

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

### Fourteenth Annual Meeting

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Nashville, Tennessee, on December 30-31, 1927, followed by a Field Day on January 1, 1928. This was the second Nashville meeting, and that city had been chosen in pursuance of an established custom of meeting in conjunction with the American Association for the Advancement of Science when that body meets in the middle west, and in response to an invitation of two years' standing from the Tennessee Ornithological Society who acted as hosts on the occasion. The Friday sessions were held in the beautiful new buildings of Scarritt College, those of Saturday in the main building of Peabody College, both quarters being attractive and comfortable. The attendance was augmented by those who had remained over from the meetings of the ecological, entomological, and nature study societies, and allied organizations which had met on preceding days. The program was carried out almost as previously announced, and as follows:

Friday, December 30, 1927

*Forenoon Session, 9:00 o'clock. Room 29, Scarritt College.*

Business session, a report of which will be found below.

Address of welcome, by Professor Jesse M. Shaver, President of the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

Response, by Dr. Lynds Jones, President of the Wilson Ornithological Club.

1. Recent Bird Records in Northeastern Colorado and their significance in connection with Geographical Distribution. By F. L. Fitzpatrick, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

An ecological paper which will be published in a future number of the BULLETIN.

2. Notes on the European Tree Sparrow. By Elizabeth Allen Satterthwait, Webster Grove, Mo.

This introduced species is found locally in the vicinity of St. Louis, apparently non-migratory. Mrs. Satterthwaite gave an excellent account of the color markings, and also discussed the history, feeding and nesting habits.

3. Evolution of the Nesting Habits of Birds. By Z. P. Metcalf, North Carolina State College, Raleigh, N. C.

Dr. Metcalf presented a very careful analysis of the nest-building habits of birds, including a provisional diagram showing the possible sequence in which the various types of nests have been derived.

4. Bob-white in Washtenaw County, Michigan. By Thos. L. Hankinson, State Teachers' College, Ypsilanti, Michigan.

An account of the feeding and taming of a winter flock of Bob-whites in the back-yard of a suburban home, illustrated with lantern slides.

5. Scarcity of Potato Beetles Due to Abundance of Bob-whites. By E. L. Moseley, State Teachers' College, Bowling Green, Ohio.

This paper emphasized the economic value of Bob-white and pointed out a marked increase in these birds since they have been on the protected list in Ohio.

6. A Study of the Mechanism of Pellet formation in the Great Horned Owl. By Dr. and Mrs. C. I. Reed, Baylor University, Dallas, Texas.

A description of an experiment carried out with birds in an effort to learn something of the digestive processes in the human body.

7. On the Status of Harlan's Hawk. By C. W. G. Eifrig, Concordia Teachers' College, River Forest, Illinois. (Read by A. F. Ganier).

Substantiating the validity of this subspecies, and calling attention to the fact that its summer habitat has been definitely fixed in British Columbia .

Lunch in the Cafeteria of the Southern College of the Y. M. C. A.

*Afternoon Session, 1:30 o'clock. Room 29, Scarritt College.*

8. Gerard Troost, Nashville's first Naturalist. By W. M. Walker, Nashville, Tenn.

A Dutch naturalist (1776-1850) who came to America in 1808, became first president of the Philadelphia Academy of Science (1810-1815), moved to Nashville in 1825, being shortly afterward made State Geologist, which position he held until his death.

9. Alexander Wilson—a Sketch. By Mrs. H. J. Taylor, Berkeley, California.  
 10. Alexander Wilson's Visit to Nashville in 1810. By Vera Kearby, Nashville, Tenn.  
 11. Alexander Wilson as an Artist. By A. C. Webb, Nashville, Tenn.

These three papers were intended to draw attention to a portion of the early ornithological history of America, part of which centered in the region of Nashville. Mrs. Taylor exhibited lantern slide reproductions of all the known portraits of Wilson. Miss Kearby presented lantern slide views of a number of local sites known or supposed to have been visited by Wilson. The Nashville and Tennessee Warblers were found and named by Wilson in this locality at this time. Professor Webb exhibited more than a hundred copper engraved plates belonging to Wilson's "Birds of America," explaining the methods of reproduction and the technique of Lawson and other engravers who etched the plates. It is hoped that these papers may later be published in the WILSON BULLETIN.

12. Notes on the Sparrows which occur in the Nashville Region. By Harry Crawford Monk, Nashville, Tenn.

Notes on the relative and seasonal distribution of the seventeen species of sparrows which have been recorded in this area; with notes also on the nesting habits of those which are found in the summer.

13. Warblers which Nest in Tennessee. By George R. Mayfield, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

An annotated list of the members of the warbler family which have been recorded as breeding in the State, with specific data on the nesting, seasonal distribution, and characteristics, including also a summary of migration records covering twelve years of observation.

*Evening Session, 7:00 o'clock. The Grille Room of the Hotel Hermitage.*

At this time and place was held the Annual Dinner of the Wilson Ornithological Club, with the members of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. After the dinner each of the forty-six members present was introduced and responded impromptu.

Saturday, December 30, 1927

*Forenoon Session, 9:30 o'clock. Social-Religious Building, Peabody College.*

14. Are Birds Decreasing in Numbers? By Miss Althea R. Sherman, National Iowa. (Read by Mrs. H. J. Taylor).

From carefully kept records covering a long period of time Miss Sherman reaches the conclusion that there has been an actual decrease of birds in the area under consideration, and discusses the probable etiological factors.

15. Bird Study in the Public Schools. By Mary L. Bailey, Sioux City, Iowa.

Mrs. Bailey has been Supervisor of Bird Study in the Public Schools of Sioux City for a number of years, and has developed a method of presentation which is of general interest, and especially to those engaged in similar work.

16. More detailed data in local lists. By Lynds Jones, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

The paper sets forth that specific and definite data are of far greater ornithological value than generalized remarks concerning status.

17. An Itinerant Field Class in Ornithology. By T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

A narrative account of a traveling class in bird study through several northwest states in 1927.

18. The Birds about the Pennsylvania State College Nature Study Camp. By Marjorie Ruth Ross, State College, Pa.

A description of the equipment and environment of the camp in the Alleghany Mountains, where nature study is taught during the summer season, with a description of habitats and the more interesting birds to be found there.

19. Feeding Habits of the Cardinal. By Mrs. Cecil Roberts, Clinton, Ky. (Read by Mrs. E. B. Walker).

A most detailed and interesting record of observations on the life-history and economic and esthetic value of this beautiful bird.

Lunch in the Cafeteria of the Southern College of the Y. M. C. A.

*Afternoon Session, 2:00 o'clock. Auditorium, Peabody College.*

20. Birds on the Pacific Islands. Lynds Jones, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

Motion pictures showing the colonies of seabirds nesting on the islands off the coast of Oregon and Washington.

21. Some Florida Rookeries. Herbert L. Stoddard, Beachton, Georgia.

Mr. Stoddard honored the W. O. C. by exhibiting for the first time this magnificent series of motion pictures of sub-tropical birds, taken near Tallahassee, showing beautiful portraits and groups of the White and Scarlet Ibises, Little Blue Heron, Wood Ibis, Great Blue Heron, and others. This is one of the finest reels ever shown at our meetings.

22. Georgia Bird Studies. Wallace Rogers, Atlanta, Georgia.

These were unusually good motion pictures of common, every-day birds, such as the Cardinal, Prairie Warbler, Mockingbird, Towhee, Yellow-breasted Chat, etc., showing their poses, behavior, eccentricities, and nests. This film brought to our attention the fact that every bird photographer has in his own neighborhood plenty of opportunity to exercise his skill, without going on long expeditions.

23. The Nest Life of the Loon in northern Wisconsin. Owen J. Gromme, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisc.

These remarkable motion pictures of the Loon in its native haunt were shown last year at Chicago, but were new to most of the members at the Nashville meeting. When the close-ups were projected one might easily imagine himself concealed in the blind, within a few feet of the nest. The reel also included most interesting pictures of the young and the parents on the open lake, the latter hysterical, yet bold, in their efforts to guide and protect the young. The Loon is here shown practicing an old avian trick—feigning injury in an endeavor to detract the attention of the pursuer. Splendid pictures.

24. Intimate Studies of Birds by the Banding Method. S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland, Ohio.

A detailed resume, by motion pictures, of the most approved methods of banding birds as practiced at Mr. Baldwin's Laboratory near Cleveland. These pictures afforded a fitting climax to an afternoon of wonderful bird movies.

A short business session followed, after which the formal sessions of the Club were adjourned.

The following additional papers on the program were read by title, because either of lack of time or the absence of the authors:

Notable Records of Rare Birds in Tennessee. By A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

Chimney Swifts in November. By Otto Widmann, St. Louis, Mo.

Bob-white. By W. B. Taber, Kansas, Ill.

Bird Parasites. By R. O. Malcolmson, Sioux City, Iowa.

Notes on the Nesting of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird in Tennessee. By Harry S. Vaughn, Nashville, Tenn.

The Bird Life of Thule, Northwest Greenland. By W. Elmer Ekblaw, North Crafton, Mass.

A Study of a Wet Weather Lake. By Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.

A Study of a Nesting of Oven-birds. By Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Columbus, Ohio.

Some New Birds for Oklahoma from Okmulgee and Tulsa Counties. By Edith R. Force and W. H. Koons, Tulsa, Okla.

The Snowy Owl in Ohio. By Edward S. Thomas, Columbus, Ohio.

The manuscripts of most of these papers were at hand and will be published in the WILSON BULLETIN.

On Saturday evening an informal reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Ganier, which was most pleasantly enjoyed by all who attended. Mr. Ganier's collections of bird-skins, nests, and eggs taken in the central south were on display. This is, doubtless, the most complete "personally taken" collection of this area in existence. Dr. H. S. Vaughn also exhibited cases containing a complete collection of the nests and eggs of North American warblers.

Early on the following morning cars were in readiness to convey all members to Idlewild Wood on the Stones River, some ten or twelve miles south of Nashville, where Messrs. Ganier, Vaughn, and Mayfield have their summer homes. As the folks assembled they were glad to gather around the huge log fire in Dr. Vaughn's cottage. The forenoon was spent along the crest of the cliffs and among the cedar forests. Early in the afternoon all parties re-assembled, and it was found that a total of thirty-eight species of birds had been seen.

A bountiful dinner was then served by our hosts, the Tennessee Ornithological Society. After an hour or two of visitation individuals or groups found it necessary to take leave for their trains, and thus came to a close the second Nashville meeting of the W. O. C., one never to be forgotten by those in attendance.

BUSINESS SESSIONS were held at the opening and at the close of the meeting. Miss Marjorie Ruth Ross was appointed Secretary *pro tempore*, in the absence of Secretary Gloyd. The minutes of the last annual meeting, in 1926, were read and approved. The Secretary's report was read and approved. The Treasurer's report was not at hand, but the President was instructed to appoint an auditing committee in order that the report may be published.

The President appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of T. C. Stephens, Z. P. Metcalf, and Thos. L. Hankinson; and a Resolutions Committee consisting of Mrs. H. J. Taylor and E. L. Moseley. Doctor Jones reported that about \$150 had been received from the sale of old sets and numbers of the WILSON BULLETIN, and that this fund would be used in reprinting out-of-print numbers. The Editor made an informal report in which the suggestion was made that an entire number of the WILSON BULLETIN be devoted to Wilsoniana, provided sufficient material can be compiled. A committee was authorized to investigate the feasibility of such an enterprise. In the absence of the Chairman, T. H. Whitney, the President made an informal report for the Endowment Committee. The legal steps toward incorporation are necessarily slow, but this work has now been completed. (Later word from Mr. Coffin states that a seal has been made, and forwarded to the Secretary, and that final papers have been completed and delivered to Mr. Whitney). By vote the Club ratified the acts of the Endowment Committee to date. On motion of Mr. Ganier a rising vote of thanks was given to the officers of the Club for their efficient services during the past year.

There was read an invitation from the Director of the University of Michigan Museum, Ann Arbor, to hold the annual meeting of the W. O. C. there in 1928. It was voted unanimously to accept this invitation and hold our meeting at Ann Arbor in 1928. An invitation was then read from the Des Moines Audubon Society to hold the annual meeting in 1929 at Des Moines in conjunction with the meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This invitation was received with appreciation and referred to the Council for consideration at the proper time. It was then moved and carried that the Club re-affirm its policy of holding its annual meetings in conjunction with the American Association when the latter meets in the Mississippi Valley.

The Committee on Resolutions presented a report thanking the hosts, the Tennessee Ornithological Society, whose officers and committees were so successful in planning and carrying out the arrangements for a most enjoyable and profitable meeting; and thanking the officials of Scarritt College and of Peabody College for their hospitality in opening their doors to our sessions.

The Nominating Committee presented a report recommending the re-election of all officers for the ensuing year. Upon unanimous adoption of this report the following officers were declared elected as officers for the year 1928:

President—Lynds Jones.

Vice-President—Thomas H. Whitney.

Treasurer—J. W. Stack.

Secretary—Howard K. Gloyd.

Councilors—A. F. Ganier, P. B. Coffin, Dr. Alfred Lewy, Chreswell J. Hunt, Clarence Bretsch.

There being no further business, the meeting was formally adjourned.

## ITEMS

We surmise that the Nashville chapter of the T. O. S. is perhaps the largest and strongest inland local bird club on record. They form a compact and active group.

The arrangements for the meeting were systematically handled by nine committees, viz., publicity, program and printing, quarters and equipment, annual dinner, transportation and signs, field day, registration and acquaintance, and attendance, with Mr. Ganier the co-ordinating chairman of the general committee.

Our gratitude is due all of the gentlemen who loaned reels of moving pictures for the Saturday afternoon program. It was a wonderful lot of pictures. H. L. Stoddard's pictures show clearly enough that there are still beautiful and picturesque birds in the south which need protection.

Incidentally, while at the reception Saturday evening some of us learned that Mr. Ganier plays the shell game, having in his cabinet quite an assortment of local land and fresh-water shells.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Harris came all the way from Eldorado, Kansas, to attend the meeting, having had a taste at Kansas City in 1925.

Three old standbys are running each other a close race for attendance records. Lynds Jones has missed only one of the fourteen meetings, A. F. Ganier has attended the last ten, and T. C. Stephens has attended eleven out of the fourteen.

Mr. McNish was driving a group of young ladies out to the Stones River on Sunday morning, when they passed a road sign which read: "John II, 25-26." It caught McNish's eye and he read it to the crowd thus, "John eleven, 25-26." Some of the young ladies giggled, and Mrs. Taylor said, "Why, Mr. McNish, you do not seem to be very familiar with your Bible." "Oh," replied McNish, "My Bible is Chapman's Handbook, and I know that all right." [We do not find that many verses in John II.—Ed.]

There were many attractive and novel items in the field day luncheon menu. Fricassee pig and "spiced round" were new to many of us. We must compliment Dr. Vaughn also upon his coffee. The Committee in charge of this affair consisted of Dr. Vaughn, Mrs. A. F. Ganier, and Mrs. W. M. Leftwich, and the committee performed its function with great credit and generosity.

The high-light of the field day occurred when a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers permitted a close-up view by the crowd and leisurely did their stunts.

At the time set for the group photograph to be taken the rain was coming down in torrents. A good group photograph was made on Saturday, however, while many of the members were absent. Copies of this picture may be obtained through Mr. Ganier at seventy-five cents each.

According to the official reports the Nashville meeting of the A. A. A. S. was attended by 1662 scientists and their friends.

## REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AT THE SECOND NASHVILLE MEETING

From the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: W. B. Bell, Washington. From PENNSYLVANIA: Miss Marjorie Ruth Ross, State College. From NEW YORK: Dr. Bertha Chapman Cady, Miss Grace G. Wyman, Dr. G. Clyde Fisher, New York. From MASSACHUSETTS: Miss Claudia Schmidt, Springfield. From MICHIGAN: Prof. T. L. Hankinson, Ypsilanti. From OHIO: Dr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin; Prof. E. L. Moseley, Bowling Green. From CALIFORNIA: Mrs. H. J. Taylor, Berkeley. From TEXAS: Miss Elizabeth Sterry, San Marcos; Miss Very Kearby, Orange; Dr. C. I. Reed, Dallas. From KANSAS: Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Harris, Eldorado. From NEBRASKA: Miss Mollie Vlasnik, Niobrara. From IOWA: Miss Lillian Hethershaw, Des Moines; Prof. E. L. Fitzpatrick, Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Mary L. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Stephens, Sioux City. From MISSOURI: Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Satterthwait, Webster Grove. From MISSISSIPPI: Prof. R. N. Lobdell, A. & M. College. From ALABAMA: W. A. Ruffin, Prof. Henry G. Good, Prof. J. M. Robinson, Auburn. From GEORGIA: Miss Ethel Purcell, Atlanta; Prof. M. C. Quillian, Macon. From NORTH CAROLINA: Miss Betty White, Greenville; Prof. Zeno P. Metcalf, Raleigh. From KENTUCKY: Miss Emilie Yunker, Mrs. C. E. McBride, Louisville; Miss Grace Wyatt, Murray. From TENNESSEE (outside of Nashville): Miss Dorothy Bachtel, Chattanooga; John M. Frazier, Cleveland; Miss Florence English, Adamsville; Prof. J. A. Robins, McKenzie; E. M. McNish, Madison; Miss Mary Beard, Miss Evelyn Willoughby, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Avery, Knoxville. From NASHVILLE: Prof. J. M. Shaver, Dr. H. S. Vaughn, A. F. Ganier, W. M. Walker, Jr., Dr. Geo. R. Mayfield, R. A. Wilson, Ben B. Coffee, Miss Alma Hollinger, Miss Jessie French, Miss Margaret McIntyre, Miss Frances Bottom, Mrs. K. P. Wright, Mrs. E. B. Walker, Mrs. A. F. Ganier, Mrs. G. R. Mayfield, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Leftwich, Mrs. H. S. Vaughn, Grover Cook, Vernon Sharp, Jr., Harry C. Monk, Prof. A. C. Webb, H. A. Webb, R. A. Wilson, L. P. Bellah, H. B. Bradley, J. T. Moore, P. L. Cox, Mr and Mrs. J. M. Cate, Mrs. Eugene Crutcher, Miss Lillian Taylor, Mrs. A. Loveman, Mrs. T. C. Laskey.

Summary of Attendance: District of Columbia, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; New York, 3; Massachusetts, 1; Michigan, 1; Ohio, 2; California, 1; Texas, 3; Kansas, 2; Nebraska, 1; Iowa, 5; Missouri, 2; Mississippi, 1; Alabama, 3; Georgia, 2; North Carolina, 2; Kentucky, 3; Tennessee (outside of Nashville), 9; Nashville, 32. Total, 75; total outside of Nashville, 43. Total attending the banquet, 46. Total on the Field Day trip, 31.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR 1927

*To the Officers and Members of the Wilson Ornithological Club:*

Allow me to submit a report of the activities of the Secretary's office for the current year.

The campaign for increasing the membership has been in progress throughout the year, although it was interrupted to some extent on my part by spending the summer months in camp with inadequate facilities for such work. A total of sixty-five members and subscribers have been added to the roll; sustaining, none; 26 active, 46 associate, and 4 subscribers.

The distribution of new members by states is as follows: California 2, Connecticut 1, Florida 1, Georgia 3, Idaho 1, Illinois 10, Indiana 1, Iowa 6, Kentucky 4, Kansas 3, Maine 1, Maryland 1, Michigan 2, Minnesota 2, Missouri 2, Montana 2, Nebraska 3, New York 2, North Carolina 1, North Dakota 1, Ohio 8, Oklahoma 2, Oregon 1, Pennsylvania 3, South Carolina 2, South Dakota 1, Tennessee 6, Vermont 1, Virginia 1, Wisconsin 2, District of Columbia 1.

Those who sent in the applications of new members are as follows: T. C. Stephens 24, H. K. Gloyd 18, A. F. Ganier 6, J. W. Stack 6, W. A. Strong 4, Emilie Yunker 4, W. I. Lyon 3, F. A. Hanawalt 2, P. A. Livingston 2, and one each by Gordon Wilson, Edith B. Stoltz, Althea R. Sherman, Margaret M. Nice, G. R. Mayfield, H. L. Stoddard, W. W. Bennett, G. F. Abbey, and George L. Fordyce.

The total membership now is 663; honorary 4, sustaining 68, active 244, associate 347. In addition to these totals the BULLETIN has 39 subscribers according to the Secretary's files. During the current year 17 members have resigned, 6 are deceased, 2 subscriptions have been discontinued, and 11 have been dropped from the roll because of long-standing delinquency, or because of unknown address. The total number of members discontinued for these reasons is 36.

There is further need of work in building up the membership in the middle west and south. It is to be hoped that the members in these regions will make a special effort to stimulate local interest in the work of the Wilson Club, and every member of the organization is urged to help by notifying the Secretary of colleagues, acquaintances, and correspondents who may be prospective members.

An itemized list of the Secretary's expenses has been sent to the Treasurer each month. The helpful co-operation of the other officers and members of the Club throughout the year has been greatly appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

HOWARD K. GLOYD, *Secretary.*



## REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1927

East Lansing, Mich., November 1, 1927.

## RECEIPTS FOR 1927

Received from former Treasurer.....	\$318.21
Dues from Sustaining Members.....	290.00
Dues from Active Members.....	510.00
Dues from Associate Members.....	387.00
Subscriptions from Organizations.....	48.00
Sale of exchanges .....	57.00
Special contribution .....	20.00
Excess on checks and sale of Bulletins.....	7.92
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Total income .....	\$1,638.13

## DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1927

Printing 4,000 mailing envelopes.....	\$ 27.00
Printing four issues, WILSON BULLETIN.....	1,034.70
Correction of error.....	6.50
Cover card envelopes.....	4.50
Cost of mailing Bulletins for 1927.....	24.73
Addressograph work .....	4.00
Half-tones and zinc plates.....	62.97
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Cost of publication.....	\$1,164.40
Secretary's expense .....	60.39
Treasurer's expense .....	14.64
Cost of Incorporation.....	60.00
Refund to Morningside College.....	2.37
Printing of Stationery.....	22.00
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Total disbursements .....	\$1,323.80
Cash balance on hand.....	314.33
Endowment Fund on hand.....	25.00
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Total on hand, November 1, 1927.....	\$ 339.33

J. W. STACK, *Treasurer.*

## REPORT OF THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

*To the Officers and Members of the Wilson Ornithological Club:*

The Trust Agreement between the Wilson Ornithological Club and the Illinois Merchants' Trust Company is now complete. Everything has now been done that can be done in preparation for the fund. We are now ready to receive contributions.

Respectfully,

THOS. H. WHITNEY, *Chairman.*

Atlantic, Iowa.

### The Cleveland Meeting

On November 25, 26, and 27, 1927, a joint meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club and the Inland Bird Banding Association was held at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. A detailed report of this meeting has not been sent for publication, but we publish below the announced program; there were doubtless some variations in the actual proceedings which are not recorded here.

#### THE CLEVELAND PROGRAM

Friday, November 25, 1927

##### *Forenoon Session, 10:00 o'clock. Cleveland Museum of Natural History.*

Address of welcome, by Mr. L. B. Williams, President of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Response, by Dr. Lynds Jones, President of the Wilson Ornithological Club.

1. In Memoriam—Louis Agassiz Fuertes. By J. P. Harris, Cleveland, Ohio.
2. Local distribution of the House Wren. By W. W. Bowen, Baldwin Research Laboratory, Cleveland, Ohio.
3. Bird Banding at Michigan State College. Professor J. W. Stack, East Lansing, Michigan.
4. Diseased Feet of Chipping Sparrows. By T. E. Musselman, Quincy, Illinois.
5. A Study of a Nesting of Myrtle Warblers. By Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Columbus, Ohio.
6. A Study of Perching Birds Carrying Things in their Feet during Flight. Robert L. Baird, Oberlin, Ohio.
7. A Wild Game Farm—Small Movie. By Chester K. Brooks, Mentor, Ohio.
8. Birds of Treasure Island. (Slides). By George Finlay Simmons, Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
9. Glimpses of Bird Life in the Magdalen Islands. (Slides). By Herbert W. Brandt, Cleveland, Ohio.

##### *Afternoon Session.*

In the early afternoon the program included an inspection of the aviary of foreign birds at the home of Mr. Kenyon V. Painter. In the evening open house was held at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. S. Prentiss Baldwin and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Brandt.

Saturday, November 26, 1927

##### *Forenoon Session, 10:00 o'clock. Cleveland Museum of Natural History.*

10. Temperature Control in Nestling Birds. (Slides). By S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland, Ohio.
11. Notes on Harlan's Hawk. By C. W. G. Eifrig, Oak Park, Illinois.
12. The Short-billed Marsh Wren. By Frank M. Phelps, Elyria, Ohio.
13. Banding Birds on the South Atlantic Expedition of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. By W. Kenneth Cuyler, Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
14. Relation of Flood Control to Bird Life in Miami Valley, Ohio. By Ben J. Blincoe, Dayton, Ohio.



THE CLEVELAND MEETING OF THE W. O. C. AND THE I. B. B. A.

KEY TO THE GROUP PICTURE: 1. C. H. Ehrbar. 2. Mrs. L. H. Ehrbar. 3. C. W. G. Eiffrig. 4. Miss Brandt. 5. Mrs. C. Bretsch. 7. Mrs. Lynds Jones 8. Dr. Lynds Jones 9. S. Frensdiss Baldwin. 11. Mrs. W. I. Lyon. 12. Prof. J. W. Stack. 13. Mrs. W. W. Bowen. 15. Wm. G. Cramer. 16. Mary C. Palmer. 18. Percival B. Coffin. 19. W. W. Bowen. 20. Mrs. Margaret M. Niles. 21. Mrs. Percival B. Coffin. 22. Mrs. C. E. Feser. 23. Mrs. I. T. Frary. 24. Miss A. E. Leyer. 26. George T. Jones. 27. S. E. Hubbe. 30. Mrs. Herbert W. Brandt. 31. Herbert W. Brandt. 32. Leonard Wing. 33. Prof. E. L. Moseley. 34. J. Duer. 35. Ben J. Blincoe. 36. George Wing. 37. C. M. Shipman. 39. George L. Fordyce. 40. F. C. Lincoln. 41. R. L. Baird. 42. Emerson Kemsties. 43. C. Bretsch. 44. H. L. Madison. 45. D. B. Hillmer. 47. Harold Wing. 48. E. S. Thomas. 49. John C. Fallister. 51. Mrs. John C. Fallister. 52. A. B. Williams. 53. Prof. J. S. Hine. 54. W. Kenneth Cuyler. 55. A. B. Fuller.

15. Notes on the Nesting Habits and Song of the Mockingbird. By Dr. J. Paul Visscher, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
16. Bob-white. By W. B. Taber, Jr., Kansas, Illinois.
17. A Study of a Wet-weather Lake. By Gordon Wilson, Bowling Green, Ky.
18. Bird Banding on Islands in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. By Wm. I. Lyon, Waukegan, Illinois.

*Afternoon Session, 2:30 o'clock. Cleveland Museum of Natural History.*

19. Rapping the Raptores. By C. M. Shipman, Willoughby, Ohio.
20. Recent Explorations on the American Eagle. By Dr. Francis H. Herrick, Western Reserve University.
21. Banding the European Starling. By E. S. Thomas, Columbus, Ohio.
22. Chimney Swifts in November. By Otto Widman, St. Louis, Mo.
23. Seasonable Changes in a Texas Bird Habitat. By C. W. G. Eifrig, Oak Park, Illinois.
24. Birds on the Pacific Islands. (Small movie). By Dr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.
25. Traps and Baits. (Slides). Professor J. W. Stack, East Lansing, Michigan.
26. Bird Hunting with a Camera along Lake Erie. By Arthur B. Fuller, Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
27. Methods in Bird Research. (Motion pictures). By S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland, Ohio.

*Evening Session, 7:00 o'clock.*

At this time the banquet was held in the Hotel Statler, with Dr. Francis H. Herrick, dean of Ohio ornithologists, presiding, and Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin, acting as toastmaster.

On the following day, Sunday, automobiles conveyed the visitors to the Baldwin Bird Laboratory, at Gates Mills. In the afternoon a similar visit was made to the Game Preserve of Mr. Chester Brooks, at Mentor.

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#### ITEMS

There were several very unusual and most enjoyable features of the Cleveland meeting, besides the excellent program of papers.

The visit on Friday afternoon to the estate of Mr. Kenyon V. Painter proved to be wonderfully interesting. Mr. Painter has a large aviary of foreign birds, the history of which was carefully described for the visitors. After showing his birds Mr. Painter conducted the party to his library and then to his trophy room, an unusually large reception hall completely filled with specimens of mammals, birds, fish, and animals of many other kinds.

On Friday evening the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Prentiss Baldwin was opened to the visitors. Here we enjoyed a glimpse of Mr. Baldwin's library and comfortable den. Later in the evening a call was made at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Brandt, at Shaker Heights. Mr. Brandt also has a large room filled with specimens. The large collection of birds' eggs was displayed in round, glass-covered boxes, thus giving a more realistic setting. Mr. Brandt's sons exhibited a very creditable collection of local butterflies and other insects.

The banquet on Saturday evening was a novel one. Those present will not forget the officious head-waiter who spoke rudely to some of the guests. This was carried to a point which required the presence of the manager, who peremptorily discharged the offender. The clever actor was now retained for the entertainment of the banqueters. A model of a bird sculptured in ice adorned each service of dessert.

The visit to Mr. Baldwin's laboratory on Sunday was a memorable event. Some of the traps contained birds at the time. After a stop at Mr. Baldwin's summer home the visitors were conducted to the laboratory itself, where all the mysterious apparatus was exhibited in full operation. At noon automobiles carried the party to Willoughby, where a steak dinner was to have been cooked in the oven over live coals; but on account of rain a large hall with an open fire-place was secured, which permitted indoors much of the freedom of an outdoor lunch.

In the afternoon another jaunt was taken to the home of Mr. Chester Brooks, at Mentor. It has been stated that Mr. Brooks has raised more species of wild ducks and geese than anyone else in America. Those who saw his immense flocks of wildfowl did not question this statement.

Merely as a matter of record it may be stated that the Cleveland meeting was a success; it could not have been otherwise with the enthusiastic and generous local constituency.

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## COMMUNICATIONS

Editor, WILSON BULLETIN: On reading your article entitled "Down with the Wren Boxes," I am surprised to think that you would print such an article on account of the harm you will do this dear little bird, which is not only strictly insectivorous, taking its quota of mosquitos, moths, and other insects every day, but is one of the few birds that sings all day, from before the sun comes up until after the sun goes down, and it has more friends among bird lovers than any other song bird.

I attract all the wrens to beautiful "Bird Lodge" that I can get to make their homes here, and I have yet to see one interfere or harm other birds or bird's nests. I have about twenty wren houses up and most of them occupied and will put up five or ten more the coming year as I dearly love to have this sweet little singer at "Bird Lodge;" they lend such an air of beauty and harmony with their pert appearance and sweet singing.

My long experience with the song birds (covering forty-five years) has shown me that birds have different dispositions the same as people, and at times they are cross and irritable, this fretful period only appearing on cold or rainy days. I can only think that the bird that Miss Sherman speaks of must have been a bad actor.

Yours very truly,

JOSEPH H. DODSON,

*President American Audubon Association.*

August 4, 1925.

[It has been suggested that the pages of the WILSON BULLETIN must be open to both sides of the House Wren controversy; hence we are glad to present the preceding communication from Mr. Dodson, the well-known bird house dealer.—Ed.]