

one black-browed albatross, a species of the southern hemisphere, which lived in a gannet colony on the Faroe Islands during thirty-four consecutive summers, thousands of miles away from its normal range. When we read further (p. 46) that "many birds are extremely specialized and have no powers of adaptation whatever," it becomes clear that the implied interpretations do not agree with those generally held by biologists.

The last five chapters deal with distribution and classification. These "are more technical, and some knowledge of North American birds must be taken for granted." Here the author's wide experience as a naturalist, collector, and systematist forms the basis of an "attempt . . . to expound both the difficulties and fascinating problems of great biological importance in both disciplines," that is, distribution and classification. Again, I think it worth any interested layman's or amateur ornithologist's time to read these chapters. The four chapters on distribution are probably the best portion of the book.

The unnecessarily dismal outlook which the author takes on several avenues of ornithological research does not seem to me to help the case of the ornithologist, and the scientist, in the eyes of the layman. For instance, the "disappointingly different results" (p. 121) obtained by faunal studies of different groups of animals are not to be set aside because they are different; wherein, of course, some significance may be found. Nor does it seem to me to allay the prejudices of many amateur ornithologists toward systematics to dwell upon the "hopeless difficulties and insoluble problems" of classification without stating adequately the objectives of such studies on the part of biologists whose interests extend beyond "a graduated series of pigeon holes." The final chapter on classification contains several unwarrantedly strong statements. A number of ornithologists will disagree with Griscom's statement (p. 179) that "in all scientific works and articles the correct subspecific name must be given."

A six-page index and two dozen or so good text illustrations are provided.—FRANK A. PITELKA.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The annual outdoor meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on April 29, 1945, at Tapia Park in the Santa Monica Mountains, Los Angeles County, California, with 65 members and guests present. The formal business meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Walter M. Bennett.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club wishes to express its opposition to Assembly Bill No. 89, an act to add Section 29.1 to the State Fish and Game Code, directing the Division of Fish and Game to pay from the State Fund for the Preservation of Fish and Game, a bounty of 25¢ for each Crow turned over to the Division or its agents:

1. BECAUSE, history has proved that a bounty is not the answer to control;
2. BECAUSE, a bounty provides moral justification to shoot anything that moves;
3. BECAUSE, the State Fish and Game Code provides for destruction, under the supervision of the State Fish and Game Commission, of birds in defense of property damage;
4. BECAUSE, such control should be kept in the hands of a recognized authority; and
5. BECAUSE, although in some localities Crows undoubtedly do damage, in others they have proved valuable to agriculture by their destruction of tomato worms and other similar pests.

Adjourned.—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, May 24, 1945, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, with President W. I. Follett in the chair and 75 members and guests present.

The following were proposed for membership: Roy Edgar Rodock, Lewiston State Normal School, Lewiston, Idaho, by Alden H. Miller; Bob Schuster, 3932 Ardley Ave., Oakland 2, California, by Brighton C. Cain; Howard Wayne Trimm, 165 Strong Avenue, Syracuse, New York, by Robert W. Storer; and Charles H. Yocom, 1011 Fountain Way, Berkeley, California, by Jean M. Linsdale.

Two short notes on trapping hawks and on clipping hawks' claws (pages 317, 332, Pacific Rural Press, May 12, 1945) were read and members were urged to write to the editor in protest against the control methods suggested.

Mrs. Grinnell reported a recent observation of a Cardinal by Mr. Genelly in his backyard in Oakland and stated that this was possibly an escaped cage bird. W. I. Follett reported a Lewis Woodpecker in his backyard in Oakland on May 5. Commander Hicks reported a Duck Hawk at Garberville on May 12.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Wheeler presented "Some Birds of the Coast Range in Color," after which the meeting was adjourned and members viewed an exhibit of bird photographs and paintings of birds and butterflies arranged by the Wheelers.

Adjourned.—ROBERT W. STORER, *Acting Secretary*.