

NOTES AND NEWS



Fig. 64. M. French Gilman, pioneer naturalist of the southwestern deserts. Member of the Cooper Ornithological Club since 1901.

After an interval of almost three years since the publication of volume three of Peter's "Check-list of Birds of the World," volume four of this work made its welcome appearance in June of this year. Consistent in plan and style with preceding sections, it includes the orders Cuculiformes, Strigiformes, Caprimulgiformes, and Apodiformes. The author points out that the owls have required particular attention from a revisionary standpoint. In the introduction is a brief comparison of numbers of genera and species included in comparable sections of Sharpe's and Peter's lists, demonstrating that in the latter list the total of species and subspecies has increased about 40 per cent, whereas the genera, with modern conservative treatment, have been reduced 30 per cent. Some generic names currently in use for birds covered by the A. O. U. Check-list are replaced as follows: *Micrathene* takes priority over *Micropallas* for the elf owls; *Aegolius* for like reason is used instead of *Cryptoglaux* for the saw-whet owls and their relatives; *Scotiaptex*, for the great gray owls, is synonymized under the more inclusive *Strix*, and *Antrostomus*, for the whip-poor-wills, under *Caprimulgus*. The specific name for the Snowy Owl becomes *Nyctea scandiaca* and the Long-

eared Owl is designated as a race of *Asio otus* of Europe. Literature up through December 31, 1938, has been considered in the compilation of the work. Mr. Peters is to be congratulated on the sustained progress made on this valuable check-list.—A. H. M.

Many Cooper Club members may be interested in a proposal to form an organization concerned with the dynamics of the origin of species and races. This suggestion comes from Professor Alfred E. Emerson of the University of Chicago who would be happy to learn of persons with such interest. A loose organization of cooperating members is contemplated which would sponsor the publication of a booklet about twice a year for spreading pertinent information concerning bibliographical citations and notes from various members and laboratories. One main end to be gained is the exchange of information between botanists and zoologists interested in diverse phases of the origin of species. The suggested name of the organization is the Association for the Study of Speciation.—A. H. M.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS SOUTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, February 27, 1940, at 8:00 p.m., with Robert T. Moore presiding and about 100 members and guests present.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. Eight applications for membership were read as follows: F. H. Bosbyshell, 829 North Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, California; Hutchinson I. Cone, Jr., 1215 Barnett Bldg., Jacksonville, Florida; John Walton Livermore, 130 East End Ave., New York City, New York; C. Carroll McGettigan, 2644 Filbert St., San Francisco, California; and George W. Pyle, Box 647, Berwyn, Pennsylvania, all proposed by W. Lee Chambers. Mrs. Arthur E. Hussey, 6017 Atlas Place, Seattle, Washington, by Elizabeth L. Curtis; Mary V. Hood, 138 South Wilton Drive, Los Angeles, California, by C. V. Duff; and Mary Ferguson Coble, 3400 San Marino, Los Angeles, California, by Ed. N. Harrison.

A letter from William Alanson Bryan expressing appreciation for nomination to honorary membership was read by the secretary.

President Moore read a letter from Dr. J. A. G. Rehn of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club expressing appreciation for the congratulatory communication commemorating its fiftieth anniversary.

Dr. Herbert N. McCoy, Chairman of the Auditing Committee, reported tentative approval of the financial report for 1939, pending examination of the papers by the Northern Division representative.

A motion, initiated by Mr. George Willett and seconded by Dr. Raymond B. Cowles, for the omission of the March meeting because of the scheduled Annual Meeting, March 22 and 23, was unanimously approved.

Mr. Willett said that many observers had reported an unusual influx of Lark Buntings throughout the southeastern portion of the state.

President Moore introduced the speaker, Mr. C. A. Harwell, Yosemite Park Naturalist, who discussed problems in the recording of bird songs. Due to the high range of bird notes and general lack of correspondence in key to notes on the musical scale, duplication by means of musical instruments is rendered practically impossible. Good reproductions by vocal sounds or whistling of the voices of many species of birds were enthusiastically received by the Cooper Club members. Kodachrome lantern slide portraits of many of the birds and views of habitats illustrating the seasonal beauty of Yosemite were shown. A brief discussion followed concerning methods employed in photographing the birds.

Adjourned.—SHERWIN F. WOOD, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, March 28, 1940, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Painton in the chair and about 65 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for February were read and approved. Frank Bene, 2242 West Madison Street, Phoenix, Arizona, was proposed for membership by Alden H. Miller. The nomination of William Alanson Bryan for Honorary Membership in the Club, originating in the Southern Division and given first reading before the Northern Division at the February meeting, was unanimously accepted.

Mrs. Grinnell announced that Mr. Robert C. Miller, of the California Academy of Sciences, had agreed to represent the Cooper Club at the Seattle meeting of the Western Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The first speaker, Mr. Thomas L. Rodgers, presented a paper entitled, "Frequency of Oc-

currence of Birds on the Berkeley Campus," which he had prepared in collaboration with Mr. Charles G. Sibley. He stressed the need of a statistical method of analyzing bird populations which would afford a basis for comparing different areas.

Mr. Alden H. Miller then reported on the 14th Annual Meeting of the Cooper Club, held at the Los Angeles Museum, March 22-24.

Field notes gathered by members during the Easter vacation occupied the rest of the program. Mr. Carl Koford reported that "Oscar," the famous banded Condor, now 10 months of age, had been seen by a field party just before the annual meeting. Mr. Robert C. Miller announced the presence of a male Wood Duck on Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Mrs. Kelly recounted the activities of an ambitious pair of Bush-tits in Alameda. They were building December 21, the young left the nest February 8, and on the 13th the nest was being repaired in preparation for the second brood, which was seen to be fed March 19.

The president announced that the new membership roster was being prepared and asked members to communicate any change of address to the officers.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Friday, March 22, to Sunday, March 24, 1940, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California. On Friday morning, following the registration of members and visitors, the meeting was called to order by President Robert T. Moore of the Southern Division. Roland J. McKinney, Director of the Los Angeles Museum, welcomed the group. Alden H. Miller expressed appreciation to the Museum and members of the Southern Division for arranging the meetings.

Howard Robertson, President of the Corporation, called the business meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. George Willett, as Secretary, read the minutes of the last business meeting, which were approved. Two committees were appointed by President Robertson as follows: One to check proxies, John McB. Robertson, Chairman, John T. Emlen, Jr., and Stanley G. Jewett; and the other to present nominations for directors for the coming year, Loye H. Miller, Chairman, Herbert N. McCoy, Harry R. Painton, Eric C. Kinsey, and John G. Tyler. The business session was then adjourned until Saturday morning.

Papers read at the opening session were: Avifauna of a Transition island in the Mohave

Desert, by A. H. Miller; Loss of corresponding feathers on each side at a time other than the molt, by H. Michener and J. R. Michener; Studies of the so-called oil, or uropygial gland, by J. F. Wohnus; Notes on bird postures, by D. G. Nichols; and Dispersal of young gulls from nesting colonies (as shown by early records of the Pacific Gull Color-Banding Project), by Grace Sargent.

Luncheon was served to the assembled members and guests in the Los Angeles Museum Cafeteria, after which the group visited a new Exhibit, "Birds of Passage," in the Science Rotunda of the Museum.

Papers read at Friday afternoon's session were: Speciation in the flickers, by F. H. Test; New forms from Mt. Mohinora, the highest mountain of Northern Mexico, by R. T. Moore; Frequency of occurrence of birds on the Berkeley Campus, University of California, by T. L. Rodgers and C. G. Sibley; Downy loons, with their parents and relations, by L. B. Bishop; Midwinter distribution of the American Crow in California, by J. T. Emlen, Jr.; and Distribution and variation of Red-winged Blackbirds in Utah, by W. H. Behle.

At the request of Clinton G. Abbott, the presiding officer, Stanley G. Jewett remarked upon the encouraging prospects for increased duck and goose populations.

On Friday evening the Board of Governors and Directors met for dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert T. Moore in Flintridge, following which the annual meeting of the Board was held (see p. 228).

On Saturday morning, March 23, 1940, members met in the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California, at 9:30 a.m. for the business session continued from Friday, with Howard Robertson presiding.

The Proxy Committee reported that, of a total membership of 851, 81 members were present in person and 450 were represented by proxies. The Chairman therefore declared a quorum present.

The Secretary reported election by the two divisions of the Club, since the last Annual Meeting, of 119 members, from and including Number 1017 on the club membership roster, to and including Number 1135 on said roster. On motion by Loye Miller, seconded by Harry R. Painton, and unanimously carried, the election of these members was ratified.

The Secretary read the following applications for membership in the Club: Marjorie W. Ambler, Mrs. Geo. S. Gaines, Frederick W. Haecker, R. Allyn Moser, Theodora Nelson, John W. Stacey and George Mott Tuttle, Sr., proposed by W. Lee Chambers, and Edward Budd and Vanche Etoile Plumb, by John McB. Robertson. On mo-

tion by Loye Miller, seconded by Alden H. Miller, and unanimously carried, these applicants were elected to membership.

Treasurer John McB. Robertson then gave some figures regarding the variation in numbers of members from year to year, and reported the foundation of the Joseph Grinnell Publication Fund.

The Nominating Committee reported the following nominations for Directors for the ensuing year: John S. Appleton, W. Lee Chambers, Hilda W. Grinnell, Jean M. Linsdale, Alden H. Miller, J. R. Pemberton, Howard Robertson, John McB. Robertson and George Willett. On motion by Loye Miller, seconded by Harry R. Painton, and duly carried, the nominations were closed and the nominees declared elected.

Treasurer John McB. Robertson announced that a new roster of Club members was ready for publication.

On motion by Loye Miller, seconded by Sherwin F. Wood, and unanimously carried, the thanks of the Club were tendered the local committee on arrangements for the fourteenth annual meeting, the assistance of the ladies being especially commended.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

President Robertson announced the business session closed at 10:10 a.m. and turned the meeting over to one of the four original Cooper Club members of 1893, namely Harry R. Painton, to preside during presentation of the papers.

The following papers were read: Fossil storks of America, by Hildegarde Howard; A collection of fossil birds from McKittrick, California, by Ida De May; Some problems in water fowl management, by W. W. Bennett; and notes on the Black-footed Albatross, by Loye Miller.

Papers presented on Saturday afternoon were: The Flammulated Screech Owl; its food and habitat, by J. T. Marshall; A Comparative analysis of the avifauna of the San Bernardino, San Jacinto, and Santa Ana mountains, by W. E. Pequegnat; Experiments on intercovey relationships in the Valley Quail, by W. Howard; Heat or cold?—factors conducive to the evolution of homoiothermism, by R. B. Cowles; and Motion pictures of the Golden and Bald eagles, and the Red-bellied Hawk, by Ed N. Harrison.

Throughout the meetings time was allowed for discussion of papers, and stimulating conversations were continued long after the regular sessions. During the Friday meeting Robert T. Moore and Clinton G. Abbott presided, while on Saturday these duties were performed in turn by Harry R. Painton, George Willett, and Alden H. Miller.

On Saturday evening, approximately 100 members and guests gathered at Carl's "Viewpark,"

Crenshaw Blvd. at Vernon Avenue, in Los Angeles, for the annual dinner. The feature of the evening was the excellent motion picture in color of "The Early Life of 'Oscar,' the Condor," exhibited by J. R. Pemberton.

On Easter Sunday, March 24, a field trip under the direction of W. A. Kent was taken to Tucker's Hummingbird Sanctuary near Orange, California.—S. F. Wood, *Secretary, Southern Division*.

GOVERNORS' MEETING

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the home of Mr. R. T. Moore, Flintridge, California, on March 22, 1940. Vice-president Tyler called the meeting to order at 8 p.m., with the following members present: Clinton G. Abbott, J. S. Appleton, Louis B. Bishop, Frances Carter, W. Lee Chambers, Joseph S. Dixon, John T. Emlen, Jr., Hilda W. Grinnell, Harry Harris, Hildegard Howard, Eric C. Kinsey, Luther Little, Herbert N. McCoy, Alden H. Miller, Robert T. Moore, Harry R. Painton, J. R. Pemberton, Sidney B. Peyton, Howard Robertson, John McB. Robertson, John G. Tyler, George Willett, and Sherwin F. Wood.

Proxies were presented as follows: H. W. Carriker, J. S. Cooper, Joseph Mailliard, Harold Michener, E. Lowell Sumner, Jr., Curtis Wright, held by A. H. Miller; Amelia S. Allen by W. Lee Chambers; Guy C. Rich by George Willett; Tracy I. Storer by John T. Emlen, Jr.

Minutes of the seventeenth annual meeting of the Board of Governors were read and approved. The report of the Business Manager, W. Lee Chambers, and of the Treasurer, John McB. Robertson, for 1939 was presented by Mr. Robertson, which report is appended to these minutes. Mr. Herbert N. McCoy, reporting for the auditing committee, which consisted of S. F. Wood, J. S. Cooper, and himself, stated that the securities and accounts had been checked over and were found to be in good order. J. R. Pemberton, seconded by J. S. Dixon, moved that the report of the auditing committee be adopted. Motion carried. The report of the Business Manager and Treasurer was then approved on motion of Howard Robertson, seconded by L. B. Bishop.

Vice-president Tyler called for the report of the Editors, which was presented by Alden H. Miller. Suggestions offered concerning different methods of citation in text in the *Condor* were discussed by the Board. On motion by George Willett, seconded by Howard Robertson, the report was accepted.

Harry R. Painton raised the question of participation in the Pan-American Congress to be

held in Washington, D.C., this year. Because no formal request to participate had been received and because the Club does not seek representation at meetings of such general character, it was voted, on motion by George Willett, seconded by W. Lee Chambers, that the matter be laid on the table.

Alden H. Miller moved that a vote of thanks be extended to the local committee for the arrangements so effectively made for the current Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Club in Los Angeles. Motion seconded by J. S. Dixon and unanimously carried.

Appreciation of the hospitality of Mr. Robert T. Moore in entertaining the Board of Governors at his home for dinner and the meeting was unanimously voted on motion by George Willett, seconded by W. Lee Chambers.

Approval of the Board was given to sponsoring the Fourth Ten-year Index to the Condor as a Pacific Coast Avifauna. This index is being prepared by John McB. Robertson.

Results of the election of officers for the coming year were: President, John G. Tyler; Vice-president, John T. Emlen, Jr.; Secretary, Alden H. Miller.

Following the business session of the Board, Mr. Moore showed motion pictures of his travels in Finland in the summer of 1938 and, upon special request, the film taken in Mexico of the spectacular Tufted Jay.

Adjourned.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Secretary*.

DIRECTORS' MEETING

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in the banquet room of Carl's Restaurant, Crenshaw Blvd. at Vernon Ave., Los Angeles, California, at 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, 1940. The following members of the Board were present: John S. Appleton, W. Lee Chambers, Hilda W. Grinnell, Alden H. Miller, J. R. Pemberton, Howard Robertson, John McB. Robertson and George Willett.

President Howard Robertson presided at the meeting and George Willett acted as Secretary.

On motion by John S. Appleton, seconded by J. R. Pemberton and duly carried, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Howard Robertson; Senior Vice-President, Alden H. Miller; Junior Vice-President, J. S. Cooper; Secretary, George Willett; Assistant Secretary, Hilda W. Grinnell; Treasurer, John McB. Robertson; Business Manager, W. Lee Chambers; Editor, Alden H. Miller; Associate Editor, Jean M. Linsdale. Each officer present so elected accepted his office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.—(Signed) GEORGE WILLETT, *Secretary*.