

## NOTES AND NEWS

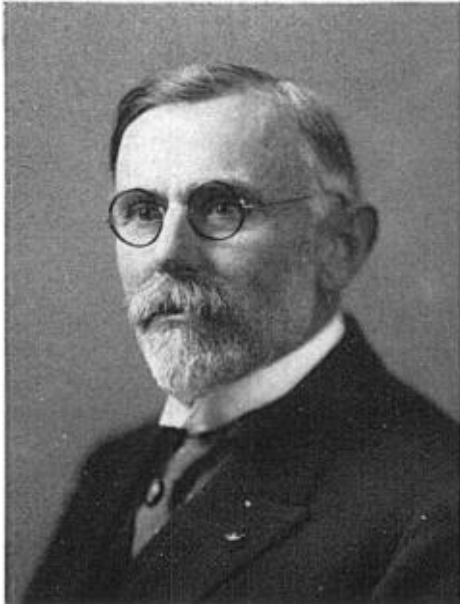


Fig. 37. Otto J. Zahn, member of the Club since November 25, 1895.

The frontispiece of the Coppery-tailed Trogon (*Trogon elegans canescens*) by Allan Brooks is based on a female which he took in lower Madera Canyon, 4500 feet, Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona, April 3, 1939. Original color notes: eye, warm sepia; eyelid dull red; bill dull aureoline yellow inside and out; mouth purplish flesh; feet whitish, scutes olive, claws dusky, soles pale buff.

Sidney B. Peyton has assumed the tasks of the Treasurer of the Club following the resignation of John McB. Robertson. He will handle bills, payments, advertisements and changes of address. Checks should be payable to the Club.

## PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

A REVIEW OF THE BIRD FAUNA OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. By J. A. Munro and I. McT. Cowan. British Columbia Provincial Museum, Special Publication, No. 2, December, 1947, 285 pp., 42 figs. in text.

This compilation of distributional data supplants the earlier list of the birds of British Columbia of 1925 by Brooks and Swarth. A total of 491 species and subspecies occur in the Province; 310 are species represented by but one subspecies in the area. The emphasis commendably is on the



Fig. 38. Howard Robertson, member of the club since December 28, 1896, and for many years President of the Corporation.

From a painting by Katherine W. Leighton.

species unit, with treatment of races in smaller type and complete elimination of vernacular names for subspecies. Each form is provided with a general statement of range followed by paragraphs of selected records on migration, summer and winter occurrence, and nesting, wherever applicable. The records relate to specimens, observations, and literature which are referred to by letter and number abbreviations that can be looked up, but which sources are not readily identified by the casual user. Actual numbers of birds seen in connection with a particular report are given when known. We like the point of view followed in segregating, and thus minimizing, in a separate section the extralimital occurrences of birds in the Province; such occurrences are defined as those based on single specimens and which represent forms that are not normal inhabitants of any part of the Province. Hypothetical occurrences, those without specimen representation, are placed in a separate section.

In taxonomic matters the authors follow the A.O.U. Check-list of 1931 and its nineteenth and twentieth supplements. Some departures have been made where the authors or some other students have given recent attention to a group. Usu-

ally the departures are indicated and briefly discussed, but in some instances, as in the Canada Geese, the basis for a different taxonomy is not mentioned or cited; in this case they neither follow the A.O.U. Check-list, nor the very dubious arrangement of races in species proposed recently by Aldrich (*Wilson Bull.*, 58, 1946:94-103).

The manuscript appears to have been essentially completed in 1945. This accounts for failure to incorporate Pearse's important record of breeding of the Red-throated Loon on Vancouver Island, although the reference does appear in the Addenda. The text is not without errors and misspellings, for example the names Friedmann and Jaeger.

A valuable contribution of the work is the description, with photographs, of biotic areas in British Columbia. These are based chiefly on plant formations with consideration for topography. As usual such units are rather arbitrary, but their descriptive value in distribution is high, the more so since their formulation here is based on much personal field experience of the authors. The map of the biotic areas shows very clearly the fallacy of indicating distribution in the Province in terms of latitude—northern British Columbia and southern British Columbia. As great, or greater contrasts are to be found in an east-west direction and in altitudinal differentiation.

Munro and Cowan impress the fact that in this large and diverse Province there is much yet to be done in the distributional, ecologic and taxonomic study of birds. True as this is, they have performed for later workers an immense service by providing this compilation as a most worthy step in progress.—ALDEN H. MILLER.

## COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

### SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

The first session of the special business meeting of the members of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by Vice-president Alden H. Miller, presiding in the absence of the president, Howard Robertson, at 10:30 a.m. on May 7, 1948, in Class Hall, Asilomar, Pacific Grove, Monterey County, California; 65 persons attended.

The minutes of the business meeting of 1947 were read and approved. Dr. Miller appointed a committee to examine the proxies, as follows: C. V. Duff, Ed N. Harrison, Charles Sibley. A second committee consisting of W. Lee Chambers, Frank A. Pitelka and Stanley G. Jewett was appointed to present nominations for the Board of Directors.

The second session was called to order by Dr.

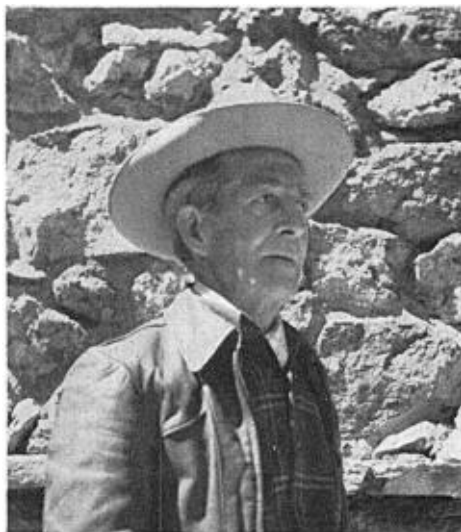


Fig. 39. Virgil W. Owen, member of the Club since November 2, 1896.

Miller at 9:50 a.m. on May 8, 1948. Mr. Duff reported that the proxies were found to be in good order and that a quorum of members was present in person or proxy—648 of an enrolled membership of 1265.

In accordance with the wishes of the membership expressed in resolution at the last business meeting (1947) of the Club, the Board of Directors had prepared two resolutions: the first amended Article Fifth of the Articles of Incorporation to include among the classes of membership, "Sustaining Members"; the second amended Article I, Sections 2, 4 and 5 of the Bylaws to include the class of Sustaining Members with the same benefits which apply to active members but with dues fixed at \$5.00, and to raise the fee paid by Life Members to \$100.00. These resolutions were read by the Secretary and acted upon separately. Each was carried unanimously.

The Secretary then read a third resolution prepared by the membership, amending Section 4 of Article I of the Bylaws to read as follows:

"The Board of Directors of this corporation is empowered to levy additional dues or assessments in order to pay expenses of this corporation." The word "expenses" is substituted for the words "any indebtedness." The Secretary explained that it is hoped that the creation of a class of Sustaining Members will obviate the necessity of raising the dues of active members, but that the amendment enables the Directors to raise the dues in the event that the increased costs of printing the