

## NOTES AND NEWS

Volume 7 of James L. Peters' Check-list of Birds of the World was received March 26, 1951. It treats the passerine families of the superfamily Furnarioidea (woodhewers, oven birds, antthrushes and their allies) and the broadbills. This marks then a further stride in the completion of Peters' most valuable work. The volume was published by the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The frontispiece of this issue shows the Ivory-billed Woodhewer, *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*, as painted by Andrew Jackson Grayson at Mazatlán, Sinaloa, in October, 1868. This is the thirteenth of Grayson's paintings published in the Condor. Its publication was made possible by a generous contribution from Mr. Howard Robertson. From Grayson's notes, the following comments on this woodhewer have been extracted:

"Like the little Creeper it inhabits the oldest and darkest forests, searching each tree from its roots upwards for insects upon which entirely it subsists. Circling around from one side of the tree to the other in its upward course until reaching a certain height, it suddenly drops to the roots of another tree and immediately commences its ascent as before. Often have I watched it when seated upon an old log, in the shadiest woods, performing its eccentric maneuvers, whilst my presence was hardly noticed.

"Its enormously long curved bill enables it to probe deeply into the rents and knot holes of the old trees for its food, whilst its very acute claws, and the rigid points of the tail feathers, facilitates and sustains it upon the sides of the tree, in every respect like the woodpeckers. I have never observed it pecking in the decayed parts of trees, as the woodpeckers do, indeed the form of the bill is unsuited for such work. Although its wings are ample yet its flight does not appear to be long continued, and it is usually very low, below the branches of the trees—as if endeavoring to keep concealed as much as possible in the dark and silent woods in which it is most commonly seen.

"The nest which I discovered near the Rio Mazatlán was in a small limb of a decayed tree with the top and limbs broken off, and overhung and festooned with vines. I often observed both male and female pass in and out separately. The nest was about twenty feet from the ground."

## COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the University of Southern California. The following names were proposed for membership: Glenn L. Berkey, 22 S. State Ct., Rittman, Ohio, and George G. Loring, 1737 Cambridge St., Cambridge, Mass., by S. B. Peyton; Edmonston Fisher Coil, 1867 Fort Stockton Dr., San Diego 3, Calif., and Norman G. Conan, 1789 Fiske Ave., Pasadena 6, Calif., by Wade Fox, Jr.; John B. Colton, 717 Ave. "K," National City, Calif., by C. L. Hubbs; Robert Charles Frohling, 1218 Plane St., Union, New Jersey, by W. L. Chambers; David C. Hooper, Box 251, College, Alaska, by Tom Cade; Nagamichi Kuroda, No. 1, Fukuyoshi-cho, Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan, by Mrs. J. Q. Burch; Joseph Robison Murphy, Box 461, Station 1, Provo, Utah, by C. Lynn Hayward; Mrs. Fred L. Brainerd, P. O. Box 33, La Cañada, Calif., Carleton Blaine Lyon, 6361 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif., Mrs. E. J. Miller, 159 Melville Ave., Palo Alto, Calif., Will F. Morrish, 239 Glorietta Blvd., Orinda, Calif., Alfred Ogden Ramsay, McDonough School, McDonough, Maryland, Adele Virginia van Löben Sels, "Amistad," Courtland, Calif., James Franklin Schwimmer, 1347 Colton St., Los Angeles 26, Calif., John H. Urabec, M.D., 931 Micheltorena St., Los Angeles 26, Calif., and Marion D. Simmerman, 29 Blachford Court, Oakland 11, Calif., all by C. V. Duff.

C. V. Duff, reporting for the nominating committee, presented the names of Wilson C. Hanna for president, W. J. Sheffler for vice-president, Wade Fox, Jr., for second vice-president, and Dorothy E. Groner for secretary. There being no further nominations, it was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and that the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate as proposed.

Dr. James Robertson-Justice spoke on "The Work of the Severn Wildfowl Trust in Great Britain," describing some novel techniques in capturing birds for marking.—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

## NORTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club