

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday evening, March 31, 1931, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Pemberton in the chair and about forty-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 for membership were read: H. M. DuBois, 438 East 17th St. N, Portland, Oregon, proposed by Stanley G. Jewett; Harvey T. Anderson, Jr., 3062 Weldon Ave., Los Angeles, proposed by Loye H. Miller; Blondel H. Carleton, 2421 Durant Ave., Berkeley, and Ronald B. Durrant, Terrace, British Columbia, Canada, both proposed by W. Lee Chambers.

A short note from Mrs. Edward C. Bull and family, expressing their appreciation of the resolution passed at the February meeting, was read. A letter from Tracy I. Storer in regard to the Conservation Committee of the Club was read.

There being no further business the meeting was turned over to the speaker of the evening, Dr. Henry Smith Williams. He first displayed a nest of the Anna Hummingbird, composed in part of materials furnished by himself, such as cotton, the fluff from a rug, and bits of feathers. His topic was "A New Theory of Migration" and his remarks covered a wide field, including the dispersal of young birds after leaving the nest, the migration route of the individual retracing the emigration route of the race, the shifting of the continents during past geologic ages, the Mendelian inheritance of the urge to follow certain migration routes, and the greater survival value of one route over another. His talk was illustrated by a number of charts and he also displayed a remarkable collection of nests of the Baltimore Oriole constructed for the most part of materials furnished by himself.

After some comments and discussion of various points in the talk, Dr. Williams explained that the nests were some of the results of eight years of experimenting, at his home in Connecticut, with furnishing nesting material for the orioles

and other birds. They show the change from nests containing only a small amount of the material furnished, to nests constructed entirely of soft wool yarn, some of various colors, and in one case entirely of white yarn. There was also a Kingbird's nest heavily festooned with long strips of white cloth.

The meeting was adjourned to allow further informal discussion and a closer examination of the nests. —JOHN McB. ROBERTSON, *Secretary*.

APRIL.—The regular meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, April 28, 1931. Vice-President Harold Michener was in the chair and about fifty-five members and friends were 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.

Applications for membership were read as follows: H. Woodworth Kennedy, 1720 South Atlantic Blvd., Alhambra, proposed by A. van Rossem; Owen Brown, 468 Allendale Road, Pasadena, proposed by Harry Harris; George J. Kursinski, 1016 Winchester Ave., Alhambra, and Thomas B. Palamountain, 3011½ North Broadway, Los Angeles, both proposed by George G. Cantwell; Thomas Doane Hinshaw, 1908 Scottwood Ave., Ann Arbor, Michigan, proposed by W. Lee Chambers; and Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee, 11 Dallas St., Worcester, Massachusetts, proposed by John McB. Robertson.

A letter was read from Jean M. Linsdale in regard to the Conservation Committee of the Cooper Club, stating that a great deal of information is available to anyone who wishes to take an active part in conservation work in California. No action was taken.

W. Lee Chambers called attention to Avifauna No. 20, which is now off the press and ready for delivery. It is the Third Ten Year Index to The Condor, and should be in the possession of everyone who has a file of The Condor for the years 1919 to 1928.

George Willett spoke of having a letter from A. B. Howell in regard to an effort to have the California Division of Fish and Game take a definite stand in regard to poison campaigns, and he stated that the Division has agreed to investigate the matter and to announce its stand when the facts are before it.

There being no further business to come before the meeting it was turned over to the speaker of the evening, Wright M. Pierce, who showed some interesting moving pictures of the nesting of the Golden Eagle. The first nest shown was in a eucalyptus tree, and when this nest was destroyed by some vandal before the eggs hatched, the scene was shifted to a cliff nest on the Mohave Desert where the growth of a young eagle was shown. The food of these desert birds was shown to consist almost entirely of jack-rabbits and chuckwallas.

The speaker also exhibited four sets of Golden Eagles' eggs, showing the great variation in size and markings of the eggs. Mr. Pierce stated that he had been unable to complete this series of films because the eagles were not breeding this season in some of their usual locations, although the birds are present. No reason for this condition could be given. After a number of questions and some discussion of the food and habits of the Golden Eagle, the meeting was adjourned.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Secretary*.

MAY.—The regular meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, was held Tuesday evening, May 26, 1931, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California, with President Pemberton in the chair and about twenty-five members and friends present. The minutes of the April meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved; the minutes of the April meeting of the Northern Division were read.

The application for membership of Dr. B. Boynton Filer, 2227 E. Hawthorne St., Tucson, Arizona, proposed by Walter P. Taylor, was read.

A letter was read from J. Murray Luck, Secretary, Pacific Division, A. A. S., announcing a meeting of the Affiliation Committee to be held in Pasadena, Tuesday, June 16, 1931, at 5 p. m., and asking that two members be appointed to represent the Cooper Club at that meeting. A motion was made, seconded and carried, that A. van Rossem and William H. Burt be appointed to represent the Cooper Club at that meeting, and that the Secretary be instructed to inform them of the action of the Club.

A letter was read from George S. Myers, Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Di-

vision of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, calling attention to their annual meeting, to be held at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, on the afternoon of June 16, and inviting all Cooper Club members to attend. It was moved, seconded and carried that we accept the invitation, and that the Secretary inform Mr. Myers of our appreciation and acceptance of the invitation.

George Willett spoke of an article in a recent issue of Nature Magazine about the proposed Federal Bird Reserve on the Salton Sea. Discussion brought out the fact that no one seems to know just what the boundaries of this reserve are to be, so it was moved, seconded and carried that W. Lee Chambers be appointed a committee of one, to find out just what area is to be included in the reserve, and to report at the next meeting.

George Willett spoke of how enjoyable the recent Sixth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Club, in Berkeley, was to all who were able to attend. He also commented briefly on a number of papers that were given, and mentioned the decision of the Board of Governors to hold the next annual meeting in the Los Angeles region. Dr. Loye Miller spoke of how encouraging to the older generation of Cooper Club members was the appearance on the program of a number of young ornithologists just starting on their life's work. He also spoke of the preponderance of papers on territory over those on systematics. He urged the members of this Division to start preparing for the next meeting now.

After further brief comment on the Berkeley meeting by J. R. Pemberton and W. Lee Chambers, the meeting was adjourned.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, was held on Thursday evening, April 23, 1931, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, with about 125 members and guests in attendance and Vice-President Linsdale presiding. Minutes of the Northern Division for March were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division were read.

Proposals of new names for membership were: Miss Emma Haefner, 2510

Bancroft Way, Berkeley, by Paul F. Bunker; Miss Dorothy Hildebrand, Kelseyville, by Emily Smith; Miss Ruth A. Hoerl, 1128 S. Stanislaus St., Stockton, by Barbara Norris; Ernest H. Norrback, 130 Naples St., San Francisco, by Alden H. Miller; Helen (Mrs. A. B.) Thornthwaite, care of Mounted Police, Old Crow Detachment, Yukon Territory, via Fort Yukon, Alaska, by E. L. Sumner.

Mr. Cain announced that the last of the series of lectures sponsored by the Audubon Association of the Pacific would be a talk upon shore-birds by Mrs. G. E. Kelly on the evening of April 30. He cordially invited Cooper Club members to attend. A visit to the island in Lake Merritt was described by Mr. Cain. He reported that because of the depredations of gulls, ducks find it impossible to rear young on the island. Newly hatched mallards, however, when transferred to cages by the Park employees have grown to maturity. Two swans were found to be brooding together on a nest containing fourteen eggs. It was surmised that both birds were females. Steps are being taken, Mr. Cain stated, in accordance with Mr. Grinnell's suggestion, to remove exotic and crippled birds from the lake. A pelican bone found on the island was exhibited.

Mrs. James T. Allen reported that a Long-tailed Chat has been seen at Oak Springs on the Tunnel Road. Mr. Don C. Meadows commented upon the excellence of the salt marshes near El Cerrito Hill as a place in which to observe shore-birds, having himself recently seen many sandpipers, terns of several species, and four Bonaparte Gulls at that point.

Vice-President Linsdale announced that because the annual meeting of the Cooper Club will be held in Berkeley on May 15 to 17, no meeting will be held by the Northern Division on the fourth Thursday of that month.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Milton P. Skinner, field naturalist, for many years resident in the Yellowstone National Park. Mr. Skinner's discussion of the "Birds of Yellowstone Park" was illustrated by lantern slides showing maps of the region, the prevalent trees, and photographs of various birds, and was supplemented by a description of the three main routes by which migratory birds reach the Park.

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

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Berkeley, California, Friday and Saturday, May 15 and 16, 1931. The scientific sessions were held in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, University of California. Registration of members and visitors began at 9 a. m. At 9:30 George M. Wright, President of the Northern Division, formally opened the meeting with a greeting and address of welcome to the members and guests assembled.

L. H. Miller, President of the Board of Governors responded to the welcome. A telegram was read from Stanley G. Jewett, expressing hope for the success of the meeting.

Approximately 80 persons were in attendance at each of the four scientific sessions and more than 200 were present at the evening showing of motion pictures.

Alden H. Miller described "The fossil passerine birds from the Pleistocene of Carpinteria, California", which include 21 species, 19 of which are in the local Recent fauna. In Pleistocene time the region evidently supported more forest cover. A. M. Woodbury described "Bird habitats in Zion Canyon, Utah", where the narrow gorge restricts many of the habitats. Colored lantern slides portrayed the details of various habitats. L. H. Miller described the "Ecology of the Carpinteria region in the Pleistocene" as indicated by avian fossils heretofore recovered. He now concludes that *Wetmoregyps daggetti* was a forest inhabiting species rather than a walking eagle as previously considered. John B. Price reported on "Flocking habits of Zonotrichias and further notes on Quail", continuing studies previously reported in the Condor, from banding and marking of trapped birds with paint. Artificial exchange of Valley Quail in the flocks indicates that the former do not normally exchange between flocks, nor do all transplanted quail return to their original flocks. Repeated trappings of crown sparrows has shown a somewhat wider degree of range for these birds. Mary M. Erickson reported upon "Territorial behavior in the Wren-tit". Most individuals and pairs have small ranges, and for breeding purposes their ranges are still further restricted. Invasion of the borders of a range by other Wren-tits is sometimes resisted at various seasons; other species of birds may be driven out of Wren-tit territories. Of 26 pairs