

Our former Secretary, Professor Gordon Wilson, has assumed another editorial role—now in the capacity of chief editor of the *Kentucky Folk-Lore and Poetry Magazine*, the first number of which was issued in April, 1926.

Our President, Mr. Ganier, has been a very busy man during the present year. In his office as president of the Tennessee Academy of Science he has taken an important part in the preparation of a "Brief and Argument of the Tennessee Academy of Science as Amicus Curiae" in the John Thomas Scopes case now before the Supreme Court of Tennessee. He is also a member of the City Planning and Zoning Commission of his own city of Nashville. And then, with Dr. Vaughn and Dr. Mayfield, he is developing as a summer home and bird sanctuary a tract of about twenty-five acres on the Stone River Bluffs some twelve miles south of Nashville.

We note that our fellow-member, Dr. George R. Mayfield, of Nashville, has become the editor of the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*. This *Journal* follows, after a lapse of nine years, the *Transactions*, and apparently is the result of the infusion of new blood. The *Journal* is a quarterly publication, of which the third number has recently been issued.

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union

The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union was held at Omaha, Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, 1926. Twenty-six members were present. The first session was called to order at 2:45 p. m. in the auditorium of the Castle Hotel by the President, Mrs. C. W. McCaskill. President McCaskill and Vice-President Horsky reported for their offices, and M. H. Swenk reported for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. The financial report showed cash on hand, May 1, 1925, to the amount of \$147.94, to which had been added during the year \$134 from dues, \$21.25 from interest on investment, and \$4.88 from sale of publications. The expense of the office of Secretary-Treasurer for postage and stationery, including the cost of the Letters of Information, amounted to \$38.77, leaving a balance on hand, May 1, 1926, of \$269.30. The Secretary-Treasurer also reported that the membership was six honorary members and sixty-five active members, as of May 1, 1926: and seventy-two active members for the current year.

The President then called for the report of the special committee appointed to investigate and report concerning the advisability of having a state bird for Nebraska. This committee consisted of Mrs. Lily R. Button, Chairman, Mr. L. O. Horsky, and Mrs. H. F. Hole. The committee was not prepared to recommend that the N. O. U. should inaugurate and actively further a movement to have the Nebraska Legislature designate a state bird, but it unanimously voted the Western Meadowlark as its choice should at any time in the future a state bird be designated. This report of the committee was approved and adopted.

The Union reaffirmed its previous endorsement of the project of publishing the "Birds of Nebraska", and authorized the Secretary-Treasurer "to prepare the manuscript of the first part and to arrange for the illustrating and printing of the same in such manner as in his judgment was the best, compatible with the resources of the Society." It was also decided that this work, as issued in

parts, would be sold alike to members and non-members, and the Secretary was authorized to ask for advance subscriptions.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, Mr. C. K. Hart, Prosser; Vice-President, Miss Susie Callaway, Fairbury; Secretary-Treasurer, Professor M. H. Swenk, Lincoln. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Hastings in May, 1927.

The following public program was then carried out. "History of the Nesting of the Pine Siskin at Wahoo", by Miss Mary St. Martin; "Rewards of Bird Banding", by Misses Agness and Susie Callaway; "Some Interesting Features of the Spring Migration of 1926", by Professor M. H. Swenk.

In the evening ninety-four members and guests sat down at the banquet table in the Castle Hotel. After dinner the retiring President, Mrs. C. W. McCaskill, gave an address on "The Cultural Value of Birds." Dr. H. Gifford also spoke on "The Impressions of a Nature Lover in the Orient." Mr. T. W. McCollough then gave a tribute on behalf of the citizens of Omaha to Dr. Solon R. Towne, the veteran ornithologist who has been a resident of Omaha since 1888. The Secretary announced that Rev. J. M. Bates had been elected to honorary membership. The resolutions included one endorsing the Bird Refuge and Marshland Conservation Bill.

On Saturday, May 15, 1926, the twenty-fourth annual field day of the N. O. U. was held in Fontanelle Forest and at Carter Lake. A total list of ninety-eight species was obtained. On the following day, Sunday, some of the members visited the sites of Fort Cabanne, Fort Lisa, and Engineer Cantonment, and made four additions to the list of the previous day.

Myron H. Swenk, *Secretary-Treasurer, N. O. U.*

Proceedings of the Kentucky Ornithological Society

The third annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held at Louisville on April 23, 1926. The afternoon program was devoted to a discussion of bird study in the schools, with Miss Emilie Yunker, School Garden Director for Louisville, in charge. The pupils of the bird club of the Louisville Normal Training School gave a program of interpretative dances, songs, and readings. There was also an exhibit of bird posters and bird boxes made by children of the schools.

At the evening program Mr. J. T. Berry, of Louisville, exhibited about fifty of the original Audubon prints belonging to the Henderson County Historical Society, and spoke interestingly on Audubon's life in Kentucky. Professor L. Y. Lancaster, of the Teachers' College, explained method of making plaster of paris casts of bird and animal tracks, and exhibited a collection of such casts. Mr. Charles F. Huhlein, of Louisville, showed a number of slides on rural life which he picked up on his recent trip around the world.

The following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year: President, Prof. Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green; Vice-President, Miss Emilie Yunker, Louisville; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Charles McBride, Louisville. On April 24 the Society held a field day in Cherokee Park, and made a list of thirty-six species of birds. The fall meeting will be held at Henderson, the old home of Audubon. This meeting will have considerable historical interest.

Mrs. Merit O'Neal, *Historian, K. O. S.*

Proceedings of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union

The third annual meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union was held in Atlantic on May 14 and 15, 1926.

The morning of the first day was set aside for registration, during which time friends renewed their acquaintance. About forty members attended the meetings. At 1:30 P. M. Mr. T. H. Whitney, President of the Atlantic Bird Club, gave the address of welcome; the response was made by Mr. A. J. Palas, of Des Moines. Reports of officers were then presented, and committees were appointed.

The first paper on the program was one by Miss Althea R. Sherman, on "Hours spent with the Rails." In the absence of Miss Sherman, the paper was read by the Secretary. Mr. Weir R. Mills, of Pierson, presented a paper describing the wild birds that come to his door-yard; this town lot is trained to grow wild, and is of unusual interest on that account. Mr. Phil Dumont, of Drake University, gave an interesting account of experiences in a marsh near Des Moines. Dr. Weeks presented a critique of Allen's "Birds and Their Attributes." Dr. F. J. Becker, of Atlantic, told how to handle the English Sparrow problem. Rev. George Bennett discussed recent efforts at wild life conservation, and explained Dr. Hornaday's plan for reducing the bag limit on game birds.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, W. M. Rosen, Ogden; Vice-President, T. C. Stephens, Sioux City; Secretary, Kenneth R. Nelson, Des Moines; Treasurer, A. J. Palas, Des Moines; Executive Committee, Dr. L. T. Weeks, Tabor; Dr. F. J. Becker, Atlantic; Weir R. Mills, Pierson.

A committee was appointed to consider the matter of a state flower. It was also voted to urge the Iowa senators and representatives in Congress to support the bill designed to effect a reduction in the federal bag limit on game birds. It was also voted to hold the next meeting at Des Moines in May. A banquet was held in the evening, following which the Union and its guests listened to an illustrated lecture.

On the following morning at five o'clock the members and friends assembled at Sunnyside Park, and then dispersed in small parties for a few hours field work. A breakfast was served by the Atlantic Bird Club at 7:30, which brought all together again for the final gathering. Comparison of notes showed that a composite list of about eighty-one species had been made. It seemed to be the unanimous opinion that the out-door session is a valuable feature of our annual meeting.

Kenneth R. Nelson, *Secretary, I. O. U.*

ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

BRITISH BIRDS. By Archibald Thorburn, F. Z. S. Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd. New York and London. 1926. Demy 8vo. Volume III. Per volume \$5.50.

The first two volumes of this work were noticed in our last March issue. Volume III is now in circulation. This volume treats of the herons, ducks, geese, swans, doves, rails, shorebirds, and gallinaceous birds. Ninety-one species of birds are illustrated in the forty-eight colored plates. As in the previous volumes the colored plates are of unusual beauty. We believe that the smaller page, as compared with the earlier edition of the same work, and the smaller colored