



Fig. 14. ARETAS A. SAUNDERS

Mr. Saunders' "Distributional List of the Birds of Montana" was issued by the Cooper Ornithological Club under date of February 1, 1921, as no. 14 of the Pacific Coast Avifauna series. The author was for some years connected with the United States Forestry Service in Montana, and he was also for a time at the University of Montana Biological Station at Flathead Lake. His account of the birds of Montana consists largely of his own first-hand observations, but are supplemented by the published writings of other ornithologists. Three hundred and thirty-two species are listed as native to the state, as well as several others that have been introduced. The "List" is mainly concerned with the manner of occurrence of the various species, in just what part of the state they are found, and at what season of the year; but there are also extensive notes on migration, and descriptive accounts of the nesting of most of the birds. A number of half-tones figure many of the species, their nests and eggs, and also illustrate the character of the country in the life zones and faunal areas that are discussed.

Mr. J. A. Munro, of Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, has recently been appointed chief officer in charge of the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Convention Act in the western provinces of Canada. Mr. Munro's years of study of the avifauna of his region have rendered him peculiarly fitted to un-

derstand the problems involved in his new position. It will be gratifying to the ornithologists of the country to learn of this most appropriate appointment.

COMMUNICATION

A PLEA FOR PROFESSIONAL COURTESY

Some time ago, my studies in a certain field led to a discovery quite unexpected to me and of a more or less surprising nature to other men of similar interests. An account of the facts and a statement of conclusions was written for publication, but the manuscript was submitted to another investigator to whom I was personally a stranger. He examined the manuscript and returned it with helpful criticism and a most cordial expression of interest and of willingness to render aid in furtherance of the cause—a willingness which he has since repeatedly proven genuine. His assistance was publicly acknowledged with great pleasure on my part, a cordial relation between two fellow workers was established, and the scientific public was spared any controversy in print.

A few months ago I received a most courteous and friendly letter from an older and better known scientist offering suggestions on a brief note published over my signature. Instead of writing to me he might have published his criticism and done so in less friendly terms without violating the law of precedent. He took the more courteous way and spared the public a possible controversy.

Why are not all scientists as large as these two men? Why is there not among scientists that fraternal bond that exists among reputable physicians and is called professional courtesy? Why can not the reviewer present an honest difference of opinion and not impugn the motives or deride the conclusions of one who happens not to agree with him? Why can not the reviewed author be less sensitive or less inflammable, and measurably profit thereby? Or, failing in either of these points, would not our over-worked editors be justified in throwing out manuscripts that are controversial until the parties concerned had reached some agreement (to disagree, perhaps)?

If authors would settle their disputes between themselves and give us in our journals either the benefit of their conclusions or an amicable statement of points of divergence, we would feel that the scientific fraternity was reaping the benefit of cooperation rather than the whirlwind of dissension. May we not get together outside

our journal covers and reserve the printed page for results or, at least, for such statement of difference in opinion as will display good sportsmanship? I appeal for professional courtesy among scientists.

In this connection it is a pleasure to acknowledge a letter from Dr. C. Hart Merriam in which he advises the use of the vernacular name "lodge-pole pine" instead of "tamarack pine" and of "Sierra Chickaree" instead of "Douglas Chickaree" as published in my "Notes from the Region of Lake Tahoe" (CONDOR, XXII, 1920, p. 78). I accept the suggestion as being in the interest of better use of the vernacular name, and extend my thanks to Dr. Merriam.

LOYE MILLER, *Southern Branch, University of California, December 15, 1920.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS SOUTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—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., December 30, 1920. Members present: Mesdames Bicknell, Fargo, Law and Martin; Messrs. Appleton, Bishop, Brown, Chambers, Hanaford, King, Lamb, Law, Little, Miller, Nokes, Pierce, Rich, Robertson, Ross, Taylor, van Rossem, Wood and Wyman. Among the visitors were Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Chapman and Miss Fargo. On motion by van Rossem, seconded by Lamb, Dr. Bishop's paper on birds of the Monterey Bay region was presented before business matters were taken up.

Following a short recess, minutes of the November meeting were read and approved, while those of the Northern Division for the same month were read by title only. Applicants whose names were previously presented were declared elected, on motion by Mr. Appleton that the Secretary cast a favoring vote. New presentations were: Dale T. Wood, 1470 E. Wilson Ave., Glendale, by Alfred Cookman; Mrs. C. H. Hall, 512 W. 30th St., Los Angeles, by Mrs. F. T. Bicknell; Dean Farnsworth, 1009 Manning St., Winfield, Kans., by Rev. P. B. Peabody; Elmer I. Applegate, Klamath Falls, Ore., by Mrs. F. M. Bailey; Howard W. Wright, 830 No. Orange Grove Ave., Pasadena, Calif., by A. J. van Rossem; W. Stanley Kitt, 129 So. 5th Ave., Tucson, Ariz., by Charles T. Vorhies; Richard Bramkamp, Banning, Calif., and Dr. F. D. West, Beaumont, Calif., both by M. French Gilman; John Beatty Hurley, 225 East E St., Yakima, Wash., by J. Hooper Bowles. The Northern Division sent names as follows: Mrs. Lewis Arnold, Lewis Ar-

nold, Mrs. Lydia Wilcox, Mrs. Flora Dudley, Geo. B. Culver, Ynez Mexia de Reygadas, Wm. Duncan Strong, Harold Hammond Cozens, Mildred Kellogg, Mrs. Charles Gilman Hyde.

The nominating committee reported as follows: For President, Donald R. Dickey; Vice-President, L. H. Miller; Secretary, L. E. Wyman. Dr. Miller withdrew in favor of Mr. A. B. Howell. On motion of Dr. Rich the report was accepted and the committee discharged. Nominations were closed on motion of Mr. Lamb, seconded by van Rossem.

On behalf of the business managers, Mr. Law offered a resolution relative to certain constitutional amendments, a copy of which was submitted to the members. His motion that this resolution be adopted was seconded by Dr. Nokes, to be voted upon at the January meeting.

Inspection of a series of shore-bird skins, and the usual round of informal discussion, completed the session. Adjourned.—L. E. WYMAN, *Secretary.*

JANUARY.—Regular meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8 P. M., at the Museum of History, Science and Art, January 27, 1921. Vice-President Rich presided, with others in attendance as follows: Miss Beers; Mesdames Bicknell, Brownlee, Fargo and Hall; Messrs. Appleton, Barnes, Bishop, Brown, Chambers, Colburn, Howell, King, Lamb, Little, Nokes, Pierce, Selwyn Rich, Ross, van Rossem and Wyman. Fourteen visitors were present.

Minutes of the December meeting were read and approved; followed by reading of those of the Northern Division. Persons whose names were presented at that meeting were elected, on motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by van Rossem, that the Secretary be instructed to cast a favoring ballot. New presentations were: Dr. A. G. Prill, Scio, Ore., by Stanley G. Jewett; Albert F. Ganier, 2507 Ashwood Ave., Nashville, Tenn., and Mrs. D. Barnard Bull, Route A, Box 158, San Jose, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; Mrs. A. J. French, Carlton, Ore., and Russell Reid, Bismarck, No. Dakota, by F. M. Bailey.

A letter from the Secretary of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, announcing Berkeley as the meeting place for 1921, August 4th to 6th as the date, was read by the Secretary. Election of officers for the ensuing year was then taken up. On motion of Mr. Appleton, seconded by Dr. Nokes, the rules