

## PROCEEDINGS OF WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

By **Jesse M. Shaver, Secretary**

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Des Moines, Iowa, on December 27 and 28, 1929, and in conjunction with the general sessions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Something like 3,000 lectures and scientific papers were presented at the sessions of the American Association and its affiliated and associated societies. The W. O. C. meeting was made especially enjoyable through the hospitality of the Des Moines Audubon Society and the Iowa Ornithologists' Union. In many respects this meeting was the most interesting and successful one in the history of the organization. The headquarters of the Club was made at the Hotel Savery, while the business and program sessions were held in the auditorium of the Des Moines Public Library. The annual dinner was held on Saturday evening, December 28, at Younker's Tea Room.

### BUSINESS SESSIONS

The business sessions were held on December 27 from 9:15 to 9:45 A. M., and on December 28 from 12:00 to 12:30 P. M., and from 5:00 to 5:30 P. M. Council meetings were held Thursday and Friday evenings, December 27 and 28, from 7:30 to 11:00.

The Council considered on Thursday evening methods for increasing membership. The Secretary outlined plans for securing nominations from our present membership, for follow-up letters, for a Membership Committee to be selected with care by the Secretary to work with him in building up the membership. The Secretary was authorized to go ahead with the selection of the Committee and with his plans as outlined. The work of the Endowment Committee was considered and plans discussed for more active work during the coming year. The Friday evening session of the Council was devoted to a very careful revision of the new constitution to be presented to the Wilson Ornithological Club on Saturday.

At the business sessions, the Secretary's report of the last annual meeting was approved without being read since it was published in the March, 1929, number of the WILSON BULLETIN. The officers reported briefly on their activities with the exception of the Vice-President who was away on an arctic expedition.

The Editor presented a tabulation of figures showing itemized costs of each issue of the WILSON BULLETIN during the past five years. From these figures the cost of each volume for these years was ascertained. The average cost per volume for the last five years was \$1.15, but the cost of the volume for 1929 was \$1.39. (In order not to misinterpret these figures it should be remembered that we print about 200 copies more than are immediately distributed. This means an outlay of between two and three hundred dollars a year for which there is no corresponding income. This cannot be avoided, and perhaps no one would wish to, even if some slight economy would result). The Editor pointed out that stamps had to be affixed to each BULLETIN mailed for local delivery. Hence, the cost of sending a magazine to a member in Sioux City is just the same as to send it to Europe, or any other country. The Editor recommended, therefore, that no extra sum for postage be added to the dues of *members* who reside outside the United States. The Chair hereupon ruled that

such was his interpretation of the Constitution. Foreign *subscriptions*, however, are to remain at \$2.00.

The Treasurer's report was received in a brief form and was referred to an Auditing Committee for consideration together with the other papers from the Treasurer's office. This report with a statement from the Auditing Committee is published elsewhere in this number of the BULLETIN. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. There was a total of 748 members of all classes, but 31 were delinquent for 1929 dues. They will be dropped this year unless their dues are paid shortly.

The Committee on Endowment regretted its relative inactivity this year, due in part to the death of one of its members and the long illness of another. This Committee was continued for another year with A. F. Ganier as Chairman. No one was appointed to take the place on the committee of Thos. H. Whitney, deceased.

Prof. Myron H. Swenk reported for the Committee on Revision of the Constitution by reading a new constitution partly prepared by the Committee but thoroughly reviewed and revised by the Council. It was tabled for one year in accordance with the procedure provided in our present constitution.

The sixty-five new members, consisting of 15 active and 50 associate members, presented by the Secretary were elected, as were 12 additional active and 6 additional associate members nominated at this meeting. The names of these new members will appear in the new directory of members to be published in June. Two new life members, Miss Althea R. Sherman and Mr. W. I. Lyon, were announced.

The Secretary was instructed to send through radio station KDKA, of Pittsburgh, the greetings and best wishes of the Wilson Ornithological Club to our Vice-President, George Miksch Sutton, who is spending the winter close to the Arctic Circle.

A Committee on Honorary Members, consisting of Messrs. T. C. Stephens and A. J. Palas, was appointed at the first session. Because of their contributions to the science of ornithology and because of their loyalty to the Club the Committee recommended the election of the four Founders, Dr. L. Otley Pindar, Dr. Lynds Jones, Dr. R. M. Strong, and Mr. Franklin L. Burns, to Honorary Membership. Because of her long-continued studies on the habits of birds, her numerous published contributions, and her loyal support of the Club, the Committee recommended that Miss Althea R. Sherman be elected to Honorary Membership. The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted, and these five members were declared Honorary Members.

At the Ann Arbor meeting T. C. Stephens was appointed as Chairman of a Committee on the Establishment of a Research Library on Ornithology. This Committee was subsequently enlarged by the appointment of Mr. Frank C. Pellett and Prof. Myron H. Swenk. During the past year the Committee received definite proposals from the Museum of Zoology, of the University of Michigan, and from the Iowa State College, at Ames. The proposals were presented at the Des Moines meeting and ratified by vote. During the coming year it is expected that these agreements will be consummated legally, and that the libraries will then be ready for donations and bequests. The text of the agreements will be published in a later number of the BULLETIN.

The Committee on Resolutions, consisting of Prof. E. L. Moseley and Prof. James S. Hine, prepared appropriate resolutions thanking our hosts, the Des Moines Audubon Society and the Iowa Ornithologists' Union, for the hospitable manner in which they entertained the Club; the people of Des Moines for many courtesies; the press of the city for the excellent publicity which it gave to the meeting; the Des Moines City Library for opening its Auditorium to the Wilson Ornithological Club for the meeting; and especially the Club's very efficient local representative, Mr. Arthur J. Palas. The Committee also expressed the Club's appreciation of the long and untiring services which the retiring president, Lynds Jones, has rendered in one capacity and another throughout the life of the organization. The retiring Treasurer was also commended for his efficient activity in keeping the funds of the Club in good condition during his terms of office.



W. M. ROSENE  
The New Treasurer

The Committee on Nominations, composed of Messrs. A. F. Ganier and Myron H. Swenk and Mrs. H. J. Taylor, reported nominations as follows:

- For President, J. W. Stack.
- For Vice-President, George Miksch Sutton.
- For Treasurer, Walter M. Rosene.
- For Secretary, Jesse M. Shaver.
- For Councillors,\* Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Lynds Jones, C. W. G. Eifrig, Albert F. Ganier, and Myron W. Swenk.

All of the nominees thus proposed were elected, and declared to be the officers for the ensuing year.

The Des Moines Audubon Society had independently arranged a most creditable exhibit of bird paintings. The exhibits were all conveniently hung on the walls of a large and well lighted room on the same floor on which the program meetings were held. We give below a list of the exhibiting artists with the titles of the works shown; there is some possibility that we have unintentionally omitted some of the items, since the exhibits extended all around the four walls of a very large room.

MR. JOHN L. RIDGWAY, 501 Fairmount St., Glendale, California. *Pileated Woodpeckers, Western Robins, Guadalupe House Finches, Cardinal, Rufus and Costa Hummingbirds, Rufus and Costa Hummingbirds and Accessories, Restoration of Parapava californicus.*

\*The first three names were presented by the Committee, the last two were nominated from the floor.

- MR. GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, Bethany, West Virginia. *Wood Ibises*, (reproduced in WILSON BULLETIN of last March), *Mallard*, *Kite*, *Grebes*, *Great White Heron*.
- MR. R. BRUCE HORSFALL, 3835 "S" St., N. W., Washington, D. C. *Violet Green Swallow*, *Steller Jay*, *Chinese Pheasant*, *Robin*, *Dove*, *Water Ouzel*, *Nighthawk*, *Towhee*, *Cowbird*, *Yellow-throat*, *Tree Sparrow*, *Black-headed Grosbeak*, *Whip-poor-will*, *Kildeer*, *Cardinal*.
- MR. EARL L. POOL, care of Public Museum, Reading, Pa. *Harpy Eagle and Spoonbill*, *Duck Hawk*, *Chickadee and Tufted Titmouse*, *American Oystercatcher*, *Roseate Tern*, *Prairie Falcon*.
- MR. O. J. MURIE, care Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. *Pacific Eider flying*, *Hawk Owls at Mating Time*, *Savannah Sparrow*, *Willow Ptarmigan flying*, *Horned Puffin*, *Golden Eagle*, *Immature Pacific Eider*, *Immature King Elder*, *White-crested Cormorant* (the last five being field sketches).
- MR. FRANCIS LEE JAQUES, 515 Edgecombe Ave., New York, N. Y. *Cedars and Grey Geese*, *Tropic Sea*.
- MR. E. R. KALMBACH, care Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. *Crow*, *Florida Turkey*, *Great Horned Owl*, *Starling*, *Western Bluebird*.
- MASTER OLIN KALMBACH. *Wood Ducks*.
- MR. WILLIAM ROWAN, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. *Juncos*, *Head of Horned Grebe*, *Young Whiskey Jay*, *Canada Crow*.
- MR. OTTOMAR FRANZ VON FUEHRER, Carnegie Museum. *Toucans*, *Cockatoo*.
- MAJOR ALLAN BROOKS, Okanagan Landing, B. C. *Pinon Jay*, *Hummingbird*, *Pectoral Sandpiper*, *Song Sparrow*, *Head of Owl* (the last three being field sketches).
- J. N. DARLING, Des Moines and New York. Original of "Ding" cartoon "A plea for reduction of armaments".

The Des Moines Public Library also arranged a small exhibit of bird books, including "The Birds of America", 7 volumes, by John James Audubon, Philadelphia, 1840. The State Historical Society displayed a set of the Elephant Edition of Audubon's "The Birds of America"; and also the diary and bird paintings by William Savage, made during the early history of Iowa. One of the most interesting exhibits among the books was the first volume of a new work on the birds of North America. This work consists of paintings of birds by Mr. Rex Brasher, and is planned to illustrate every species found in North America. There are to be twelve volumes, each volume selling for \$200. The volume here exhibited was shown and explained by Mr. Philip Brasher. Many of our members also visited the unique private museum of Mr. Ernest Brown, proprietor of the Brown Hotel. This collection consists mostly of fishes, and is reputed to be as complete as anything of the kind in existence; it contains many species of fishes not found in the great museums, and a few specimens which seem to be undescribed forms. Among the fishes are just a few birds, brought in incidentally, including a few Laysan Island birds, obtained from Prof. H. R. Dill.

The social features of the Des Moines meeting were unusually pleasant and enjoyable. The annual dinner was held at Younker's Tea Room. The menu and service on this occasion reached a high mark which will long be remembered by those present. Dr. L. S. Ross, of Drake University, was Toastmaster, and exercised his privilege with finesse and to the satisfaction of all. Prof. M. H. Swenk responded wittily in identifying the "Goofus Bird", but fortunately the old bird hooted before the speech was over, and identification was complete. Short speeches were made by Miss Sherman and Dr. Jones. Dr. Paul Bartsch, of the Smithsonian Institution, was also present and spoke briefly.

During the evening several reels of motion pictures, which had been postponed from the afternoon, were shown. Following these an original poem, entitled "Reflections", was recited by Mr. W. M. Rosene. Each verse was accompanied by a beautifully colored slide which appropriately illustrated the thought expressed. The dinner was attended by seventy-seven persons.

On Sunday afternoon, December 29, the Wilson Ornithological Club was pleasantly entertained at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Frankel, by the Des Moines Audubon Society.

On Friday and Saturday the Club members lunched together at the Savery Hotel, giving opportunity for making new acquaintances and renewing old ones.

#### REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE AT THE DES MOINES MEETING, 1929

From CANADA: Prof. V. W. Jackson, University of Manitoba at Winnipeg. From CALIFORNIA: Mrs. H. J. Taylor, Berkeley. From DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Dr. Paul Bartsch, Smithsonian Institution; Dr. W. B. Bell, Bureau Biological Survey. From ALABAMA: Pauline Shepherd, Russellville. From ARIZONA: Dr. Walter P. Taylor, Tucson. From CONNECTICUT: Philip Brasher, Kent. From ILLINOIS: Miss Mary Bradford, Moline High School; Miss Ruth Marshall, Rockford College; Frederick L. Brown, Chicago; W. I. Lyon, Waukegan; Prof. G. Eifrig, Concordia Teachers College; Dr. W. C. Allee, University of Chicago. From INDIANA: Dr. Howard E. Enders, Purdue University. From KANSAS: Frank M. Alexander, Wellington; Iva Larson, Marjorie Prickett, Dr. Mary T. Harman, State College at Manhattan. From MASSACHUSETTS: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Emerson, Belmont. From MINNESOTA: Donald Fischer, Shakopee; Dr. A. M. Holmquist, St. Olaf College at Northfield; F. B. Hutt, University Farm; W. J. Breckenridge, University Museum; Selma Crow, University of Minnesota; Gustav Swanson, all of Minneapolis. From MISSOURI: L. M. Dougan, Burton H. St. John, St. Louis; Elizabeth Allen Satterthwait, Webster Groves; Prof. A. E. Shirling, Kansas City. From NEBRASKA: Miriam Roe, Chadron; Prof. C. C. Carlson, Doane College at Crete; Dr. Robert H. Wolcott, Dr. David D. Whitney, and Prof. Myron H. Swenk, University of Nebraska at Lincoln. From OHIO: Prof. E. L. Moseley, State Teachers College at Bowling Green; Dr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin College; Prof. James S. Hine, Ohio State University at Columbus. From OKLAHOMA: C. P. Freeman, A. & M. College, Stillwater. From PENNSYLVANIA: Charles Edward Mohr, Bucknell University at Lewisburg. From SOUTH DAKOTA: Prof. N. E. Hansen, State College at Brookings. From TENNESSEE: Edwin B. Powers, Knoxville; Dr. Wyman R. Green, Chattanooga University; Albert F. Ganier, P. E. Cox, State Archaeologist, Dr. John T. McGill, Vanderbilt University, Dr. Jesse M. Shaver, Peabody College, all of Nashville. From WISCONSIN: Mr. and Mrs. Ira Hatfield, Dr. Leon J. Cole, University of Wis-

consin at Madison. From Iowa: (outside of Des Moines): Mrs. H. J. Lambert, Dows; Kathryn Gilmore, Bloomfield; Carl Fritz Henning, Custodian Ledges State Park at Boone; J. Wilbur Dole, Fairfield; Leona Johnson, Gilman; Donald Douglas, Grinnell College at Grinnell; Dr. C. E. Ehinger, Keokuk; May Alice Smith, and Leslie Weetman, Indianola; May Pardee Youtz, Iowa City; O. P. Allert, McGregor; Prof. H. E. Jaques, Iowa Wesleyan College at Mt. Pleasant; Dr. Charles R. Keyes, Cornell College at Mt. Vernon; Althea R. Sherman, National, via McGregor; Charles J. Spiker, New Hampton, W. M. Rosene and Walter Rosene, Jr., Ogden; Alfred R. Stanley, Oskaloosa; M. Bourland, Shenandoah; Mrs. Max Levine, John Eide, Elsie Ann Guthrie, Harlan B. Mills, Mrs. John E. Smith, all of Ames; Prof. J. E. Guthrie and Dr. L. H. Pammel, Iowa State College at Ames; F. L. Kubichek, Coe College, Byron H. Evans, Gaynor Evans, Mrs. V. R. Evans, Lavinia Steele, Cedar Rapids; Ethel M. Hacektt, T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Mrs. Mary L. Bailey, Walter W. Bennett, R. O. Malcomson, William Youngworth, all of Sioux City; Dr. and Mrs. F. L. R. Roberts, Spirit Lake; Lottie V. Crouse, Valley Junction; J. W. Jones, Vinton; Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Pierce, Winthrop; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Goshorn, Winterset; Hazel Guthrie, Woodward. From DES MOINES: Dunbar Bair, Mrs. E. R. Baker, Florence Barr, Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Beim, B. J. Bleasdale, Olive C. Brandt, Mrs. R. G. Brenner, Miss Debra Brinton, Mrs. Ernest Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Bruner, Marjorie Christian, Mrs. C. F. Christy, Floy Cook, Ada Coon, Charlotte Coon, Mrs. C. C. Donahue, Jean DuMont, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. DuMont, David DuMont, J. H. Dutton, Mrs. T. S. Farquharson, Harry Fensler, Carolyn E. Forgrave, Leta Fowler, Mrs. Henry Frankel, Miss Florence Froning, Mrs. A. B. Funk, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Gilchrest, Jean Goodrich, Mrs. R. S. Herrick, F. R. Hubbard, Jr., Maude Hubbard, Charles Hutchinson, Helen Johnson, Mrs. C. Leslie Johnson, David T. Jones, Miss Helen Kamber, Edith C. Kimmell, Miss Kate LaMar, Miss Libbie Lang, Miss Ellice Langfitt, Belle Levey, Mrs. Ida Levey, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Love, W. E. Lyman, Paul and Max Lyon, Mrs. John Lyon, Miss Olivia McCabe, Mrs. Cole McMartin, Miss Fannie Malone, Dorothy Merritt, Mrs. A. S. Miller, Robert Hoehl, Russell Mott, Kenneth Nelson, Maxine Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Nelson, Miss Elsa M. Neumann, Mrs. Arthur Neumann, Miss Prudence Nicholas, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Palas, Addison Parker, Jr., Miss Hazel Peasley, Mrs. R. R. Peters, Ben K. Polk, Jr., Mrs. H. M. Purvis, Mrs. J. W. Rehmann, Miss Estelle Reynolds, Dr. Luther S. Ross, Miss Edna Rounds, Mrs. M. H. Rowe, Miss Ruby Sage, Miss Mamie St. George, Miss Mary M. Schell, Miss Viola H. Scheel, Fred O. Signs, Mrs. E. E. Stacey, Mrs. B. M. Stearns, Ray E. Sterrett, Mrs. Truman Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Stewart, Miss Anna K. Sutton, Mabel Conkling Thomas, Mrs. Louise I. Tower, Miss Frieda Troeger, Miss Irene Ullius, Miss Hazel Velie, Miss Margaret C. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Weeks, Alfred Wendelburg, Mrs. Toni R. Wendelburg, Miss Grace White, Mrs. Mary E. Winston, Unah Winston, Ethel Gay Wood, Miss Minnie Youngerman.

Summary of Attendance. Canada, 1; California, 1; District of Columbia, 2; Alabama, 1; Arizona, 1; Connecticut, 1; Illinois, 6; Indiana, 1; Kansas, 4; Massachusetts, 2; Missouri, 4; Minnesota, 6; Nebraska, 5; Ohio, 3; Oklahoma, 1; Pennsylvania, 1; South Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 6; Wisconsin, 3; Iowa (outside of Des Moines), 46; Des Moines, 106. Total, 202. Total outside of Des Moines, 96. Number at Dinner, 77.

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY FOR 1929

\*Nashville, Tenn., December 26, 1929.

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

The Wilson Ornithological Club finished its fiscal year in a fairly satisfactory condition as to membership and general activities.

Seventy-six new members have been added to our roll during the past year as follows: life member, 1; active, 17; associate, 58. These new members have the following state distribution: Alabama, 1; Arizona, 1; Arkansas, 1; California, 2; Connecticut, 1; District of Columbia, 1; Foreign, 3; Illinois, 13; Indiana, 1; Iowa, 7; Kentucky, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Michigan, 5; Minnesota, 3; Missouri, 3; North Carolina, 1; New Jersey, 1; New York, 2; Ohio, 12; Oklahoma, 1; Pennsylvania, 2; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 7; Texas, 2; Utah, 1; Wisconsin, 1.

The various members responsible for the applications of new members are as follows: Jesse M. Shaver, 26; T. C. Stephens, 14; J. W. Stack, 8; H. K. Gloyd, 8; Lynds Jones, 5; W. I. Lyon, 3; T. L. Hankinson, 2; Louis Campbell, 3; A. M. Bailey, 2; and five members, one each.

At present the total membership is 717, distributed among the following groups: honorary, 9; life members, 6; sustaining members, 60; active members, 245; associate members, 397.

During the year 35 members resigned, 4 were deceased, and 31 were dropped for non-payment of 1929 dues. Thus a total of 70 members were lost. The dropped members were distributed among the following groups: life member (deceased), 1; sustaining members, 3; active members, 18; associate members, 48.

Respectfully yours,

JESSE M. SHAVER, *Secretary*.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPECIAL COLOR PLATE FUND†

Clarence Bretch, Gary, Ind.....	\$10.00
Dr. Alvin R. Cahn, Urbana, Ill.....	5.00
Dr. C. E. Ehinger, Keokuk, Iowa.....	5.00
Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Columbus, Ohio.....	5.00
Prof. M. C. Quillian, Macon, Ga.....	1.50
Hon. John E. Thayer, Lancaster, Mass.....	25.00
Thos. H. Whitney, Atlantic, Iowa.....	5.00
Fred M. Dille, Valentine, Nebraska.....	1.00
Edward R. Warren, Colorado Springs, Colo.....	1.00
Sidney K. Eastwood, Pittsburg, Pa.....	1.00
E. D. Nauman, Sigourney, Iowa.....	2.00
Total.....	\$61.50

\*The statistics in the report are corrected to the end of the calendar year.

†Contributions received in December are not included here.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER FOR 1929

East Lansing, Mich., December 28, 1929.

RECEIPTS FOR 1929

Cash in bank November 23, 1928 .....	\$527.18
Sustaining dues .....	270.00
Active dues .....	520.00
Associate dues .....	484.50
Libraries, Museums, Schools .....	69.00
Two foreign subscriptions .....	4.00
Total excess on checks .....	1.25
Collection on back dues .....	126.71
Sale of Bulletins to members .....	11.52
Donations to color plate in March .....	61.50
Exchanges through Oberlin College .....	18.00
Exchanges through Dr. Jones .....	22.50
1930 Associate dues .....	25.50
1930 Active dues .....	7.50
1930 Libraries, Museums, Schools .....	18.00
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Total income .....	\$2,167.16

DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1929

Printing four issues, WILSON BULLETIN .....	\$1,040.70
Color plate work, March and September .....	181.20
Halftones and zinc plates .....	145.14
Addressing envelopes for BULLETIN, 5 issues <sup>1</sup> .....	15.00
Mailing BULLETINS for 1928 <sup>2</sup> .....	33.64
5000 mailing envelopes for BULLETIN .....	38.75
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Cost of publication .....	\$1,454.43
Secretary's expense, postage, mimeograph, etc. ....	70.68
Treasurer's expense, postage, printing, etc. ....	70.75
Printing of general stationery .....	16.00
Transferred to Endowment Fund .....	25.00
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Total disbursements .....	\$1,636.86
Cash balance on hand .....	530.30
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	\$2,167.16
Endowment Fund, January 1, 1929 .....	\$534.08
Endowment Fund, December 26, 1929 .....	720.25
Interest, June to January .....	12.07
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	\$732.32

The undersigned has examined the accounts of Professor J. W. Stack, Treasurer of the Wilson Ornithological Club, and finds them correct in every detail.

C. W. G. EIFRIG, Auditor.

River Forest, Ill., January 30, 1930.

<sup>1</sup>This also includes \$2.50 for making a copy of the mailing list for checking purposes.

<sup>2</sup>Including second class postage on BULLETINS, foreign postage, postage due on returned copies, postage on each local delivery, parcel postage on manuscripts, photographs, etc.



## THE PROGRAM

The program is given below just as it was carried out, which varies slightly from the order in which it was announced in the program printed for the meeting.

Friday Morning, December 27, 1929

Mrs. J. E. Stewart, President of the Des Moines Audubon Society, welcomed the Wilson Ornithological Club to Des Moines in her own charming manner. On behalf of the Club Dr. Jones responded briefly.

1. Making Bird Sanctuaries of Public Grounds. (Lantern slides). Arthur J. Palas, Des Moines.

By gift and purchase the city of Des Moines has acquired rather extensive tracts of land around its water-works and bordering the Raccoon River; this area is kept as a bird sanctuary. To a great extent this enterprise is due to the energy and foresight of the Des Moines Audubon Society, and especially to its president, Mrs. J. E. Stewart. For the most part, this area is left in its native and undisturbed condition, providing excellent shelter for birds. Since, in the nature of the case, water-works property must be carefully supervised, it usually makes excellent bird sanctuary. In this particular case, we may judge from the beautifully colored pictures that this area contains much picturesque scenery.

2. Correlation between the Blooming of Flowers and the Migration of Hummingbirds. Prof. L. H. Pammel, Iowa State College, Ames.

Literature, personal observations, and data gathered from others by correspondence were summarized as to the kinds of flowers visited by Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*), and as to the time of year of the visits. The general conclusion was drawn that the ruby-throats leave for the south at approximately the time when hummingbird flowers are killed by the frost. The flowering season of "hummingbird flowers" usually co-incides with the period of residence of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Additional data will be welcomed.

3. Nesting of the Duck Hawk in the Great Smoky Mountains. (Lantern slides). Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

The excursion leading to the discovery of the nest and eggs of this relatively rare falcon was described with absorbing interest. Excellent pictures showed the difficult and perilous climb to the site of the nest, the nesting cliff and surrounding environment, the nest and eggs in situ, and the old bird in flight.

4. The Chemistry of a Bird's Nest. Althea R. Sherman, National, Iowa, and Burton H. St. John, St. Louis, Mo.

A brief statement of the manner of placing and gluing the first sticks onto the chimney wall by the Chimney Swift was followed by a report on some analytical work on the nature of this secretion. It was found to be "an acid glucoprotein (protein combined with carbohydrates), being comparable in composition, as shown by the analysis, and in most of its characteristics, with known mucins such as those found in snails and the submaxillary gland, but differing from them and sharing a property of the keratins in lack of digestibility by either pepsin or trypsin." A peculiar property of this secretion is its ability to harden rapidly when exposed to the air. This analysis was compared with that of various natural proteins. The paper was read by Mr. St. John.

5. Some recent Iowa Bird Notes. C. E. Ehinger, Keokuk, Iowa.

Dr. Ehinger presented observations on: 1) the effects of a bridge and dam across the Mississippi River on the migration of water birds, 2) a great autumn migration of Lesser Snow Geese, Double-crested Cormorants, Coots, Lesser Scaup Ducks, Teal, and Golden-eyes, 3) the presence of Redpolls

as late as December 18 at Keokuk, of Starlings at Warsaw, Illinois, of Western Meadowlarks in southeastern Iowa, and of nesting Mockingbirds near Keokuk, and 4) the abundance of the Yellow-breasted Chat in favorable localities near Keokuk.

6. Mallophagan Parasites on some of our Common Birds. R. O. Malcomson, Sioux City, Iowa.

Lantern slides and microscope slides were used in describing these common parasites of birds. Many of the parasites studied by Mr. Malcomson were obtained from long-preserved bird skins. Some of the parasites mounted on microscope slides were projected by lantern on the screen, including two new species recently described and named by Mr. Malcomson.

Friday Afternoon, December 27, 1929

7. Studies at the Nests of our Larger Owls. (Lantern slides). W. M. Rosene, Ogden, Iowa.

Camera studies of the nesting sites, young, and adults of several species of the larger owls, particularly the Barred and Great Horned Owls. A careful study of the food found in the nest of a pair of Barred Owls in two successive years revealed some very interesting facts concerning their economic status. This nest was visited almost daily for a period of about six weeks.

8. Seasonal, Cyclic, and Permanent Fluctuations and Decrease in the Number of Certain Species of Birds. C. W. G. Eifrig, River Forest, Illinois.

This paper shows how unusual scarcity or superabundance of certain species some years is due to the fact that the migration of birds proceeds in waves. If the night flight of a large army of migrants starts not far to the south of the observer, it may miss the region entirely, with the consequent dearth of certain species in that area for that year. Or, if the army starts far enough south of the observer's region, the whole wave may come down there, with the consequent abundance of the same species. Cyclic and permanent decrease may be due to one or more of several causes, such as the changes wrought by man's civilization, draining of swamps, deforestation, unfavorable or destructive weather conditions, excessive shooting, the introduction of foreign species, mishaps and catastrophes during migration, disease, and the depredation of the Cowbird.

9. Some Birds of the Rocky Mountain National Park. (Lantern slides). A. E. Shirling, Teachers College, Kansas City, Mo.

Excellent photographs of nesting Cliff Swallows, the Mountain Bluebird, and other birds which inhabit this region.

10. The Relation of Temperature to the Time of Ending of the Evening Song of the Mockingbird. (Lantern slides). Jesse M. Shaver and Miss Gladys Walker, George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn.

The relations *between* daily maximum, minimum, and mean temperatures, and the time of ending of the Mockingbird's evening song were examined statistically. Similarly, the temperature at the exact time of the song ending and normal temperature were studied in their relation to this song ending. It was found that all these classes of temperature were significant but no one kind of temperature possessed any virtue over another. Correlation coefficients were  $.50 \pm .06$ . Change of temperature was not important. In general, the Mockingbird sang later on warm days and stopped earlier on cold days. Presented by Mr. Shaver.

11. Why the Variation in Color of the Iris of Brown Thrashers? Elizabeth Allen Satterthwait, Webster Groves, Mo.

During several seasons of trapping Brown Thrashers for banding purposes, notes have been taken on the color of the iris. It was found to range from dark brown in nestlings to light carbon gray in birds out of the nest.

These differences in iris color are apparently not related to sex. The question may be asked: Are they not related to the age of the bird? The suggestion was made that the very light gray iris occurs in the young bird, and later gives way successively to an iris of various shades of yellow.

12. The Abundance of Marsh Birds south of Lake Erie in 1929 due to High Water. E. L. Moseley, State Teachers College, Bowling Green, Ohio.

During several years prior to 1929 the water level of the Great Lakes was so low that marshes adjacent had become too dry for the proper development of wild rice, tape grass, bladderwort, *Potamogeton*, and other important sources of food for marsh birds. Because of the opening of the locks at Sault Ste. Marie from August to December, 1928, and heavy precipitation then and in 1929, the water level became three feet higher in May than it was in the spring of 1926. This caused a luxuriant growth of food plants in the marshes, and also made it difficult for four-footed prowlers to get to the nests of aquatic birds. Consequently, many more rails, gallinules, coots, ducks, and other marsh birds were hatched and reared there than in previous years. Of certain species even old time hunters could not recall having seen such large numbers before.

13. Bird Banding as a Method of Bird Study. Wm. I. Lyon, Waukegan, Illinois.

A brief statement of some of the work accomplished by various bird banders in the central states, and a plea for greater co-operation among bird students in this activity.

14. Some New Birds of Yellowstone National Park. Emerson Kemsies, Oberlin, Ohio.

A list of hitherto unrecorded birds observed during the summer of 1929. In the author's absence the paper was read by Dr. Jones.

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15. Breeding of the Least Tern at Sioux City, Iowa. William Youngworth, Sioux City, Iowa.

The author describes the discovery of the nesting of the Least Tern on a sandbar in the Missouri River opposite Sioux City, in the summer of 1929.

16. The Sequence of Molt in Birds. (Charts). Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.

The sequence of feather loss in birds was described with special reference to the feather tracts, and the Bobolink was used as a standard for comparison.

17. The Laying Cycle in the House Wren. (Lantern slides). L. J. Cole, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

Birds may be classified as determinate with respect to egg production when they lay a definite number of eggs in a set, and indeterminate when they can be induced to continue laying by egg removal. The dove is an example of the determinate class, and the Flicker of the indeterminate class. Eggs presumably from the same female House Wren were removed daily and the wren thus induced to lay an unusually large number of eggs. These eggs were measured and studied as to volume, breadth, and length, and examined as to degree of pigmentation. Length increased in general to a certain point, then rested, then increased to a second high point, then rested, and for a third time increased to a high point; following this there was a downward trend. Thus, there appeared to be four cycles, separated by rest periods. A bird of the intermediate type normally lays a relatively definite number of eggs and then stops if undisturbed. If, however, the eggs are removed as laid, the number may be much larger. How is it possible for the bird to limit the number of eggs in the former case but not when they are removed? It is suggested that it may be that the process of incubation reacts upon the endocrine glands to cause cessation of egg production.

18. The Old Ornithology and the New. Althea R. Sherman, National, Iowa.

This paper is published in full in this issue.

19. The Crown Sparrows of the Middle West. (Colored plates). Myron H. Swenk, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The A. O. U. Check-list recognizes four species of crown sparrows (*Zonotrichia*), viz., Harris's, White-crowned, Golden-crowned, and the White-throated. Gambel's Sparrow is regarded as a subspecies of the White-crowned Sparrow. Its breeding range, however, overlaps that of the White-crowned in the northern Rocky Mountains, and no definite intergradation seems to have been demonstrated. The two are, therefore, regarded as distinct species. Their breeding and wintering ranges and songs were discussed. The Gambel's Sparrow is shown to move northward considerably before the White-crowned along the foot-hills, but with or after it along the Missouri River. The term *peripheral lag* is proposed for the slowing up of the migratory movement of any bird toward the peripheries of its migrational path, and illustrations were given from this group. The relative migratory movements of Harris's, White-crowned, Gambel's, and White-throated Sparrows in Nebraska were given.

20. Some Notes on Banding Chimney Swifts. (Lantern slides). Wyman R. Green, University of Chattanooga, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Traps and methods of handling Chimney Swifts in wholesale numbers were described and illustrated. During 1928 and 1929 a total of 3,737 swifts were banded, while 8,914 additional swifts which had been trapped were released unbanded for lack of bands. Fifty-four swifts previously banded by the author at Chattanooga and sixteen banded elsewhere were re-trapped.

Saturday Afternoon, December 28, 1929

21. Some Water Birds at Home. (Lantern slides and motion pictures). W. F. Kubichek, Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The author gave the results of several seasons of work on a chain of lakes in the "Waubay Region" of South Dakota. On Rush Lake four species of grebes were found nesting, viz., the Pied-billed, Eared, Holboell's, and the Western. Gulls, cormorants, terns, and shore-birds nested on an island in Waubay Lake. The author also discussed the influence on bird life of the construction of a road which dammed the outlet of one lake, causing it to seek an outlet through other lakes. An abundance of pictures helped to tell the story.

22. Life History of the Golden Eagle in Scotland. (Motion pictures). A. F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

These wonderful movies of two tame Golden Eagles were taken by Captain Charles W. R. Knight, and were shown at this meeting through the courtesy of Dr. H. S. Vaughn, of Nashville. Slow motion pictures showed the difference in technique when stooping for prey and when alighting on a man's arm.

23. Some Feeding Habits of Birds. (Motion pictures). Walter W. Bennett, Sioux City, Iowa.

Three species of birds were shown in feeding acts. A captive Ruby-throated Hummingbird was shown feeding on sugar syrup from various vessels. After the starved bird had regained its strength by these artificial feedings it was set free. A pair of Pine Siskins which nested in Sioux City were shown in fine form feeding their young by apparent regurgitation. One bird fed the other adult on the nest, the latter passed the morsel on to the nestling. The feeding process as practiced by Cedar Waxwings made up the last exhibit.

24. Some Southern Bird Colonies. (Motion pictures). Herbert L. Stoddard, United States Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

Snowy Egrets and juvenile Little Blue Herons were shown following cattle, horses, and pigs in Leon County, Florida, and feeding on animal life

in the grass. This habit, which is well known in the small herons of Africa, Asia, and some other countries of the world, has apparently never been previously noted for the New World Herons. These films also included wonderful close-up views of the Wood Ibis and various other species.

25. The Birds of Manitoba. (Lantern slides). V. W. Jackson, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada.

The author showed an interesting collection of still pictures of bird life, many of which were unusually fine.

26. Nesting Habits of the Loon. (Motion pictures). Owen J. Gromme, Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

These wonderful close-up moving pictures of a pair of wild Loons are the same as the ones seen at our last Chicago meeting, but it was very largely a different audience which saw them at this meeting. The pictures were made at Bass Lake, in Michigan, just across the Wisconsin line. As soon as the young Loons were hatched they accompanied their parents to the open water. Now, the pictures of the whole family on the open water are wonderful. The old birds are shown feigning injury in frantic efforts to attract the intruders away from the young birds.

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27. Bird Colonies on the West Coast. (Motion pictures). Lynds Jones, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.

These pictures dealt mainly with various colonies of water birds along the Pacific Coast.

28. Notes on the History of the Heath Hen. (Motion pictures). T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

These motion pictures of the Heath Hen were shown through the courtesy of Mr. Arthur L. Clark, National Sportsman, Boston, Mass. The pictures were taken several years ago while these birds were still present in some numbers on Martha's Vineyard Island. After the last bird is gone, which may now, we will all try to figure out how it happened.

The following additional papers were read by title, owing to the absence of the authors; most of the manuscripts are in hand, however, and will be published in the BULLETIN:

29. Do Birds Usually Change Mates for the Second Brood? Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Columbus, Ohio.
30. A Summary of the Birds of Polk County, Iowa. Philip A. DuMont, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.
31. The Economic Importance of Birds as Insect Predators. C. N. Ainslie, U. S. Bureau of Entomology, Sioux City, Iowa.
32. Experiences with Song Sparrows in 1929. Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, Columbus, Ohio.
33. Fall Migration of Mourning Doves. William Brewster Taber, Jr., Kansas, Illinois.
34. The Black-crowned Night Heron in Southern Michigan. T. L. Hankinson, State Normal College, Ypsilanti, Michigan.
35. Mockingbird Methods. Frank F. Gander, O'Rourke Zoological Institute, San Diego, California.
36. The Relation of Light to Time of Ending of the Evening Song of the Mockingbird and of the Robin. Jesse M. Shaver and Miss Ruby Walker, Nashville, Tenn.