

Despite the above adverse comments, the illustrations are so numerous, their subjects so well selected for the purpose of aiding the amateur, and the average of their ornithological merit so high, that Brooks' work must be weighted almost as greatly as the author's is with respect to the text, the association resulting in, as we said at the outset, the best popular bird-book yet, for use throughout California and the adjacent states.—J. GRINNELL, *Berkeley, California, June 8, 1927,*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB
MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The April meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club consisted of a brief business session held at 2:00 P. M. on April 30, 1927, in room 200 of the Hearst Memorial Mining Building on the University Campus, Berkeley. President Storer was in the chair and a quorum was present.

Names of persons proposed for membership in the Southern Division at the March meeting were read. The following new proposals for membership were read: Frederick R. Collins, 1032 Hyde St., San Francisco, and Louise E. Collins, 1032 Hyde St., San Francisco, by Joseph Mailiard; Edwin F. Coman, Jr., 834 Jones St., San Francisco, by Milton S. Ray; Mrs. Florence Eichwaldt, 721 Sunset Blvd., Hayward, Calif., by H. S. Swarth; Nellie May Tegland, Museum of Paleontology, Berkeley, by Edna M. Fisher; George L. Whitmore, 1094 Euclid Avenue, Berkeley, by Joseph Dixon.

The Chair appointed Miss Margaret W. Wythe to act as Secretary pro tem during May and June, in the absence of the regular Secretary.

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

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, May 26, 1927, at 8:00 P. M. In the absence of both president and vice-president, the Club voted that Mr. Joseph Dixon act as chairman. Forty-seven members and visitors were in attendance. April minutes of the Northern Division were read and approved. April minutes of the Southern Division were read.

A communication was read from Mr. Tracy I. Storer, tendering his resignation

as president of the Northern Division, because of an extended trip in the east. It being the opinion of members present that the vice-president could satisfactorily attend to the business of the Club during the absence of the president, and that it would be a pleasure and advantage to have the Club represented by its president in eastern circles, it was moved, and unanimously voted, that this resignation be *not* accepted. Appreciation was also expressed for the splendid way in which the president carried through the Second Annual Meeting of the Club at Berkeley, in April.

Mr. Dixon spoke of Mr. Ralph Hoffmann's forthcoming book, "Birds of the Pacific States", as meeting a real need of bird students in being a most helpful field guide.

There being no further business, the program of the evening was announced—"reports of local field trips". Discussions of trips under the leadership of Mrs. A. S. Allen were given by two members of her class. Mrs. A. S. Kibbe reported for trips to the Berkeley hills, Baumberg, Boulder Creek, Ross and Moraga; birds of special interest noted were Western Gnatcatcher, Rufous-crowned Sparrow and Creeper in full song, nesting Killdeer, and Sanderling. Mrs. Mead told of trips over the Joaquin Miller tract and to the Boy Scout camp in Oakland, where on March 29 there was still a large flock of Varied Thrushes and another of Golden-crowned Kinglets, while Red-breasted Nuthatches and Audubon and Lutescent warblers were also conspicuous. She described the Lafayette trip, with a total of 44 birds, and the Alameda trip with a list of 33 birds; also a most enjoyable outing to Point Bonita, where all three kinds of cormorants were observed.

Mrs. H. J. Taylor gave an interesting summary of "six trips afield" under the leadership of Dr. Bryant. Long lists of species were not the main objects of these trips, attention being put upon birds of particular interest as they presented themselves to notice. One trip, to Golden Gate Park, netted 14 nests of Allen Hummingbirds; another trip, to Baumberg, produced a nesting Snowy Plover; while the trip to Lake Merced was notable for the nest of a Tule Wren.

Mr. G. L. Whitmore then told entertainingly of experiences with birds in his garden: his experiments with providing food, bath, and nesting materials; several interesting incidents of his nesting birds, exhibiting a Wren-tit's nest partially lined

with fine copper wire, and a Bushtit's nest containing skeletons of five nestlings destroyed by ants.

Other members contributed items concerning local bird life. Mr. Dixon called upon Mr. W. A. Squires, now resident of Philadelphia, who has returned to this coast after a ten years' absence. Mr. Squires expressed pleasure at being able to attend a Cooper Club meeting once more, and told briefly of interesting birds observed during recent travels abroad.

Although notice was given of no June meeting, at the close of the evening's program it was suggested that such a meeting was desired. A motion was made to that effect, and carried. Adjourned.—MARGARET W. WYTHE, *Secretary pro tem.*

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on March 29, 1927. President Appleton called the meeting to order at 8:00 P. M., with about twenty-five members and friends present. The minutes of the February meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. The minutes of the February meeting of the Northern Division were read.

The following applications were read: Samuel G. Harter, 3848 Third St., San Diego, Calif., by L. M. Huey; Theed Pearce, Courtney, British Columbia, by J. Eugene Law; Lucien Reeder Howsley, Avila, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; Mrs. A. R. A. Morgan, Escondido, Calif., by J. B. Dixon; Mrs. B. R. Putnam, Thorshaon Ranch, Exeter, Calif., by Harry Harris; Harry B. Dillehunt, Jr., 3333 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Md., by A. B. Howell.

The announcement of the second annual meeting of the Cooper Club, which is to be held in San Francisco and Berkeley on April 29 to May 1, inclusive, was read for the benefit of anyone present who had not received a copy from the arrangements committee.

Mr. Chester C. Lamb, who has spent several years working with the birds of Lower California, was the speaker of the evening. He told many things of interest about the birds, the country and the people, beginning with the vicinity of San José del Cabo at the southern end of the peninsula and ending with the Colorado River delta region. Some of the interesting points were as follows: The list of Lower California birds compiled by Dr.

Grinnell contains 485 forms. These are nearly all very similar to the birds of our region, the Robin of the Cape district offering the greatest contrast. There are very few tropical birds, the Mangrove Warbler being the only one the speaker saw. In the San José region the White-winged Doves and the San Lucas Cactus Wrens were numerous, the latter nesting in holes in the houses just as readily as in the cactus. In this same region, White-crowned Sparrows were common migrants, but the Gambel Sparrow was rare, while on the west coast of the peninsula both were found in about equal numbers. The Laguna Mountains proved a paradise for Hummingbirds, 200 Xantus Hummers having been counted in one morning before the speaker had lost count. Thousands of Surf Birds were seen at San Felipe Bay, which region is evidently the wintering place for these birds. After the completion of Mr. Lamb's talk many questions and a general discussion followed.

Dr. Miller reported having seen recently a Lewis Woodpecker and a Vermilion Flycatcher in the same locality at Thousand Palms Canyon. When questioned in regard to the colony of Cardinals which has become established near Whittier, he stated that he had collected one of them and he, Dr. Grinnell and Mr. Swarth had each independently identified it as the Virginia Cardinal. This points definitely to the introduction of these birds from the east rather than to the extension of the range of the Arizona Cardinal.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary.*

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on April 26, 1927. In the absence of both the president and vice-president, Dr. Bishop was asked to take the chair. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 P. M., with about twenty members and friends present. The minutes of the March meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved. The minutes of the March meeting of the Northern Division were read.

The following applications for membership were read: Mrs. Elizabeth M. Fitzgerald, 1721 So. 6th St., Alhambra, Calif., by Roland Case Ross; Mrs. Alma W. Mason, 4223 Latona Ave., Los Angeles, Calif., and Miss Christine H. Darling, 406 East Avenue 39, Los Angeles, by Jessica A. Potter.

It was announced that the next meeting of the California Audubon Society will be at 7:30 P. M. on Thursday, May 12, at the Los Angeles Library. At that meeting several members of the Western Bird Banding Association will tell about the bird banding work and their experiences with the birds. Also, it was announced that the Western Bird Banding Association has made arrangements to act as sales agent for Ralph Hoffmann's "Birds of the Pacific States", which will soon be ready for distribution, and members and friends were asked to buy their copies through that Association, addressing their orders to Mrs. Ella H. Ellis, 910 Grattan St., Los Angeles.

There being no speaker for the evening, the meeting was devoted to the relation and discussion of the bird adventures of the various members present. Mr. Michener was asked to tell of recent happenings in the bird banding work. He reported on the very successful annual meeting of the Western Bird Banding Association on April 16, and told of the interesting papers and addresses and of the exhibition of bird photographs, some of the birds with bands and some without. Mrs. Schneider told of seeing Cassin Purple Finches near Acton recently. Dr. Bishop reported seeing twelve American Egrets and two California Blue Herons at the upper Chatsworth Lake; also a flight of Swainson Hawks near Fairmont in the Antelope Valley. Mr. Reis told of seeing many of these hawks in this same district and of finding their nests in the surrounding mountains in 1921. Mrs. Edwards told of the more than two hundred nests of Red-winged Blackbirds in Mr. Calder's orange grove at Buena Park, most of them in the very small trees. The nestlings are being banded by Mr. Calder. Many other interesting incidents were told.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.

ANNUAL MEETING.—The Second Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in the San Francisco Bay region, April 28 to 30, 1927. The program opened with a dinner at the Faculty Club at the University of California, followed immediately by the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors. On April 29, two sessions were held at the California Academy of Sciences, with an average attendance of about fifty persons. Dr. Tracy I. Storer presided. The sessions began with an address of welcome by Dr. Barton W. Evermann, Director of the Academy's

Museum, which was responded to by Dr. Loye Miller, President of the Board of Governors, C. O. C.

Dr. B. W. Evermann told of "Bird Collecting in California 47 Years Ago", recounting experiences in Ventura County, where numerous changes in the relative numbers and distribution of birds have since taken place. Dr. David Starr Jordan discussed "The Origin of Species, an Out of Door Problem". The unusually large percentage of carnivorous mammals and birds in fossil tar-beds was explained by Dr. Loye Miller as due to the gathering of such predators about entrapped prey; his paper was entitled "The Larger Falcons of the McKittrick Pleistocene". Mrs. Florence Eichwaldt pointed out some of the interesting things which may be learned from "The Maligned Parrot Tribe" in the aviary.

At noon, box lunches were served to the assembly through the courtesy of some members of the Board of Trustees of the California Academy of Sciences. In the afternoon session Mr. John G. Tyler gave some "Glimpses of Present-day Bird-life in the San Joaquin Valley", pointing out the changes (mostly for the worse with respect to birds) which have taken place incident to agricultural and hydro-electric development. Much interesting discussion followed a brief paper by Dr. Loye Miller on "The Migratory Instinct in Geologic Time". Dr. L. B. Bishop then presented papers on "The Status of the Point Barrow Gull" and "Fading in the Young of Certain White-winged Gulls". He was followed by Mr. E. W. Gifford, who spoke of "Birds in Aboriginal Californian Life". Dr. G. D. Hanna then showed several reels of motion pictures dealing with "Birds of the Revillagigedo Islands, Mexico", obtained on a recent expedition of the California Academy of Sciences. The afternoon program concluded with an interesting but abbreviated paper on the "Abundance of Rail and Limicolae on Bay Farm Island, due to State and Federal Protection", by Donald A. Cohen.

The California Academy of Sciences acted as host for an informal dinner to the Cooper Club and its guests at the Clift Hotel. About 85 persons were present. At the conclusion of the dinner "The Buz-zard" wheeled in, and later several members responded to calls from the toastmaster, Dr. Miller.

The session on Saturday, April 30, was held in 200 Mining Building, University of California. Dr. Joseph Grinnell pointed out "A Critical Factor in the Existence

of Southwestern Game Birds", namely, the necessity of young quail going to water within a short time after hatching and the adverse effects which drainage and concentration of water for irrigation has had upon the quail population. Dr. H. C. Bryant discussed "Current Economic Ornithological Problems". In a brief consideration of "Some Relations between Man and Birds", Jean M. Linsdale pointed out the real lack of control, by birds, of various agricultural pests, both insect and weed. Miss Hildegard Howard described "Methods of Handling Measurements in Identifying Cranes" in which she showed that the osteological material from the Emeryville shell-mound revealed the former presence of the Sandhill Crane in considerable numbers. Miss Margaret W. Wythe in "A Survey of Bird-life on the Lower Campus of the University of California" pointed out the changes that have taken place in the last 13 years, and she showed that the activities of landscape gardeners were for the most part inimical to the welfare of the native birds. W. O. Emerson contributed brief notes on the life of William Cooper, father of J. G. Cooper. Dr. W. E. Ritter in an interesting paper entitled "A Neglected Opportunity in Ornithology" pointed out the need of exact knowledge of the vocal activities of birds, and a need of studying in detail the percentages of success and failure in the nesting of even our commonest birds. The morning session closed with "An Exhibition of Early Books on Sport and Ornithology" by Professor C. A. Kofoid. A noon luncheon was held at the Faculty Club and then the program was resumed. Dane Coolidge told humorously of a collecting trip with Loye Miller in "Baja California in '96." Dr. Ralph W. Chaney showed motion pictures and contributed some "Notes on the Habits of the Mongolian Black Vulture." "The Diet of the Barn Owl" was the title of a brief paper by Dr. G. L. Foster. Mr. Jean M. Linsdale showed that there were significant differences between the various subspecies of fox sparrows with respect to weight. Mr. E. Raymond Hall gave some "Observations on Bird-life at Pyramid Lake, Nevada", and he pointed out the unique opportunity afforded in that locality for the study of the White Pelican. The meeting closed with a brief statement concerning the Ridgway Memorial.

An exhibit of important large ornithological works contained in the collection of the Library of the University of Cali-

fornia afforded further entertainment for the late afternoon. Of exceptional interest were the two volumes of original paintings by Andrew Jackson Grayson, of the birds of the Pacific Coast, a work now in the Bancroft Library, and which was never published.

In the evening Mr. George Wright hospitably entertained the Club and its friends at his residence on Thousand Oaks Boulevard. Following a buffet supper, Mr. Joseph Dixon gave a vivid talk, accompanied by numerous lantern slides, on "Nesting of the Alaska Willow Ptarmigan", based on field work carried on by himself and Mr. Wright in the Mt. McKinley region during the summer of 1926.

GOVERNORS' MEETING

The sixth regular annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Faculty Club, University of California, Berkeley, on Thursday evening, April 28, 1927. President Loye Miller and 15 other members were present in person, while 12 additional members were represented by proxy. Minutes of the meeting of April 9, 1926, were read and approved.

W. Lee Chambers reported that the Club, upon the disbanding of the South Moulton Company, had received \$2000 worth of copies of "The Birds of California", for sale by the Club. A formal audit of the records of the Business Managers was obtained from the Hassell Audit Company, Certified Public Accountants, through the kindness of D. R. Dickey. This report showed the Club to be in a satisfactory financial condition. Joseph Grinnell offered a statement entitled "Duties and Privileges of the Condor Editor" which was received as the Editor's report. The present officers of the Board and of THE CONDOR were reelected for the ensuing year. Article IV, Section 1a, of the constitution was amended so as to permit the election of one to three vice-presidents in each Division. A resolution was adopted permanently fixing the funds now in the endowment fund, in that fund. A further resolution changed the fiscal year of the Club to coincide with the calendar year, in order to facilitate the presenting of the annual report of the Business Managers at the annual meeting of the Board of Governors.

The President of the Board was authorized to appoint a committee to consider the question of the incorporation of the Club and to revise the constitution. Adjourned.
—T. I. STORER, *Secretary*.