

In photographing captured birds in this way the greatest depth of field and sharpness of detail are obtainable through closing the diaphragm opening well down and using a fast shutter speed synchronized to catch the very peak of illumination. Unless this is done the rapid movements of the birds result in blurred negatives.

The cellophane cylinder and cylinder-container described above may not be the best apparatus devisable for this work. Other methods should be tried. Photographs like those made at the Fair Isle Bird Observatory, showing heads, feet, or spread wings of living birds should be taken (see *Wilson Bulletin*, 62: 141-143). If a series of photographs, showing increase in bill-size over a period of years, is to be taken, the method should be worked out with great care so as to make certain in advance that the photographs will be *directly measurable* and strictly comparable. For this sort of record far more than mere sharpness of detail will be necessary: the bill must be strictly in profile, so as to preclude the possibility of any distortion. The bills themselves should be measured too, of course, and the records kept with the photographs.

For records of color-differences, color transparencies should be made. These should be preserved with great care so as to prevent fading.

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AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB

An amendment to the Constitution of The Wilson Ornithological Club was proposed by the Executive Council and placed before the membership at the annual meeting on April 27, 1951, at Davenport, Iowa. The proposal was published in the June, 1951, issue of *The Wilson Bulletin*. In accordance with the provisions of the By-laws, the members were asked to vote on this amendment by mail before September 1.

As a result of this ballot, the amendment was adopted, effective October 1, 1951. The amendment eliminates the associate membership class and raises the subscription price of *The Wilson Bulletin* to \$3. With this change, the minimum cost of membership becomes \$3. Hence, Sections 1 and 3 of Article II of the Constitution now read as follows:

ARTICLE II

Membership

Section 1. The membership of this club shall consist of five classes: Active Members, Sustaining Members, Life Members, Patrons, and Honorary Members.

Section 3. The annual dues of Active Members shall be three dollars (\$3.00); and of Sustaining Members, five dollars (\$5.00). Any member may become a Life Member, exempt from further dues, by making a payment into the endowment fund of the Club of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Any member may become a Patron, exempt from further dues, by making a payment into the endowment fund of the Club of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or more. Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Council, honorary membership may be conferred by the Club by a three-fourths vote at any annual meeting.