent compilation which it comprises.—A. H. M.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, January 30, 1940, at 7:30 p.m., with President Peyton in the chair and approximately one hundred and twenty members and guests present.

The minutes of the December meeting of the Southern Division were approved as read. Sixteen applications for membership were read as follows: Floyd Garfield Ashbaugh, 1961 Eden Ave., Glendale, Calif.; Ira Brooks Boggs, Ogelbay Hall, Morgantown, W. Va.; Charles T. Church, 70 Pine St., New York, N. Y.; Louie Irby Davis, Harlingen, Texas; E. Raymond Driver, P. O. Box 1114, Medford, Ore.; Jos. L. Floyd, Court House, Canton, Ohio; Devin A. Garrity, 23 East 26th St., New York, N. Y.; Lucy Bell Hawk, 219 N. Calaveras St., Fresno, Calif.; Magdeleine C. Hutchinson (Mrs. Arthur E.), Chester Springs, Chester Co., Pa.; Pompeo M. Maresi, 9 Reimer Road, Scarsdale, N. Y.; John L. Miller, 2349 West 23rd St., Los Angeles, Calif.; Edward H. Moeran, 541 Bronx River Road, Yonkers, N. Y.; and Almeda Nordyke, 2745 C St., Selma, Calif., all proposed by W. Lee Chambers. John Courts Jones, 3224 19th St., N.W., Washington, D. C., and Captain G. E. Thomas, U. S. Naval Training Station, San Diego, Calif., by John McB. Robertson; Hobart Merritt Van Deusen, 128 Pinehurst Ave, New York, N. Y., by Mrs. N. Edward Ayer.

President Peyton called for the report of the nominating committee. The chairman, Mr. George Willett, offered the following nominations for 1940: President, Robert T. Moore; Vice-president, Hildegard Howard; Secretary, Sherwin F. Wood. It was moved and seconded that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the slate as presented and the new officers were duly installed.