

NOTES AND NEWS

The September, 1940, issue of "California Bird News" (vol. 5, nos. 2 and 3, p. 2), mimeographed periodical issued by the California office of the Division of Wildlife Research, Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, contains the following paragraph.

"In 1939 six white-tailed kites were banded by a cooperator near Watsonville. Before December 31, 1939, bands of three of the six had been sent in, shot by residents of the area. This small hawk, which to the average layman looks something like a small sea gull, is considered so uncommon that the legal taking of a specimen requires a special permit from the Division of Fish and Game; possibly the results of the 1939 banding indicate one of the major causes of its scarcity."

Realizing that ignorant or wanton shooting of this beneficial bird is a considerable factor in its depletion, Mr. Laidlaw Williams and I have for several years advocated an attractive poster which would point out the bird's recognition marks and make a plea for its preservation. The National Audubon Society has heeded our requests for such a poster and is now preparing one for distribution in California. My experience with duck hunting clubs where kites are numerous is that the members are anxious to protect the birds when they learn of their good habits and depleted numbers. Hence, it is thought that broader education, along these lines, of individuals likely to see kites will work for the birds' protection.

It is hoped that the Audubon Society posters will be ready for distribution by January 1, 1941. It is planned to place them in as many duck hunting clubs as possible, in places where hunting and fishing boats are rented in kite territory, in farm houses near which kites nest, and in our schools. Thus, a general plan of education may result, with decided benefit to kites. It is hoped that Federal and State game wardens may assist in distribution of the posters, for this will help to interest the enforcement officers in the plan to preserve this attractive species.—JAMES MORFITT, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.*

Beginning with the next issue of *The Condor* in January, 1941, the form for citation of literature will be changed and simplified. The style to be adopted is in accord with current practice in a number of scientific journals and consists primarily of the use of a colon to separate volume (and year) from the page number, thus doing away with the abbreviations "vol." and "p." An example of a text citation to an article appearing in a journal would be: (*Condor*, 42, 1940:310). In keeping with this system, a particular refer-

ence to a statement in a paper listed in a terminal bibliography would be: Lack (1940:275). The full citation in the terminal bibliography would be: Lack, D. [next line] 1940. Pair-formation in birds. *Condor*, 42:269-286. Volume numbers should always be in Arabic rather than Roman numerals, except where, for bibliographic completeness the author wishes to show the style of numeral employed in the publication cited. Contributors to *The Condor* will relieve the editors of much work if they will observe these matters of form.—A.H.M.

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 23, 1940, at 8 p.m., in room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Painton in the chair and about 40 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read and approved. Two names were proposed for membership: Robbins S. King, Box 243, Cupertino, California, by Marion Jo Theobald; Lloyd P. Tevis, Jr., Box 1416, Carmel, California, by J. M. Linsdale.

Report for the Conservation Committee was made by B. C. Cain, chairman. There has been much interest in the Berkeley Aquatic Park, especially since new funds have been made available for its development. Continued interest by club members will be helpful in maintaining there the important waterfowl habitats, as has been done in the past. It was suggested that an additional member on the committee would be desirable, on account of absences of other members during the summer. Mr. Frank G. Watson was appointed.

Mr. Alden Miller brought to the meeting a copy of "Birds of Oregon," by Gabrielson and Jewett, so that members might have an opportunity to look at it.

Mr. R. M. Bond gave a detailed account of the birds seen on a recent week's trip to Santa Barbara and Anacapa islands; 450 young Brown Pelicans were banded on Anacapa. He also stated that there is an apparent decrease in White-tailed Kites this year, both in Santa Cruz and Ventura counties. Milton Siebert had observed a pair of mockingbirds nesting in the Maxwell Park district of east Oakland, May 15. David Nichols told of his observations of the Black-crowned Night Herons which arrive at the Aquatic Park in the early evening, after having roosted elsewhere during the day. Mr. Emlen described some effects of the late spring rains on bird life in the Sacramento Valley. Some of the heron colonies