

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, held in Los Angeles April 22 to 24, was well attended and at least as successful in all other respects as the best meeting in the history of the Club. A full report of it will be given in the July *Condor* by Governors' Secretary Storer. Among transactions at the Governors' meeting was the addition of Alden H. Miller to the editorial staff for handling Club publications. Also it was a great satisfaction in these financially parlous times to have assurance from Business Managers Chambers and Robertson that the Club is solvent—that the Club's income continues so as to make unnecessary any serious reduction in our printed output.

The biennially appearing membership list published in this issue of the *Condor* shows a total present enrollment in the Cooper Ornithological Club of 877 members. This new and down-to-date roster, so useful to our members as a directory, was prepared by John McB. Robertson, with painstaking care for correctness in all details.

Mr. J. Hooper Bowles of Tacoma has received appointment to a newly reconstituted Advisory Board to the Secretary of Agriculture. The function of this Board is to recommend regulations for properly carrying out the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act as obtaining between Canada and the United States. Judging from the composition of this Board (ten out of the fifteen members representing State Game Departments) its chief concern for the birds will be "to insure their use in field sports." Mr. Bowles, a member from the district which includes Washington, Oregon and California, is excellently qualified to represent ornithology as such, and we feel confident he will use his knowledge and influence toward the protection of bird-life for those other values, also, which are obtained in other ways than through the use of the shot-gun shell. We feel safe in suggesting that Mr. Bowles will welcome recommendations or comments directly from any of his fellow members of the Cooper Ornithological Club.

"An Introduction to Bird Study in British Columbia" is the title of a recently appeared book by J. A. Munro, Chief Federal Migratory Bird Officer for the Western Provinces of Canada (Victoria, B. C., Charles F. Banfield, Printer, 1931 [our copy received February 24, 1932], 99 pp., 26 colored pls., 22 "black and white" pls., 11 figs. in text). Chapters on general subjects, and the accounts of species, all admirably adapted for popular use, bear the unmistakable stamp of careful work. The numerous illustrations have been intelligently selected for the prime purpose of the book. This contribution from Mr. Munro is written in such a tone throughout that it is bound to produce a high standard of popular regard for the bird-life of the Province of which it treats.

A booklet (of 98 pages) which we feel sure will prove interesting and informative to students of American birds has come out (March, 1932) under the title "Introduction to Ornithological Nomenclature." The authors are Mary Ferguson Coble and Cora Smith Life, of Los Angeles, and the printers are Wm. B. Straube Printing Co., of the same city. Copies of it may be had at one dollar each from Prof. A. C. Life, Science Bldg., University of Southern California, Los Angeles. The pronunciations and derivations of the scientific names of western birds are given in considerable detail; also brief accounts of the persons for whom birds have been named, and lists of the meanings of words from the classical languages which are commonly used in the formation of generic and specific terms. The user of this contribution will need to watch out for the rather numerous typographical errors; but despite this unfortunate circumstance we feel that this booklet merits extensive distribution.

In the *Condor* for May, 1931 (vol. 33, pp. 132-134) we took occasion to review at length, and favorably, volume one of David Bannerman's "Birds of Tropical West Africa." This volume came out about June, 1930; now volume two (pp. xxx + 428, 15 pls., 114 text-figs, same publishers and price) has reached us [our copy received January 29, 1932]. The

same high standards, both as to text and illustrations, are held to as we found in the first installment of this fine work. To Mr. Bannerman we extend our congratulations that conditions, aside from the obvious factor of his own industry, remain favorable to the rapid advance toward completion of this large undertaking.

The second of Dr. Linsdale's papers dealing with the poison question appears in this issue of the *Condor* and well merits thoughtful reading by all those naturalists who believe that wild animal life (bird and mammal) should be preserved. Curiously, last year's report, which consisted of a summary of findings as to the effects of certain special poison practices, was met by open hostility on the part of the agents and agencies of "pest control." The chief kind of reaction apparent to date has been effort along various lines completely to discredit the writer of that first report and also any other person who openly expressed himself as having confidence in the scientific character of the conclusions reached. Each and every serious proponent of true conservation who reads the criticisms emanating directly from, or inspired by, those destruction-promoting agencies will, of course, carefully analyse the documents in question and also will re-read the Linsdale papers. Indeed, we recommend as a method of analysis, the use of that literary device known as the "deadly parallel"! We are assuming that *Condor* readers will not need to have any detailed reply in our columns to the specific charges, direct or by devious implication, which have been made elsewhere. However, we consider ourselves open-minded and will be glad to receive advice or suggestion along this line.—J.G.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The January meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday, January 26, 1932, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, Harold Michener presiding. The minutes of the December meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved; the minutes of the December meeting of the

Northern Division were read by title on motion of Mr. G. Willett.

Applications for membership were received as follows: A. H. Anderson, Route 2, Box 139, Tucson, Arizona, proposed by John McB. Robertson; Ryland Edward Benson, 125 South West St., Anaheim, Calif., proposed by Harold Michener; Ezra R. Day, 3789 S. 52nd St., Salt Lake City, Utah, proposed by J. W. Sugden; Mr. W. Wallace Nichols, 1263 West 99th St., Los Angeles, Calif., proposed by George G. Cantwell; Mr. John Slocum, Thatcher School, Ojai, Calif., proposed by Loye Miller; Olive E. Williams, Route 2, Puente, Calif., proposed by Miriam S. Faddis.

The nominating committee brought in the names of Harold Michener for President; J. McB. Robertson, Vice-president; R. B. Cowles, Secretary. Mr. Willett moved that the nominations be closed. Dr. Miller amended the motion, that the secretary be instructed to cast an unanimous ballot. Motion as amended, passed.

Mr. Jack Boas from the Bureau of Education and Research, Division of Fish and Game, State of California, gave a brief talk on the status of California as a leader in the field of conservation, and discussed the work of conservation as illustrated by various types of activity. The talk was followed by a series of pictures illustrating some of the phases of wild life conservation and activities.

Meeting adjourned.—R. B. COWLES, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.—The February meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday, February 23, 1932, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, President Michener presiding. The minutes of the January meeting of the Southern Division were read and approved; the minutes of the January meeting of the Northern Division were read.

Applications for membership were received as follows: Mrs. Charles Noel Edge, 113 E. 72nd St., New York, N. Y., proposed by John McB. Robertson; Mr. John Wiley Harrison, Encinitas, Calif., proposed by Mr. J. R. Pemberton; Mr. G. M. Henry, Colombo Museum, Colombo, Ceylon, proposed by Steve A. Glassell.

Attention was called to a recent publication, "Introduction to Ornithological Nomenclature," by Mary Ferguson Coble and Cora Smith Life, published by the Straube