

NOTES AND NEWS

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club has been scheduled for April 11 and 12, 1941, at Berkeley. This falls on Friday and Saturday of Easter week. Accordingly, it should be easy for those members connected with schools and universities to attend because of vacation periods at that time. The sessions will be held in the Life Sciences Building on the campus of the University of California. The committee in charge of arrangements consists of James Moffitt, chairman, W. I. Follett, Hilda W. Grinnell, Joe T. Marshall, Jr., and Alden H. Miller. Club members who wish to contribute to the scientific program are invited to lay plans now for papers they expect to present. The committee would appreciate knowing of such contributions even in advance of the formal call for papers.

The present issue of the Condor is able to present the history of the California Condor *in extenso*, inclusive of a colored plate, because of the special efforts of Mr. W. Lee Chambers in procuring financial support additional to the income normally available for publishing the magazine.

On December 24, 1940, W. Otto Emerson of Hayward, California, passed away at the age of 85 years. Mr. Emerson was well known to all of the older generation of bird students. His home in Hayward, Palm Cottage, was a center of ornithological activity before and around the turn of the century. Beginning in 1881 he published many of the earliest accounts of the habits of Californian birds, first in the old Ornithologist and Oologist, then in the Nidiologist and finally in the Condor in its early volumes. Attention is called to a portrait of Mr. Emerson taken on his 76th birthday which appeared in the Condor four years ago (39, 1937:46).—A. H. M.

We wish to express gratitude to several people for assisting in editorial work during the past year. Those who have aided are Janet Failla, Hilda W. Grinnell, Joe T. Marshall, Jr., and Virginia D. Miller. The index for volume 42 was prepared by Selma Werner to whom the Club is again indebted for this important service.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, September 26, 1940, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with Mr. Joe T. Marshall,

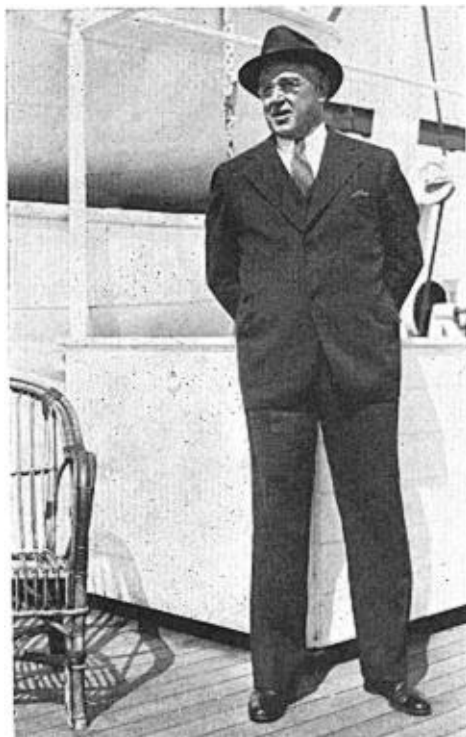


Fig. 24. Harry Harris, historian, bibliographer and ornithologist; author of "The Annals of *Gymnogyps*" which appear in this issue of the Condor.

Jr., presiding and 45 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for August were read. Names proposed for membership were: Mrs. William E. Campbell, Glenbrook, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, by Frances Carter; Andrew C. Olson, Jr., University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, by Alden H. Miller.

Mr. Alden Miller reviewed W. E. Clyde Todd's *Birds of Western Pennsylvania*, illustrated by George Miksch Sutton, a volume for which data has been collected since 1893. Mr. Haley added reminiscences of boyhood days when he, now a botanist, and Todd, an ornithologist, exchanged correspondence on the subject of butterflies.

W. Otto Emerson urged bird students to secure the cooperation of botanists and entomologists, in order to learn how to make their gardens attractive for certain birds. Mrs. Allen noted the appearance early in August, at Dumbarton Bridge, of the albino Eared Grebe which had been seen there periodically since July 29, 1939.

Mr. Laidlaw O. Williams spoke on "The Display of the Brandt Cormorant," a subject to which he has devoted five years of study, principally in the Monterey region. Lantern slides illustrated the talk, and the excellent colored motion pictures taken by Mr. Andrew Shirra Gibb and explained by Mr. Williams gave a good idea of the painstaking study which Mr. Williams has carried on in the field.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

OCTOBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, October 24, 1940, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with Vice-president E. Lowell Sumner, Jr., in the chair and about 50 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for September were read and approved. Names proposed for membership were: John Albert Gray, Jr., 4209 Idaho Street, San Diego, California, by Jean M. Linsdale; Frederick Lorenz, College of Agriculture, Davis, California, by John T. Emlen, Jr.

Miss Margaret Lantis, recently returned from a stay of eleven months on Nunivak Island, showed a parka made entirely from the breasts of murre. Cormorant parkas are worn by the women and eider by the men, among the wealthier Eskimos, while murre or puffin garments may be worn by either, among the less well-to-do.

Mr. John T. Emlen, Jr., spoke on "The Social Behavior of the Valley Quail." The Valley Quail is well adapted to field study of social behavior, since it is of sedentary habits and readily observable, and individuals can easily be marked for identification. Quail behavior follows a seasonal cycle, winter flocking being succeeded by pairing in February, although the coveys do not break up until April. After the breeding season, there is gradual merging into the larger units. Ingenious transplantation experiments were carried out to show the relation of individual to covey and covey to territory.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Tuesday, September 24, 1940, with Vice-president Hildegard Howard in the chair and 55 members and guests present.

The minutes of the August meeting of the Southern Division were approved as read. Warren M. Pulich, 2540 College Ave., Berkeley, California, was proposed for membership by W. B. Sampson.

Mr. George Willett reported briefly on the excellent slow motion pictures of bird flight and the many interesting scientific papers presented at the fifty-eighth annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in New England. Of special interest to Cooper Club members was the re-election of George Willett as one of the Vice-presidents of the Union, the election of two fellows from the west coast, Stanley G. Jewett and Robert T. Moore; and the election of John R. Pemberton as a member. A recent amendment to the constitution of the American Ornithologists' Union made it possible for the Cooper and Wilson Ornithological clubs each to elect a member to serve on the A. O. U. Council.

Vice-president Howard introduced the speaker, Dr. Sarah R. Atsatt of the University of California at Los Angeles, who gave a very interesting account of her adventures with birds in Africa. Dr. Atsatt introduced her subject with brief comments on bird types of southeast Africa, illustrated with study skins, and then showed Kodachrome views of bird habitats.

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

OCTOBER.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Tuesday, October 29, 1940, with Vice-president Hildegard Howard in the chair and 120 members and guests present.

The minutes of the September meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. Jim Fairchild, 3960 11th St., Riverside, California, was proposed for membership by John McB. Robertson. The minutes of the August meeting of the Northern Division were read by title and part of the minutes of the September meeting were read pertaining to the legislative amendment endangering state parks.

Vice-president Howard introduced the speaker, Mr. Ed N. Harrison, of Encinitas, California, who showed motion pictures in color of some aquatic birds and their associates in northern California and Oregon. Mr. Harrison was assisted by Mrs. Frances Roberts in photographing some of these birds. At the Tule Lake Refuge in Modoc County, California, excellent photographic studies were made of feeding and nesting habits of the Avocet and of adult and young Canada Geese. In Oregon, on the Upper Klamath River, exceptionally fine studies of the American Egret were obtained including a picture of an American Magpie robbing an egret's nest. At Three Arch Rocks, nesting colonies of California Murres and cormorants were photographed and a fine portrait of the Tufted Puffin was obtained.

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