

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

BY T. S. PALMER.

Membership.—During the year 1925 the membership list has grown somewhat and shows an increase of 68 over the total number last year. The Union still has members in all the States and Territories and also in the Philippine Islands, and in a number of foreign countries and colonies in North America, South America, West Indies, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia. The following tabular statement shows the figures for the present membership in comparison with those for last year and ten years ago:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Fellows</i>	<i>Retired Fellows</i>	<i>Hon. Fellows</i>	<i>Corresponding Fellows</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Associates</i>	<i>Total</i>
1915	50	3	13	56	79	955	1156
1924	50	5	23	89	96	1374	1637
1925	48	5	24	88	96	1444	1705

The gains during the year included the restoration of one Honorary Fellow, inadvertently omitted from the list, and the election at the last annual meeting of two Corresponding Fellows and 320 Associates. This apparent increase of 323 was offset by losses of 28 by death, 40 by resignation, and a considerable number by failure to qualify and by delinquency. Losses from death during the past year have been greater than ever before, and included those of 2 Fellows, 3 Corresponding Fellows, 2 Members, and 21 Associates.

Activities of Members Abroad.—During 1925, a number of our members have visited foreign countries or engaged in field work abroad, especially in the South Pacific, the South Atlantic, Tropical America, Africa, and Asia. The American Museum has continued its explorations in the South Pacific, where Rollo H. Beck has been collecting in the Fiji Islands. The expedition of the Cleveland Museum, in charge of Geo. F. Simmons, has been working in the South Atlantic, has visited Rio Janeiro, and expects to visit St. Helena. The Expedition of the Field Museum to the Pamir and the mountains of Tibet, in charge of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, is accompanied by George K. Cherrie, and, while organized primarily

for hunting big game, doubtless will improve the opportunity of securing some ornithological material. The Baffin Land expedition of the Canadian Government spent last winter on Baffin Land, and J. Dewey Soper has doubtless been able to secure some information of great interest concerning the species nesting in that region. In Tropical America, Henry Malleis has continued his explorations in Guatemala in search of the Ocellated Turkey and Curassows; Messrs. A. J. Van Rossem and Loye Holmes Miller have been collecting for some time in Salvador; and Dr. Thomas Barbour, Dr. A. O. Gross and Joselyn Van Tyne have visited Barro Colorado Island in the Canal Zone. Mr. Austin Paul Smith, who has been residing for some time in Costa Rica, has recently removed to Habana, Cuba, and James L. Peters collected on Martinique, St. Lucia and St. Vincent from January to March. C. Wm. Beebe and John Tee Van revisited the Galapagos Islands during the course of their voyage last spring. Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy left for Lima, Peru, shortly after the meeting last year and took part in the Centennial at that place and later visited other points in Peru and Ecuador.

Several members visited Europe during the past summer. Outram Bangs visited the museums in London, Tring, Paris and Berlin, Dr. C. E. Hellmayr those in England and Germany, and Mrs. Walter W. Naumburg those in several countries on the Continent. B. T. Gault spent most of the past year in western Ireland, and Wm. B. Mershon, who visited Scotland during the summer, brought back some interesting information on Grouse. Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson attended the International Conference on protection of birds at Luxembourg in April, and also visited Italy, Switzerland, France, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, and England.

In Africa, Messrs. Boulton and Lang have been collecting in Angola in connection with the Vernay Expedition of the American Museum, and since the return of Mr. Boulton, Mr. Lang has gone on to Cape Colony. Dr. Herbert Friedman has spent some time in southeastern Africa in Cape Colony, Natal, Rhodesia, Transvaal and British East Africa in connection with his investigations of the parasitic habits of Cuckoos and other birds. Wm. Sprague Brooks has been collecting reptiles in Cape Colony and John A. Farley has visited Egypt and the region of the Nile.

In Asia, Dr. Casey A. Wood has spent most of the year in Ceylon at Colombo and Kandy, and is planning a trip early in the spring to northern India. Dr. Hugh M. Smith, in connection with his fishery work in Siam has found time to collect a few birds, and in China, N. Gist Gee and Dr. F. P. Metcalf, who unfortunately has severed his connection with the Union, are still at their posts in Peking and Foochow, respectively.

During the year we have had the unusual pleasure of an extended visit from our Honorary Fellow, Dr. P. P. Sushkin of Leningrad, who with his wife spent several months in America, studying the collections of birds in the principal museums and in visiting several of the National Parks and other points of interest in the west.

Concerning the field activities of other Honorary and Corresponding Fellows it is interesting to note that H. F. Witherby has been in Spain, H. Kirke Swann has visited Rumania, Dr. Ernst Hartert has been collecting in Morocco, Messrs. Bannerman, Jourdain and W. P. Lowe in Tunisia, Louis Lavauden in the region of Lake Tchad, while Dr. E. Lehn Schiöler, of Copenhagen, spent the summer in Greenland, and Col. Richard Meinertzhagen rejoined his regiment in India.

The Journal.—During the year a number of additional sets of 'The Auk' have been completed and the total number of sets in public and private libraries or museums is now about 225. As the Union has had no complete sets for sale for more than a year, attention has been devoted to filling in the gaps in incomplete sets as far as possible, and in several of the college libraries the sets have now been completed to a point where only two or three volumes are missing. Since several sets have recently changed hands, arrangements have been made for securing a revised list and a new survey of the field will be made at an early date.

Papers of the Pittsburgh Meeting.—As usual, only a small proportion of the 58 papers presented at the Pittsburgh meeting in 1924, have thus far appeared in print. Those which have been published in 'The Auk'¹ include the following: No. 2, Fisher's

¹ Mention should also be made of Crosby's paper presented as an abstract at the Cambridge meeting in 1923 under the title No. 34, 'Notes on the Non-breeding Birds of Southeastern Texas' which is now being published by Griscom and Crosby as a continued article in 'The Auk' beginning in July, 1925, under the caption, 'Birds of the Brownsville Region, Southern Texas.'

'Walter Bradford Barrows.' No. 4, Dabbene's 'Ornithological Collection of the Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires' (*antea* p. 37), No. 8, Ahrens' 'Bird Collection in the Berlin Museum,' No. 13, Grinnell's 'Bird Netting as a Method in Ornithology,' No. 16, Lincoln's 'Results of Bird Banding in Europe,' No. 26, Mrs. Naumburg's 'A few Remarks on *Cyclarhis*,' No. 30, Chapman's 'Relationships and Distribution of the Warblers of the genus *Compsothlypis*.' The papers published elsewhere are No. 5, Forbush's 'Is Migration affected by Weather Conditions,' incorporated in the Introduction to his 'Birds of Massachusetts,' I, pp. xix-xxiii, 1925; No. 17, Mrs. Commons' 'Report of the Tanager Hill Bird Banding Station, Minnesota,' in the 'Wilson Bulletin,' XXXVII, pp. 48-51, Mar., 1925; No. 28, Dwight and Griscom's 'Descriptions of new birds from Costa Rica,' in American Museum Novitates, No. 142, Nov., 1924; and No. 40, Griscom's 'Bird Hunting in Unexplored Panama,' in 'Natural History,' XXIV, pp. 509-519. 1924.

DECEASED MEMBERS, 1924-1925

EUGENE PINTARD BICKNELL,¹ Founder and Life Fellow, aged 65, died at Hewlett, Long Island, N. Y., Feb. 9, 1925.

JOHN HALL SAGE,² 12th President and Life Fellow, died in his 79th year at Boston, Mass., Aug. 16, 1925.

ARTHUR GARDINER BUTLER,³ Corresponding Fellow, died in his 81st year at Beckenham, England, May 28, 1925.

FRANCIS NICHOLSON, Corresponding Fellow, aged 82, died at Windermere England, Feb. 10, 1925.

EUGENE LOUIS SIMON,⁴ Corresponding Fellow, died in his 77th year, at Paris, France, Nov. 17, 1924.

ROBERT OLIVER MORRIS,⁵ Member, aged 78, died at Springfield, Mass., Apr. 13, 1925.

JOHN MURDOCH, Member, died in his 74th year, at Allston, Mass., Sept. 22, 1925.

ERNEST HAROLD BAYNES,⁶ Associate, died in his 57th year, at Meriden, N. H., Jan. 21, 1925.

¹ For obituary notice see 'Auk,' XLII, pp. 475-476.

² " " " " " " pp. 613-615 and XLIII, pp. 1-17 *antea*.

³ " " " " " " pp. 615-616.

⁴ " " " " " " p. 478.

⁵ " " " " " " p. 480.

⁶ " " " " " " pp. 480-481.

- WILLIAM CHASE BRADBURY, Associate, died in his 77th year, at Denver, Colo., Oct. — 1925.
- JAMES MACMASTER CODMAN, Associate, aged 63, died at Boston, Mass. Oct. 9, 1925.
- MISS ADA BELLE COPELAND, Associate, died at Grand Junction, Colo., Aug. 7, 1925.
- CHARLES EUSEBE DIONNE,¹ Associate, died in his 80th year, at Quebec, Canada, Jan. 25, 1925.
- WALLACE SHERWIN DRAPER, Associate, died in his 74th year, at Wayland, Mass., Apr. 13, 1925.
- HARRY LEE FULTON, Associate, died at Chicago, Ill., May 28, 1925.
- MRS. CHESTER NOYES GREENOUGH, Associate, died at Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 11, 1925.
- WILLIAM FRANCIS HENDRICKSON, Associate, of Jamaica, N. Y., died in the summer of 1925.
- MISS INEZ ADDIE HOWE, Associate, died at St. Johnsbury, Vt., Nov. 26, 1924.
- RICHARD MONTAGUE HUNT,² Associate, died in his 39th year, near Boston, Mass., June 25, 1925.
- MRS. MARTHA EVANS MARTIN,³ Life Associate, died near Watchung, N. J., Jan. 6, 1925.
- CHARLES JOHNSON MEANS, Associate, died at Wellesley, Mass.,—1925.
- HARRY MERRILL, Honorary Associate, died in his 69th year, at Bangor, Me. Nov. 24, 1924.
- HENRY WORTHINGTON OLDS (Henry Oldys),⁴ Associate, died in his 66th year, at Petersburg, N. Y., Jan. 20, 1925.
- CHARLES BINGHAM PENROSE,⁵ Life Associate, aged 63, died on a train near Washington, D. C., Feb. 27, 1925.
- JAMES BRITTON PURDY,⁶ Associate, aged 82, died at Plymouth, Mich., June 2, 1925.
- MISS BESSIE RAYMOND, Associate, died at Akron, Ohio, in 1923.
- MISS ALICE P. TERRY, Associate, died at New Bedford, Mass., Oct. 26, 1924.
- MRS. EDMUND H. WETMORE, Associate, of Babylon, Long Island, N. Y., died June 7, 1924.
- MISS HELEN DURAND WISE, Associate, died at Washington, D. C., April 5, 1925.

¹ For obituary notice see 'Auk,' XLII, pp. 308-309.
² " " " " " " pp. 617-618.
³ " " " " " " pp. 481-482.
⁴ " " " " " " pp. 616-617.
⁵ " " " " " " pp. 307-308.
⁶ " " " " " " pp. 620-621.