

The Book of Bird Life, by Arthur A. Allen of Cornell University, published early in the year by the D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc. (250 4th Avenue, New York, price \$3.50), is being received, we understand, most cordially. Already, the first edition is entirely exhausted, and a new one is coming out. This is well merited recognition of what is perhaps the best book yet dealing with the problems involved in the living of birds, in brief compass, and fully and attractively illustrated. It is thus a stimulative book for the use of teachers in the schools. Also, although non-technical, it contains a good deal of suggestive material worth the reading by the more advanced student of ornithology.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The April meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on April 24, 1930, in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, at 8:00 p. m., with Vice-president George Wright in the chair and about sixty members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for March were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for March were read.

Applications for membership were presented from Miss Pauline Schulthess, Kelseyville, Lake County, California, proposed by Mary M. Erickson, and Clifton B. Shoemaker, P. O. Box 14, Glendora, California, proposed by J. Grinnell. Miss Pringle reported for the Cooper Memorial Committee and stated that a bronze tablet was being considered.

Dr. Evermann told of a recent visit to Pardee Dam where he saw a large number of Cliff Swallows prospecting for nesting sites, although no swallows were there last year, and he suggested that the impounded water might attract many new birds to the vicinity. Mr. Wright reported having seen four American Egrets along the Salinas River during the third week in April, also a White-tailed Kite near Gilroy. Mr. Adrey Borell stated that on a recent visit to Panoche Pass with Mr. Tyler and Mr. Ellis he had found a dead Red-tailed Hawk near the remains of a rattlesnake and the inference seemed clear that each had caused the death of the other.

The formal program of the evening con-

sisted of a symposium upon "The American Game Policy." Mr. E. L. Sumner, Jr., presented an admirable review of the "Report of the Committee to Formulate an American Game Policy" [American Game, Bulletin of the American Game Protective Association, pp. 13-16, December, 1929, January, 1930], and distributed to members mimeographed copies of an outline of the paper. Mr. Joseph S. Hunter and Mr. Donald McLean, of the California Division of Fish and Game, read at length from the "Transactions of the Sixteenth American Game Conference" papers advocating changes in the American game policy, with reasons therefor. Mr. Joseph Dixon told of the steps being taken by the National Parks toward the preservation of wild life and of the setting aside of "Wilderness Areas." Mr. H. V. La Jeunesse of the Hayward Pheasantry closed the evening's program with a most interesting account of the rearing of game birds in captivity. His hearers were surprised to learn that many more young are reared from a domesticated pair of Quail or of Mallard Ducks in a season than are reared in the wild.

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

MAY.—The May meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on May 22, 1930, in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, at 8:00 p. m. In the absence of president and vice-president, Joseph Grinnell occupied the chair. Fifty members and guests were present. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for April were read.

Reports from the field were the order of the evening and members responded generously. Dr. Ritter told of watching gulls alighting on piling along the Bay front and suggested that Club members having opportunity so to do photograph the birds in the different postures assumed in settling in order to show the number and variety of body members brought into play and coordinated into simultaneous action. Mrs. Allen reviewed notes which she had taken for several days on the activities of a pair of Hutton Vireos which started to build a nest in an oak tree outside her window.

Mr. Harold W. Clark of Angwin, Napa County, described the faunal position of his home territory on Howell Mountain

and the way in which it is reflected in avian distribution. Miss Josephine Smith contributed an account of the belligerent manner in which a Golden-crowned Sparrow pulled the tail of a greedy Quail at her feeding table in Strawberry Cañon.

Mr. Alden Miller reported upon the activities of two pairs of Bullock Orioles observed near Pinole, the males arriving two weeks in advance of the females, and he commented on the defense of territory and courtship activities of the four birds. Mr. Cain told of birds observed about the Boy Scout Camp in the Oakland hills and of the late lingering of the Red-breasted Nuthatches.

Mr. L. Ph. Bolander discussed birds seen by members of the Audubon Association of the Pacific on an outing meeting held May 18 at the McCoy Ranch in the Livermore hills. Among the most interesting of these were three pairs of Lewis Woodpeckers. Adult Cowbirds were also seen by this group. Leslie Hawkins told of many observations made during the month, including a possible record of an Arizona Hooded Oriole in Reliez Valley. This record was of especial interest since another observer, Gordon Bolander, reported the same species seen on an Oakland lawn, which suggested invasion by this bird, hitherto unlisted for the Bay region.

Mrs. Mead told of seeing eight Black-crowned Night Herons along the Sears Point cut-off, a White-tailed Kite near San Quentin, and seventeen young Mallards with an adult on the chain of lakes in Golden Gate Park. Mr. Otto Emerson reported the taking of a Cowbird at Santa Cruz in 1880 by George Battinger. Many of the other interesting records given during the evening are necessarily omitted here for lack of space.

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

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The May meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday evening, May 27, 1930, at the Los Angeles Museum, with about fifty members and friends present and President Willett in the chair. It was moved, seconded and carried that the reading of the minutes of the April meetings be omitted.

The following applications for membership were read: Ralph G. Kirk, 342 N. Rockingham Road, Brentwood Heights Station, Los Angeles, Calif., proposed by

J. Grinnell, and Donald McLain, 2780 Rose Avenue, Altadena, Calif., proposed by Blanche Vignos.

President Willett presented a letter from John B. Price, of the Glendale High School, stating that he had trapped some gulls, banded them and marked their breast feathers with red paint. He wishes to be notified as to where and when anyone happens to recognize these gulls.

A letter from the United States Senate Special Committee on Wild Life Resources was read by Mr. Willett. This letter told of the appointment of this special committee for the purpose of investigating all matters pertaining to the replacement and conservation of wild life with a view to determining the most appropriate methods for carrying out such purposes and making recommendations for necessary legislation. The Cooper Club is asked to give the committee all possible help in the study of conservation and the enacting of federal laws pertaining to it. President Willett recommended that the matter be referred to the Conservation Committee of the Northern Division. Dr. Miller so moved and the motion was carried.

The situation in regard to bird life on the islands and shores of Salton Sea was discussed by President Willett. He pointed out the possibilities for both good and harm to the birds in the activities of the gun clubs. Following his suggestion that a committee be appointed to try to see that the results are good rather than harmful, Dr. Miller moved, the motion being seconded and carried, that the President be empowered to act either personally or through a committee in keeping in touch with the situation and bringing all possible influence to the protection of these birds.

Mr. Robert T. Moore, the speaker of the evening, told of his recent trip to the Andes of Equador and particularly of his climbs up Mt. Sangai and Mt. Chimborazo and of the birds seen and collected there. He showed interesting motion pictures and most beautiful slides, the latter being photographs taken in the natural colors. The statement is significant that the success in climbing Mt. Sangai was due to the fact that the party had other interests (birds, mammals and flowers) along the way. The unassuming and forceful portrayal of the expedition, the country, the birds and their habitats was a delight to all present.

Adjourned.—HAROLD MICHENER, *Secretary*.