

The Canadian Government itself, through its Minister of Mines, Hon. Chas. S. Stewart, participated actively in the entertainment of the Union. Each member as he registered on the opening day was presented, with the compliments of the Minister of Mines, an autographed copy of Taverner's sumptuous new volume on the "Birds of Western Canada"—a lasting memento of the Ottawa meeting.

The art exhibit, housed in a wing of the Museum for this occasion, was world-wide in its representation. Besides the work of practically all active American artists there were pieces by Joseph Wolf, the father of accurate bird portraiture, loaned by Dame Alice Godman; also pieces by Lodge, Millais, Larsen (of Denmark), and Liljefors (of Sweden). The exhibit of Ridwayiana, including many original drawings, was extensive and of great interest. A further exhibit was a very effective one relating to the history and personnel of Canadian ornithology.

The business session of the Union occupied an entire day and evening. Perhaps the most important items of business transacted included the formal launching of the Ridgway Memorial movement. Then the report of progress of the work upon the new Check-list, presented by Dr. Stone, and the authorization of the printing of the ten-year index to *The Auk*, were accomplishments of moment. New officers elected included, for President, Alexander Wetmore; Vice-presidents, J. Grinnell and J. H. Fleming; Secretary, T. S. Palmer; Treasurer, W. L. McAtee. There was no vacancy in the class of Fellows. New members elected were: May Thacher Cooke, Maunsell S. Crosby, Stanley G. Jewett, William H. Mousley, and J. A. Munro.

The regularly scheduled program comprised 57 numbers, representing practically all fields of ornithology. During much of the three days devoted to this program, double sessions were held, the more popular papers being presented simultaneously with the technical ones in a separate part of the building. It is, of course, very hard to say which were the most noteworthy contributions. That by Harrison F. Lewis, describing the eider-down industry newly developing in Quebec, proved of wide interest. As to the movies, perhaps the most novel one was Owen J. Gromme's, showing the nesting behavior of the Loon. Of the technical papers, Robert C. Murphy's report on "A Study of Adaptation among the Tubinares" was particularly suggestive. The

animated impromptu discussion of this and many other papers furnished a valuable feature of the program.

At the annual dinner our Canadian colleagues presented an entertainment of rare humor, long to be remembered. And, of course, the regular issue of the *Auklet* made its appearance as the evening progressed. A miniature of the Great Auk appeared as one of the table favors at each of the 200 places. A serious note during the dinner was struck when formal presentation was made to Major Allan Brooks of a medal in recognition of his eminence as a bird illustrator.

Throughout the sessions, the collections in the Division of Ornithology of the Victoria Museum, rich most especially in water birds, were kept fully open for examination by visitors. There was a pleasing lack of restraint in this regard, so that the fullest opportunity was enjoyed by the systematically inclined for profiting by the chance to study the extensive series of Canadian birds there available.

Making toward a real spirit of welcome was an unique piece of modeling which surmounted the stair-head in the entrance hall of the Museum. This, the work of Mr. P. A. Taverner and his assistants, was a huge Great Auk standing on three volumes (the A. O. U. *Check-list*, the A. O. U. *Code*, and *The Auk*); and below this was enthroned a jeering Auklet straddling the world! The whole thing was done in a fine spirit of humor and originality.

At the conclusion of the regular program, three days were devoted to excursions afield under the guidance of local bird-students. These were largely attended, by reason of the favorable weather; and long will be the memory, on the part at least of Californians, of the brilliant display of autumnal foliage in the beautiful Ottawa Valley and among the Laurentian Hills.—J. GRINNELL.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular meeting Tuesday evening, July 27, 1926, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park; twenty-five members and friends were present. In the absence of the president and vice-president, Mr. Howard Robertson was called on to act as chairman. Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. Through over-

sight, the secretary failed to have on hand June minutes of the Northern Division. The name of Thomas Tonkin McCabe, Indianpoint Lake, Barkerville, B. C., Canada, was proposed by Harold Michener.

Dr. Spencer W. Atkinson presented some unusual slides of animals, most of which were taken by flashlight at his home in Altadena, not far from the Mt. Wilson toll gate. California striped skunk, fox, possum and others were shown, among them quite a remarkable picture of the skunk in the act of using his well-known weapon of offense. A series of pictures of Anna Hummingbirds in the nest showed the rapid development of the nestlings.

Following Dr. Atkinson's talk, Mr. Wyman put on a number of slides of prehistoric animals, first some comics, then skeletons and the restored animals.

Adjourned.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary pro tem.*

NORTHERN DIVISION

JUNE.—The June meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, was held on Thursday afternoon, June 17, 1926, at two o'clock at Mills College, California, in affiliation with the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. President Amelia S. Allen presided, and forty members and guests were present. The reading of all minutes was omitted. The first paper of the afternoon was read by Mr. Ralph Hoffmann, upon "Courtship Performances of Birds". Mr. Hoffmann has recently spent much time in the field, and he presented to his hearers many original facts concerning the spring activities of the following thirteen birds: Western Grebe, Pigeon Guillemot, Black Tern, Forster Tern, Beal Petrel, Ruddy Duck, Wilson Phalarope, Wilson Snipe, Sage Grouse, Marsh Hawk, Texas Nighthawk, Three-toed Woodpecker, and Sage Thrasher.

Dr. Tracy Storer's paper was upon "Range Extension by the Western Robin." A definition of the former range of the robin in California, supplemented by records taken during the last ten years, showed a very decided increase in summer range. A review of conditions necessary for the successful rearing of broods of young robins pointed, according to Dr. Storer, toward the increased area of well-watered lawns in city parks and private gardens as the main factor concerned in the increased summer population, since robins nest always by preference near damp meadows containing an abundance of soft food for the young.

At the close of the program, a brief business meeting was held at which the following names were proposed for membership: Mary E. Bulkley, Box 474, Carmel, California, sponsored by J. Grinnell; Mrs. Addie Houghton Freeborn, 2327 Warring St., Berkeley, California, by Tracy I. Storer; Ralph Ruskin Huestis, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, by J. Grinnell.

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

JULY.—The July meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, on July 22, 1926, at 8 P. M. President Allen presided with thirty-five members and guests in attendance. Minutes of the Northern Division for June were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for June were read. The following names were proposed for membership: Raymond M. Gilmore, 1227 Bonita Ave., Berkeley, by Chester C. Lamb; and Ansel W. Robison, 1072 Market St., San Francisco, by H. S. Swarth.

Mr. Swarth contributed two book reviews, commending to his hearers Jonathan Dwight's "Gulls of the World", which contains painstaking descriptions of all the known plumages of the many species of gulls, and "A Monograph of the Pheasants of Japan" by Nagamichi Kuroda, notable for its artistic merits.

The talk of the evening was by Mr. Chester C. Lamb upon his recent three months trip down the gulf side of Lower California. He told in a realistic way of the tribulations of the road, tribulations encountered by fish trucks as well as museum Fords, and of the steepness and ruggedness of the San Pedro Martirs. He listed the birds found on the gulf shore and then those of the interior desert, and he told of a literal rain of birds following a heavy storm during the migration season. The creosote bushes seemed alive with bird individuals, and nineteen species not hitherto seen were noted.

A short paper on "Tree Surgery and the Birds" was read by Mr. Grinnell, who had watched favorite bird perches in the oak tree outside his office window disappear under the ministrations of "tree surgeons".

After the formal adjournment of the meeting, members lingered to look over the books reviewed and to study the trays of birds referred to by Mr. Lamb in his talk. Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary.*