

NOTES AND NEWS

The National Association of Audubon Societies has just announced that it is establishing a representative of that organization with headquarters in California. This is the first time that the National Association has been able to provide in this way for the development of the Societies' program in the West. Mr. C. A. Harwell, who has served as Park Naturalist at Yosemite National Park for the past eleven years, is resigning to accept this new position. His duties will include the organization of new Audubon societies in cities and towns in the State where none now exist, the coordination of the work of existing Audubon units, lecturing and radio programs, and the furtherance of conservation and protection of wild birds and animals in accordance with policies of the National Association.—A. H. M.

utes of the Northern Division for March were read and approved. Names proposed for membership were: Arthur E. Hutchinson, 184 South Main Street, Cedar City, Utah, by Lawrence V. Compton, and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds, 140 Estates Drive, Piedmont, California, by Hilda W. Grinnell.

Field notes were numerous. Joe Marshall had seen Red-breasted Nuthatches on the Berkeley campus until April 19. Mrs. Kelly noted an Olive-sided Flycatcher at the Greek Theater April 17, and the Lazuli Bunting and Ash-throated Flycatcher at Saint Mary's College, April 20. Mrs. Allen reported a Varied Thrush at Alum Rock, near San Jose, April 24. Mr. Axtell, of Courtland, New York, who has been particularly interested in the shorebirds at Alameda, reported a Pacific Golden Plover on Bay Farm Island,

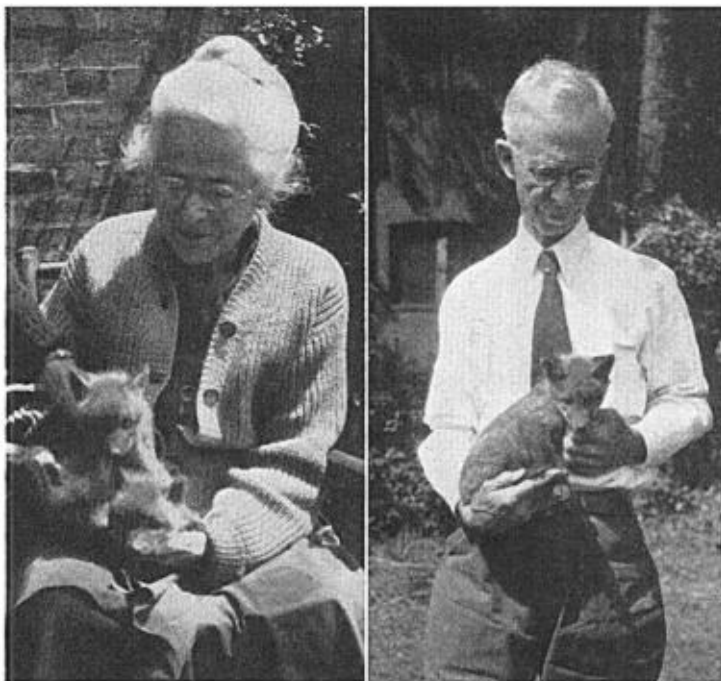


Fig. 78. Florence Merriam Bailey and Vernon Bailey, far known for their life time devotion to the study of birds and mammals.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, April 25, 1940, at 8 p.m., in room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Painton in the chair and about 100 members and guests present. Min-

April 20. A nest of the Phainopepla was discovered in Arroyo Mocho near Livermore, on April 15, by Mrs. Saunders. Dr. Painton described a concerted attack by nine Brown Towhees on a wounded California Jay, which he had shot because of its depredations on nests in his garden.

The evening's program was presented by Dr. and Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds, who showed several

reels of colored motion pictures of California birds. Their pictures covered a wide range of habitats in the state, although many excellent studies were made in the garden of their home in Piedmont. Pelican nesting colonies at Tulare Lake, with newly hatched young, and gull colonies in Modoc County were outstanding for beauty of background, as well as portrayal of the birds.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, April 30, 1940, at 8 p.m., with Robert T. Moore presiding and about 75 members and guests present.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as read. Five applications for membership were read as follows: William E. Brooks, 4008 North Seventh Street, Phoenix, Arizona, and Howard Lyman Cogswell, 2420 West Grand Avenue, Alhambra, California, by W. Lee Chambers; Miss Frances Leon Cramer, 921 West 36th Place, Los Angeles, California, by Joseph S. Dixon; and Robert H. Gensch, Division of Wildlife Research, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., and Miss Helen Steele Pratt, 2451 Ridge View Avenue, Eagle Rock, California, by John McB. Robertson.

A motion initiated by Dr. Loye Miller and seconded by the secretary to suspend the regular meeting of May 28 in favor of an outdoor meeting on May 26 was unanimously carried.

Mr. W. Lee Chambers, C. V. Duff, and Mrs. Mary V. Hood supported a proposal to visit Tucker's Hummingbird Sanctuary near Orange, California.

A motion instructing the president or other officers of the club to arrange at their own discretion an outdoor meeting for May was initiated by Dr. Loye Miller, seconded by J. F. Wohner, and unanimously carried.

George Willett reported receipt of a very good book on the "Birds of Oregon" by Ira N. Gabrielson and Stanley G. Jewett, published by Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon.

Dr. Loye Miller reported that while on a trip into Arizona with Mr. W. J. Sheffler he found a sparrow hawk nest with five pure white eggs. The "female" hawk's breast was suffused with rufous almost to the exclusion of normal female streaking. The lesser coverts and primaries were centered with blue and edged with chestnut, yet the bird was female in size and performance. He suggested that this hawk might have had a hormonal disturbance because the shells of the eggs were imperfectly formed, being roughened and with abnormal projections.

Motion pictures depicting a trip on the Mohave Desert by Mr. Arthur Barr was the feature of the evening. In addition to the pictures of mammals and reptiles, there were photographic studies of Sparrow Hawk, Poor-will, Mourning Dove, House Finch, and Road-runner. An additional reel showed many interesting views of types of food, method of feeding, and flight habits of the Horned Owl.

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

STANFORD CHAPTER

MARCH.—The Stanford Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting on Friday, March 8, 1940, at Jordan Hall, Stanford University. The minutes for February were read and approved. It was decided to hold the meetings earlier, at 7:45, and to finish the business more quickly in order to allow more time for the speaker.

Dr. Hilda Hempl Heller, the speaker of the evening, told about collecting Oil-birds in the Peruvian mountains. A Field Museum collecting trip under the leadership of Dr. Edmund Heller entered the Llaga River region in Peru in 1922, and after many adventures reached a section of the country where caves were known to be inhabited by Oil-birds. The Oil-bird (*Steatornis caripensis*), a goatsucker, dwells in caves and feeds nocturnally. In an inner cave of a group of three having many stalactites and stalagmites, the field party discovered many bulky nests of dung, built up in solid masses on the stalagmites through the years. The floors of the caves were covered with the nuts of the fruits eaten by the birds. Thousands of birds were in the cave, from which they departed each evening in a strangely silent flight. Oil-birds are one of the principal sources of fat for the Peruvians.

Adjourned.—MARION JO THEOBALD, *Secretary*.

APRIL.—The monthly meeting of the Stanford Chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by President Jack Applegarth on April 12, 1940, in Jordan Hall, Stanford University. The minutes for March were read and approved. Invitations were extended by the Stanford Natural History Club to join in a trip to the Farallon Islands on April 14. Dr. Painton reported on the birds seen by him on a recent trip to Death Valley, and also gave a brief resumé of a recent trip by the Santa Clara Audubon Society to the Pinnacles National Monument. Dr. Robert Rhodes then spoke on the skeleton of birds. Illustrating his talk by the skeletons of a man, a reptile, a cat and several large birds, he emphasized the adaptations made for the specialized existence of different vertebrate animals.

Adjourned.—MARION JO THEOBALD, *Secretary*.