

In the "distribution" of the California Condor, that species is said to occur casually east to Arizona. This, too, is a statement that appears in many other books, handed down from early writers and with no basis of fact. On the other hand, *Coragyps urubu urubu* is not stated to extend westward, casually, to Arizona, although there is a well-attested published record of such occurrence in recent years. Curious, in how many different forms of study there reappears this (often unconscious) reverence for accepted beliefs of bygone times, together with a contempt for recent discoveries! Then, one would like to know what authority there is for the statement that the North American Turkey Vulture "attacks newly born lambs, pigs, and sick or wounded animals". It is disappointing to find the author thus uncritical in his acceptance of legendary beliefs. It is in a book of this sort that we would hope to see old errors quashed, not perpetuated.

The "Monograph of the Birds of Prey" will, of course, take its place as the authoritative *systematic* treatment of this group of birds, and it will probably remain so for years to come.—HARRY S. SWARTH, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—The December meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, at 8 o'clock, December 18, 1924. President Dixon called the meeting to order with the following members present: Misses Atsatt and Pringle; Mesdames Grinnell, Mexia and Mikesell; Messrs. Borell, Bryant, Clabaugh, Cooper, Evermann, Grinnell, W. Grinnell, Hall, Hudson, Hunt, Labarthe, Mailliard, Simpson, Storer and Swarth. Visitors were Misses Furlong and Zeile; Mesdames Furlong, Hudson, Hunt, Labarthe, Perine and Swarth; Messrs. Foster, Hall, McGowan and Perine.

Minutes of the Northern Division for November were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for November were read. Resignations were read and accepted from Mrs. Anna J. Kaseberg and Mrs. W. H. Smyth. Officers of the Northern Division for 1925 were nominated as follows: for president, Mr. C. B.

Lastreto; for vice-president, Mrs. Amelia S. Allen; for secretary, Mrs. Hilda W. Grinnell. A note was read from Mr. W. L. Finley stating that in all probability the waters will be turned again into Lower Klamath Lake. All members listened with pleasure to the reading of a Christmas greeting from Mrs. Amelia S. Allen, who is now "Fording" in Greece and studying the birds there.

The December meeting proved to be a surprise party for Mr. Joseph Mailliard, as the Northern Division of the Cooper Club, acting concurrently with the Southern Division, waived the regular rule and at the first reading of the motion unanimously elected Mr. Mailliard to Honorary Membership in the Cooper Ornithological Club. This action was taken by the Club in recognition of Mr. Mailliard's life-long work with California birds and of his genial interest in the welfare of the Club.

The contribution of the evening, entitled "The Pittsburgh Meeting of the A. O. U.," was presented by Mr. Joseph Grinnell; but since the gist of it has appeared in THE CONDOR (p. 44), the Secretary will not give further report of the evening's talk. However, since, following a precedent of long standing, no poetry finds sanction in the pages of our magazine, let us attempt to save for posterity, in these Minutes, Mrs. Charles B. Graves' clever lines to the Dipper, as taken down and reported by Mr. Grinnell:

Did you ever see an ouzel wink?
It's more of a trick than you would think!
He bobs his tail and bats his eye,
And lets his nictitating membrane fly!

Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary.*

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, on January 22, 1925, at 8 P. M. President Dixon was in the chair, with the following members present: Misses Atsatt, Flynn, Head, Pringle, Wythe, Van Gaasbeek; Mesdames Delpont, Grinnell, Kibbe, Mikesell, Mead, Mexia, Perry, Schenck, and Stock; Messrs. Bryant, Clabaugh, Cooper, Dixon, Elmore, Evermann, Gignoux, Grinnell, W. Grinnell, Hall, Kibbe, Labarthe, Mailliard, Ray, Schenck, Simpson, Swarth, and Trost. Visitors were: Misses Smoot and Zeile; Mesdames Clabaugh, Gignoux, Evermann, Hall, Ray, and Swarth; Messrs. Dietz, Foster, Perry, and Walford.

Minutes of the Northern Division for December were read and approved. Min-

utes of the Southern Division for December were read. The secretary presented for membership the name of Harold W. Clark, La Jota, Napa County. The resignation of Miss Florence M. Van Gaasbeek was accepted.

A communication was read from the chairman of the Scientific Research Section of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco, requesting the coöperation of the Cooper Club in the assembling and recording of all available data pertaining to the California drouth of 1924. President Dixon suggested that all members having data to contribute communicate directly with Dr. E. P. Meinecke, chairman of the sub-committee in charge of the study.

A request was read from Dr. Barton W. Evermann, acting secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, asking the Northern Division of the Cooper Club to appoint two delegates to meet with the committee of affiliated societies to plan for the meetings to be held June 17 to 20 next, at Reed College, Portland, Oregon. Authorized by a motion from the Club, the Chair appointed Mr. Joseph Mailliard and Mr. Harry S. Swarth as delegates. Dr. Evermann called the attention of those present to the literature now being circulated by the Anti-Vivisection League of California and asked for the active coöperation of all those interested, in defeating the objects of this league.

Mr. Swarth briefly outlined the scope of Swann's Monograph of the Birds of Prey and exhibited the newly-issued Part I, which covers certain vultures, including the California Condor. Through the generosity of a certain Cooper Club member this work has been subscribed for by the University of California library.

Before proceeding to the program of the evening the chairman called for the election of officers. Those nominated at the December meeting of the Northern Division were then duly elected, to serve during 1925, as follows: President, Mr. C. B. Lastreto; Vice-president, Mrs. Amelia S. Allen; Secretary, Mrs. Hilda W. Grinnell. Mr. Dixon then called upon Mr. Lastreto to take the chair.

At the chairman's request, Mr. A. S. Kibbe reported upon the eleventh national conference of the American Game Protective Association, held recently in New York City. Mr. Kibbe spoke with enthusiasm, and enumerated many interesting features of the convention, referring

optimistically to the probable passage of the Anthony bill, at the same time, however, urging that each Cooper Club member write to his Senator and Representatives expressing approval of the measure. At the invitation of Mr. Lastreto, Mr. Kibbe agreed to present at the next meeting of the Northern Division a resolution embodying the Club's approval of the measure and concern for the passage of it.

Club members listened with close attention to the reading by Mrs. Rose Carolyn Ray of an account of her discovery of a nesting Blue-throated Hummingbird in the Huachuca Mountains of Arizona on May 27, 1924. As this is but the fourth recorded nesting of this beautiful exotic species within the borders of the United States, Mrs. Ray was roundly congratulated upon her good fortune. A vivid account by Mr. Joseph Grinnell of the effect of a ten-inch snow-fall upon the midwinter bird-life of the Paine Creek district near Mount Lassen closed the evening's program. Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

NOVEMBER.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, November 25, 1924, at 8 P. M., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park. In the absence of the president and vice-president, Mr. Appleton was elected chairman. Members present were Misses Potter and Pratt; Mesdames Edwards, Ellis, and Law; Messrs. Allen, Appleton, Calder, Chambers, Colburn, Law, Michener, Nokes, Pierce, Rich, Howard Robertson, J. McB. Robertson, Ross, and Reis. Visitors were Misses Endicott and Elson, Mrs. Reis and Carl Chambers. Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved, followed by reading of the October minutes of the Northern Division.

The following applications for membership were read. Mrs. Martin Abernethy, Box 282, Claremont, by Wright M. Pierce; Elverton C. Berry, Box 234, Conway, N. H., by W. Lee Chambers; Martha Jean Blackwelder, Box NN, Stanford University, by J. Eugene Law; Courtenay Brandreth, Ossining, N. Y., by Major Allan Brooks; Brighton C. Cain, 221 Thayer Building, Oakland, by H. C. Bryant; Winifred McGugin, 2525 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, by Edw. P. Rankin; Arthur Newton Pack, 11 Morven Street, Princeton, N. J., by W. L. Finley; Daniel Van

Dellen, 48 Maple Street, Salinas, by O. P. Silliman; Miss Selma Werner, 2085 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, by H. C. Bryant.

Mr. Law called attention to the report on returns of banded birds recently published by the Biological Survey and reviewed the contents briefly. Dr. Nokes gave a short account of his visit this summer with Mr. E. J. Brown in Florida.

Mr. Law reported that the American Ornithologists' Union had rejected the invitation of the Cooper Club to hold its 1925 meeting in Los Angeles. Of the 147 fellows and members to whom inquiries were addressed, 118 responded and chances seemed good that 24 fellows and 28 members would be present if the meeting were held in California. At the 1923 meeting of the A. O. U. in the east, there were 25 fellows and 25 members, and at the 1922 meeting, 24 and 17, respectively. Since, however, only about one-fifth of the A. O. U. membership are members of the Cooper Club and only about one-tenth live west of the 100th meridian, the A. O. U. meetings in the west will probably continue to be a rare occurrence. The figures on hasty count are:

	A. O. U.	Both	Cooper Club
1924 Roster	1545	314	840
West of 100th Mer.	167	126	585

Mr. Allen remarked on the numbers of jays and magpies seen by him on a recent visit to England, where in former years they had been very scarce. Several small booklets, descriptive of western birds, and illustrated in color, were passed around. Mr. Chambers had just received these from the publishers, Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce Horsfall of Portland, Oregon.

Some of the banders present gave interesting experiences with birds banded and returns taken. Mr. Ross brought up the question of the flight of the White Pelican along the mountains. Several members contributed their observations on this subject. Adjourned.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Tuesday evening, December 30, 1924, with President Wyman in the chair and an attendance as follows: Misses Burnell, Potter, and Sykes; Mesdames Calder, Ellis, Law, Robertson, and Spinney; Messrs. Appleton, Bryan, Calder, Chambers, Colburn, Hanaford, Henderson, Law, Michener, Nokes, Pemberton, Reis, Rich, Robertson,

Runner, and Wyman. Visitors included Mesdames Bryan, Reis, and Wyman; Messrs. Carl Chambers, Robb, Spaulding, and Webster.

Minutes of the November meeting were read and approved, followed by the reading of the Northern Division minutes for November. The following applications were presented. Rell G. Haskett (Mrs. Bert), Box 95 A, Route 2, Phoenix, Arizona, by J. Eugene Law; Dr. G. A. Howatt, Room 405 Humboldt National Bank Bldg., Eureka, by Haven Howatt; John Edward Harry Kelso, M. D., Edgewood, Arrow Lakes, B. C., Canada, by W. Lee Chambers; James S. Lord, St. Stephen, N. B., Canada, by W. Lee Chambers; Paul E. Page, 401 North Yakima Ave., Tacoma, Wash., by J. Eugene Law; George Miksch Sutton, State Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa., by W. Lee Chambers; Frederick Thompson, Mill Valley, by W. Lee Chambers.

A nomination, under date of November 20, signed by Messrs. Law, Chambers, Pierce and Rich, was read, proposing the name of Mr. Joseph Mailliard for honorary membership in the Cooper Club. Mr. Law spoke of Mr. Mailliard's many years of activity in western ornithology, and proposed that the usual thirty days delay be waived in this case and that he be elected to membership at once. This motion was seconded by Dr. Rich, and being put to vote, was unanimously carried.

Professor Henderson, of the Colorado Museum at Boulder, Colorado, and a member of the Club, was called on to tell something of the work of the Colorado Museum. He spoke of the various collections of bird skins and eggs, but explained that the real interest of the museum lay in western archaeology, fossils and shells.

Two other visitors, Mr. Robb, of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, and Professor Frederick S. Webster, formerly connected with the Nature Study Department in the schools of Pittsburgh, spoke briefly to the Club.

Mr. Wyman then gave a short talk on birds of Lower California, pointing out on a map the different natural formations of the country. He exhibited skins of species found there, with the corresponding subspecies found here.

This being the last meeting of the year, nominations for officers for the ensuing year were in order. Dr. Rich made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bryan, that the present officers be nominated to succeed themselves. Motion carried. Adjourned.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary*.