

situated in a lonely canyon about thirty-two miles east of the Pacific. He appeared very hungry and tired, alternately feeding and resting. He violently shook and ate the head of a rabbit discarded by our collie; he mangled a hornet attracted by the rabbit, but suddenly decided not to devour it; he snapped at passing insects; he thrust his bill with such force into a cluster of white geraniums that the petals flew in fragments to the ground; he stalked under the fig trees, with his pale lavender-gray webbed feet, and tossed the figs about, though he did not seem to relish them especially. He circled the collie, who had been nonchalantly watching him, and would have alighted on her back if she had not flicked her ear. He appeared absolutely fearless, often walking within touching distance of our hands, and occasionally resting close beside us, partially shutting his eyes, and fluffing out his breast in drowsy content.

One hour he stayed with us, and in that hour I had ample opportunity to examine him minutely and identify him as a young Sabine Gull (*Xema sabini*). This identification was later corroborated by Dr. Grinnell, who added that the bird was "evidently in full juvenal plumage—a bird hatched last June". Then he lifted his beautiful wings and flew away, flew low, over the mesas and the sage-grown hillsides, flew toward the east in a faltering manner, as though he fain would return. Did our beautiful bird, Pearlcito (for so we named him), safely voyage over the chaparral?—MELICENT HUMASON LEE, *El Cajon, California, November 29, 1920.*

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

New Year's morning, Mrs. Amelia S. Allen, Secretary of the Northern Division of the Cooper Club, gave a reception to the Club at her home on Mosswood Road, Berkeley. The occasion was a pleasant one socially, and in addition there was an ornithological feature of remarkable interest. The bird feeding table just outside the large plate window of the dining room where breakfast was served to the human guests was continually patronized by numerous avian visitors. These latter represented some ten or more species—thrashers, thrushes, wren-tits, towhees, etc.—all wild birds, behaving normally. The differential lighting on the two sides of the window, darker within than without, doubtless in part accounted for the charming obliviousness of the birds. Within, the considerable company of people was able to observe the birds closely under most comfortable conditions, even to comment upon them freely in ordinary conversational pitch of voice, without alarming or distracting the principals in the nature play being acted outside.

Mr. Aretas A. Saunders, author of *Avifauna No. 14 (Birds of Montana)*, now in press, has called our attention to an error in the postcard pre-notice of this publication sent out recently by our Business Manager. Mr. Saunders was for five years with the United States Forestry Service, and during two summers worked at the Biological Station of the University of Montana; but at no time has he been connected with the United States Biological Survey, as was stated.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Bailey are in camp for the winter in the foothills of the Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona (post office, Continental, Pima County). Their camp mascot is a Roadrunner who "comes regularly for spare mice".

We learn from Dr. T. S. Palmer that the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in Washington, D. C., November 8-11, 1920, was one of the largest in the history of the Union. One-half of the Fellows and about ten percent of the entire membership were in attendance. The business meetings were held at the Cosmos Club and the other sessions at the U. S. National Museum. The election of Fellows and Members included Mr. Robert Cushman Murphy of Brooklyn, N. Y., as Fellow; Mr. E. C. Stuart Baker and Dr. Percy Lowe of London, Honorary Fellows; and Mr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Dr. Loye Miller, Mr. Aretas A. Saunders, Prof. T. C. Stephens, and Prof. Myron H. Swenk, as Members in the restricted sense. The program of nearly 40 papers, five of which were illustrated by motion pictures, covered a wide range of subjects relating to North American birds and also included papers on the birds of Argentina, Nicaragua, Peru, Europe and Madagascar. In connection with the meeting an exhibition of drawings, paintings, and photographs of birds by American artists, supplemented by a series of prints showing the development of zoological illustration as applied to birds from the earliest times down to date, was arranged in the Division of Prints in the Library of Congress.

Dr. H. C. Bryant, Economic Ornithologist, California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, and also in charge of Education, Publicity and Research, California Fish and Game Commission, left early in January in company with Dr. Loye Miller, Associate Professor of Biology, Southern Branch, University of California, to attend the State Parks Conference, at Des Moines, Iowa. After the Des Moines conference, a series of lectures were to be given by these naturalists in eastern cities to stimulate interest in a nature guide service for all the national parks. During the past summer, they organized the Nature Guide work in the Yosemite Valley, and at some of the Lake Tahoe resorts. This included trips afield and lectures, and was an attempt to satisfy the yearning of the summer vacationist for nature lore. Nature guiding in the Yosemite National Park proved so popular that there is likelihood that it will be made a permanent feature not only of the Yosemite but also of other national parks throughout the United States.

Mr. Allan Brooks is located at Jupiter, Florida, for the winter. He is occupying himself while there in making colored drawings of various waterfowl, particularly ducks, these to be used in illustration of books which are in preparation by certain eastern ornithologists. Mr. Brooks attended the A. O. U. congress in November, and for a time was the guest of Mr. L. A. Fuertes, at Ithaca, New York. Indeed, the two went to Florida together, the last-named for but a short stay. Later, Dr. L. C. Sanford joined Mr. Brooks. Mr. Brooks plans to return to his home in British Columbia late in April.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—Regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held at the Museum of History, Science and Art, at 8:00 P. M., October 28. Members attending were: Mesdames Fargo, Martin, Terry, and Warner; Miss Miller; Messrs. Dickey, Hornung, Howard, Howell, Miller, Pierce, Robertson, Van Rossem, Warner, and Wyman. Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Schneider, and Mr. Langdon were visitors.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved. On motion of Mr. Robertson the Secretary was instructed to cast an electing ballot for persons whose names were presented at that meeting. New presentations were: Harry Milton Wegeforth, M. D., 210 Maple St., San Diego, by W. DeW. Scott; John E. Overholtzer, 6 West Main St., Morristown, Pa., by R. J. Middleton; Nathaniel A. Francis, 35 Davis Ave., Brookline, Mass., by W. Lee Chambers; Elbert Benjamin, 109 Coral St., Los Angeles, by Mary

Mann Miller; Mrs. John McB. Robertson, Buena Park, Calif., by John McB. Robertson; J. Thomas Fraser, Jr., 432 W. Hawthorne St., Eureka, by Lawrence Zerlang; Emmet Joy, San Andreas, by Ethel Crum; George C. Shupe, Box 964, San Antonio, Texas, by Antonio H. McLellan; Charles Springer, Cimarron, N. Mex., by J. Stokely Ligon; Webster H. Ransom, 708 West 20th Ave., Spokane, Wash., by Stanley Jewett; Miss Evelyn Kennedy, 232 W. Ave. 52, Los Angeles, by Roland C. Ross; Miss Elizabeth Burnell, 419 So. Olive St., Los Angeles, by L. E. Wyman; Regina Woodruff, Zool. Dept., Univ. Calif., by Dr. Olive Swezy; Clelia A. Paroni, 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, by Dr. H. C. Bryant; John Thomas Waterhouse, Honolulu, T. H., by Annie M. Alexander; John Forbes Rickard, 250 Tunnel Road, Berkeley, and Mary I. Compton, 6510 1st Ave. N. E., Seattle, Wash., by Anna Head.

Routine business finished, Dr. L. H. Miller read a paper on the rearing of a pair of house finches which had come into his possession just after hatching. His account of their development and behavior was highly instructive as well as entertaining. The usual informal discussion and inspection of a series of hawk skins completed the session. Adjourned.—L. E. WYMAN, *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—Regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held at the Museum of History, Science and Art, November 23, at 8:00 P. M. In the absence of both President and Vice President, Mr. Dickey was acclaimed Chairman of the evening. Members present: Messrs. Appleton, Bishop, Brouse, Brown, Chambers, Colburn, Dawson, Dickey, Edwards, Esterly, Hanaford, Howell, Hornung, King, Little, Pierce, Reis, Rittenhouse, Ross, Robertson, Suits, Taylor, Van Rossem, Wall, Wyman; Misses Atsatt, Burnell, Davidson, Kennedy and Pratt. Mesdames Bishop, Brown, Chapman and Dawson were visitors.

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved, followed by reading of the minutes of the Northern Division for October. Applicants whose names were presented at the previous meeting were declared elected, on motion of Mr. Chambers that the Secretary be instructed to cast an electing vote. New presentations were: Hattie E. Shepherd, R. 1, Box 73, Redlands, and A. R. Shepherd, 457 Burchett St., Glendale, California, proposed by Frank N. Bassett; Roy W. Quillin, 1025 Summit Ave., San Antonio, Texas, proposed by O. P. Silliman. Elections of the Northern Division were approved.