

NOTES AND NEWS

The frontispiece of this issue shows the Rose-throated Becard (*Platyparis aglaiae*) as painted by Andrew Jackson Grayson. This colored plate appears through the generosity of E. W. Mudge, Jr.

Grayson painted the Becard in January, 1865, in the course of a visit to Tres Marias Islands. He writes, "About the last day of my hunting in the Tres Marias, and when I had almost despaired of finding any new birds in that locality, this interesting one suddenly made its appearance before me in the thick woods that border the hills and steep barrancas of the island. It was very tame and unconcerned at my presence—darting and snapping at flies—also searching for insects, among the leaves and branches of the underbrush, *unlike the true flycatchers*. The same day and near the same place as if sent especially for my collection, I was so fortunate as to secure two others—one female—and these were the only three I had met with."

The Becard is a member of the family Cotingidae, closely related to the American flycatchers, family Tyrannidae. The flowering plant shown in the frontispiece is *Guaiacum ?couleri* Gray, a member of the family Zygophyllaceae, and is known locally as guayacán.

At the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in Minneapolis and St. Paul, October 9 to 13, 1950, the following officers were elected: Josselyn Van Tyne, president; Alden H. Miller, first vice-president; Ludlow Griscom, second vice-president; O. S. Pettingill, secretary; R. Allyn Moser, treasurer; Harvey I. Fisher, editor; Walter J. Breckenridge, George H. Lowery, Frank A. Pitelka and L. L. Snyder, new council members. Alexander F. Skutch was awarded the Brewster Medal for his work on life histories of Central American birds. Newly elected Fellows were: W. J. Breckenridge, Maurice Brooks, Harvey I. Fisher, William Rowan, Aretas A. Saunders, Alexander Sprunt, and Winsor M. Tyler. Twenty-five members were elected, as follows:

Anders H. Anderson, Rollin H. Baker, William J. Beecher, Charles H. Blake, Ben B. Coffey, Jr., James F. Denton, Alexander D. DuBois, Mary M. Erickson, E. Thomas Gilliard, Horace Groskin, William H. Marshall, Harold F. Mayfield, Gale Monson, Karl Plath, Fred J. Pierce, Hustace H. Poor, Kenneth Racey, William F. Rapp, Jr., W. Austin Squires, Walter P. Taylor, Melvin A.

Traylor, Ruth H. Thomas, Arthur B. Williams, Cecil S. Williams, and Angus M. Woodbury.

In 1951, the Union will meet in Montreal.

By recent action of the Board of Directors, annual dues for regular membership in the Cooper Ornithological Club have been raised from three to four dollars. The subscription rate is now five dollars. Sustaining membership remains at five dollars.

COOPER CLUB MEETINGS.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The annual outdoor meeting of the Southern Division was held May 21, 1950, at Tapia Park. The following names were proposed for membership: Paul H. Oppmann, 13330 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, Ohio, by W. L. Chambers; Perna Marie Stine, R.R. No. 5, Olney, Illinois, by John T. Wright; and Jane Anne Westfall, 918 Hough St., Lafayette, Calif., by J. R. Arnold.

The meeting was devoted to informal discussion.—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division was held in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, on September 7, 1950. The following names were proposed for membership: Phillip C. Dumas, Museum of Natural History, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon and M. Dale Arvey, Dept. of Zoological Sciences, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla., both by A. H. Miller; Mrs. Gail Baumgarter, Austin, Nev., and Mrs. O. M. Patterson, Box 2, Pima, Ariz., both by F. A. Pitelka; William W. Pope, 308 Laurel St., San Francisco 18, Calif., by Mrs. R. P. Hastings; Mrs. W. I. Otis, 6067 Rockridge Blvd., Oakland, Calif., by Mrs. M. Voge; Chester M. Fennell, 21475 Hillsdale Ave., Fairview Park 26, Ohio, by K. L. Dixon; William Kisher, Box 346, Sacramento, Calif., by H. L. Cogswell; Terrence J. Merkel, 2050 Fell St., San Francisco 17, Calif., by R. T. Orr; Mrs. J. A. Berry, 85 Menlo Place, Berkeley 7, Calif., by J. M. Kelly; Laurence J. Resseguie, 98 Ramona Ave., Piedmont 11, Calif., by L. C. Taylor; Frederick W. Loetscher, Jr., 507 West Main Street, Danville, Kentucky, by R. W. Storer. Harry Harris was unanimously elected to Honorary Membership.

Mrs. Junea W. Kelly spoke on her experiences while attending the Tenth International Ornithological Congress in Sweden.—HENRY E. CHILDS, JR., *Secretary*.