

Kolyma River. Incidentally an American race of the Black-bellied Plover is separated from the two forms occupying Europe and East Siberia, respectively, on the ground of small size. It is named *Squatarola squatarola cynosurae*, with type from Baillie Island, Arctic America. The validity of this race has lately been queried by Todd (Annals Carnegie Museum, x, 1916, p. 214). Thayer and Bangs find that, "like the knot, sanderling, turnstone and some other waders", the Dunlin divides into three races. These are: *Pelidna alpina alpina*, of western Europe; *P. a. sakhalina*, of east Siberia; and *P. a. pacifica*, of North America. The latter name, given by Coues years ago, is thus restored to use for our American bird. Koren was able to furnish field notes accompanying his specimens, and these provide basis for valuable facts in regard to migration times and nesting habits.

Another expedition financed by Mr. Thayer visited East Siberia and Arctic Alaska during 1913 and 1914. The two collectors of the party were Joseph Dixon and W. Sprague Brooks. The published report² is under the authorship of the latter, and acknowledgment for help is made to Outram Bangs and H. C. Oberholser. The notable features in this paper are the descriptions of several supposed new forms of American birds. *Larus thayeri* is named from Ellesmere Land. It is evidently a member of the very variable *Larus glaucescens* series. A far-reaching study of the gulls of Arctic America will be required before we can rest assured of the true status of all the variants. A western race of the Harlequin Duck, type from Kamchatka, is named *Histrionicus histrionicus pacificus*. Also the White-winged Scoter of the Pacific is separated from the Atlantic bird under the name *Oidemia deglandi dixonii*, type from Humphrey Point, Arctic Alaska. On geographic grounds this case is not exactly clear, for the species nests in the interior of North America, the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard constituting its wintering grounds.

A new race of Winter Wren is described from the Semidi Islands, Alaska, and is called *Nannus hiemalis semidiensis*. Also the Commander Island Rosy Finch is found separable from the Aleutian race and is called *Leucosticte griseonucha maxima*. Names employed for North American birds, and not used in the 1910 A. O. U. Check-List, are: *Lagopus lagopus albus*, *Squatarola squata-*

rola cynosurae, *Pelidna alpina pacifica*, *Planesticus migratorius caurinus*, and *Loxia curvirostra sitkensis*. Critical comment is often given concerning the status of forms. Then there is considerable amount of biographical material mostly of a very welcome nature. But the temporary loss of one of the field note-books prevented full use of the facts gathered by this expedition.

In the third paper³ F. Seymour Hersey lists with annotations the birds encountered by him during the summer of 1914 in a trip along the coast of Alaska north as far as Point Barrow, with visits to the Siberian coast. This trip was undertaken under the patronage of A. C. Bent and with the chief object in view of securing material pertinent to the latter's work on the Life Histories of North American Birds. It is to be inferred that only a part of the total of information gathered is presented now.

Naturally, with so much territory covered in a single season, no single locality was explored with any degree of thoroughness; also many of the localities were such as had been visited repeatedly before and for which there are in the literature many bird records. We are led in this connection to criticise the paper on the score of the inconsequentiality of many of the remarks concerning the species. Actually new matter is small in proportion to the whole amount of print. In other words, the paper is "padded".

There is, too, an element of vagueness which is decidedly provoking to the student of distribution when searching for definite records of occurrence. The important find of a colony of *Sterna aleutica* was made; but where? Were specimens taken of *Larus vegae*? The references to *Larus occidentalis*, *L. californicus*, and *L. delawarensis* are more or less indicative of their having been found within Alaskan territory, but again there is lacking that clear-cut explicitness that would make these important records of most use to the serious student.—J. GRINNELL.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

AUGUST.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, August 17, 1916, at 8 P. M. President Storer

(2) *Notes on Birds from East Siberia and Arctic Alaska*. By W. SPRAGUE BROOKS. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., LIX, September, 1915, pp. 361-413, 2 figs. in text.

(3) *A List of the Birds Observed in Alaska and North-eastern Siberia during the Summer of 1914*. By F. SEYMOUR HERSEY. Smiths. Misc. Coll., vol. 66, no. 2, 1916, pp. 1-33.

was in the chair with the following members present: Mesdames De Vere, Ferguson, Grinnell, Lombardy, Mead, and Schlisinger; Misses Atsatt, Culver, Wear and Wythe; and Messrs. Bryant, Camp, Carriger, Davis, Grinnell, Hansen, Lastreto, Noack, Squires and Wright. Mr. and Mrs. Stafford, and Miss Jones were among the visitors. In the absence of Mrs. Allen, Mr. Charles L. Camp was appointed secretary pro tem.

Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved and those of the Southern Division for June and July read. Mrs. Marion Randall Parsons was elected to membership. Applications for membership were received as follows: Helen Gilkey, 2215 Ellsworth Street, Berkeley, proposed by A. L. Barrows; Elizabeth H. Price, 23 Panoramic Way, Berkeley, by Mrs. J. T. Allen; and Walter A. Stafford, 31 Park Way, Piedmont, by Susan B. Culver; also the persons proposed at the Southern Division June and July meetings.

Business disposed of, Dr. H. C. Bryant, Game Expert of the California Fish and Game Commission, read a paper on "Attempt at Acclimatization of Foreign Game Birds in California". After spending many years of time and thousands of dollars in money the State of California has nothing but a few colonies of Ring-necked Pheasants to show for all the efforts along this line.

Mr. Storer called attention to the proclamation recently received from the constitutional governor of one of the central states of Mexico in which regulations for the control of fishing and hunting are prescribed. Adjourned.—CHARLES L. CAMP, *Secretary pro tem.*

SOUTHERN DIVISION

AUGUST.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division was held at the Museum of History, Science and Art, August 31, 1916. Vice-President Law presided. Members present were: Messrs. W. C. Bradbury, E. J. Brown, Brouse, Colburn, Chambers, Cookman, Daggett, Holland, Lamb, Law, Nokes, Wyman, and Mrs. Law. Miss Marsh was a visitor.

Minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. On motion of Mr. Daggett, seconded by Mr. Chambers, Dr. Mortimer Jesurun was elected to membership. New names presented were: Ethel Lombardi (Mrs. M. E.), Berkeley, by Amelia S. Allen; H. V. LaJeunesse, Alameda, by H. C. Bryant; Mrs. Chas. A. Field, Berkeley, by Mrs. C. S. Newhall; Benj. J. Davis, Berkeley, by Mrs. Mary Van E. Ferguson; Dr. John Van Deuburgh, San Francisco, by J. Grinnell;

Grace S. Meade (Mrs. Calvert Meade), Oakland, by Mrs. D. W. de Veer; H. Gifford, M. D., Omaha, Nebraska, by W. M. Pierce; Miss Bertha Elizabeth Crawford, Placerville, by W. Lec Chambers.

There being no other business matters for consideration, the meeting resolved itself into the usual informal discussion, and inspection of study skins of gulls. Adjourned.—L. E. WYMAN, *Secretary.*

INTER-MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

MAY.—Meeting was held in the Administration Building, University of Utah, May 10, 1916. President and Vice-President being absent, A. D. Boyle acted as chairman. Meeting called at 8:30 P. M. Members in attendance were: Prof. J. H. Paul, J. Sugden Jr., J. Sugden Sr., Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza, A. D. Boyle and three visitors. Minutes of April meeting read and approved. The evening was spent in general discussion of local breeding grebes, Prof. Paul exhibiting specimens of Western and Pied-billed grebes. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary.*

JUNE.—Meeting held in the Administration Building, University of Utah, June 14, 1916, at 8:30 P. M. Vice-President Mullen was in the chair. Members in attendance were: A. D. Boyle, J. Sugden Sr. and Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mullen, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza, Prof. J. H. Paul, Miss Ella Jeremy and one visitor. Minutes of May meeting read and approved. A. O. Treganza brought before the club an accusation made by a Dr. Plummer to the State Game Commissioner, Mr. Fred Chambers, that some of the Cooper Club members were collecting eggs not strictly for scientific purposes, but were commercializing in them. Motion was passed that Dr. Plummer be asked to come before the Club and produce his evidence. A general discussion of local breeding terns followed. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary.*

SEPTEMBER.—Meeting held September 13, 1916, at the residence of A. O. Treganza, 614 East 6th South Streets. Vice-President Mullen conducted the meeting which was called at 8:00 P. M. Members in attendance were: R. H. Palmer, A. D. Boyle, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Treganza, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mullen. Minutes of June meeting read and approved. Mrs. Treganza read from Wells W. Cook's *Bird Migration*, and from Coues' *Birds of the Colorado Valley* on the migration of swallows. Observations were given, followed by a general discussion. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P. M.—MRS. A. O. TREGANZA, *Secretary.*