

of orderliness which Mr. Kalmbach aptly likens to "what one sees at any football game when each of 50,000 or more spectators" has at last planted "himself in his own reserved seat before the start of the game."—J.G.

The two-volume work by Dr. Thomas S. Roberts on "The Birds of Minnesota" is out and will probably stand as the most noteworthy single American publication in the ornithological field during the year 1932. It has been long expected; indeed any comprehensive undertaking of the sort must require a period of years for its completion, even under the best of circumstances. That Dr. Roberts' life-time of labor has been unremitting and to good purpose is abundantly demonstrated by the high standards shown in the volumes in question, as to quality and quantity of text, as to the abundance and excellence of the illustrations (which include 92 colored plates by Brooks, Sutton, Weber, Jaques, and Breckenridge), and as to the high grade of bookmaking throughout. In the latter regard, the auspices of publication (The University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis) deserve sincere commendation. The two volumes are of demy quarto size and comprise together some 1250 text pages. While costing many thousands of dollars to publish, friends of ornithology and of Dr. Roberts have defrayed most of this cost, so that the set can be purchased in stout, cloth binding (from the University of Minnesota Press) for \$6.00. There is also a de luxe edition at \$25.00.—J.G.

A well gotten up list of the "Birds of the Battle River Region [of central Alberta] With Notes on their Present Status, Migrations, Food Habits and Economic Value" has just appeared (July, 1932) under the authorship of our fellow Club member, Mr. Frank L. Farley, who is so well known for his successful activities in the bird-banding field. This 85-page booklet may be had for fifty cents from its publishers, The Institute of Applied Art, Limited, Edmonton, Alberta. It is rather surprising to us to find that no less than 238 species and subspecies have been found in this far northern district of relatively limited extent. Mr. Farley includes in this contribution a most interesting chapter on "Tracing the Gulls to their Winter Homes," based on the results of some of his banding operations near his home at Camrose, Alberta.—J.G.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The May meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on June 23, 1932, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with forty-two members and guests present. In the absence of the regular officers Mr. Joseph Grinnell presided. Minutes of the Northern Division for April were read, corrected and approved.

"Current observations from the field" was the topic of the evening's program. So interesting and varied were the contributions offered and the discussions evoked that when the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:30 only half of the people present had had an opportunity to report. Many members lingered to inspect a caged Harris Sparrow, captured by Mr. E. L. Sumner, Sr., in a banding trap in Strawberry Canyon on May 3, the eighth record for the State. Mr. W. O. Emerson, who was present, secured the first known specimen at his home in Hayward in 1900.

The Phainopepla was reported by Mrs. J. R. Davis as being present this year in small numbers in a cañon southwest of Livermore, where three or four pairs were seen on May 1. A pair of these birds in Hospital Cañon south of Corral Hollow was reported by Mr. E. I. Dyer and Mr. W. F. Sampson as seen on April 17.

The Barn Owl was reported upon by Cranson Hopkins as using nesting boxes put up by himself in suitable places where natural nesting cavities were absent. Comment on the Russet-backed Thrush reminded Mrs. Lindsey of the apt description of the song as "spiral".

The marauding habits of the California Jay were illustrated by Dr. L. W. Taylor's report of the killing of chicks at the poultry farm in Strawberry Cañon by birds of this species; by Mr. Mailliard's report of the beheading of a canary, whose cage was hung outside a window at Belvedere; and by the discovery by Miss Erickson on three different days of jays carrying off very young brush rabbits. Miss Erickson also told of exchanging young California Jays between two nests and of the uninterrupted rearing of the exchanged young by the apparently unwitting adults.

Mr. Sumner told of banding a Golden-crowned Sparrow on April 18 which made 29 repeats before its departure on May 11.

Many activities of the numerous birds about his Piedmont home were described by Mr. Dyer, whose discovery of a brood of twenty young California Quail leaving the nest at 6:30 p. m. on May 25 makes the first reported Bay region record for this year. Other interesting observations on the Quail were made by Lowell Sumner, Jr., just returned from studying these birds in an area in San Mateo County enclosed in such a way that the birds are living under very nearly natural conditions. A discussion of these birds led to a comparison with the nearly related Bobwhite of the Eastern states, whose habits were described by Mr. Tonkin, Mr. Pursell, and Mr. Mikesell. The last named had known the birds in eastern Washington State as well, where their introduction was a pitiful failure because of the bird's total unfitness to cope with the soft winter snows of that region.

The first nesting record of the Red-breasted Nuthatch for the Bay Counties was announced by Mr. Cain, who on May 15 banded four young just ready to leave the nest. These birds were reared in a bird box put up two years ago at the Oakland Scout Camp at Diamond Cañon, where Mr. Cain has often noted the species in fall and winter. Part of the rim of the nest hole was marked with pitch, in the manner characteristic of this bird when nesting in natural cavities.

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

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, June 23, 1932, at 8:00 p. m., in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. President Linsdale occupied the Chair and thirty-five members and guests were present. Minutes of the Northern Division for May were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division were read. The name of Mr. Carl Olsen, 11 East Gabilan Street, Salinas, California, was proposed for membership by Mr. W. C. Jacobsen.

President Linsdale announced the appointment of Mr. Mailliard, Mr. Storer and Mr. Grinnell, Chairman, as a committee to draw up resolutions on the death of Dr. C. W. Richmond, honorary member of the Club. In accordance with the expressed wishes of the Southern Division he instructed the Committee to act for both

Divisions. The resolutions subsequently drawn up were as follows:

Whereas, in the death, on May 19, 1932, of Charles Wallace Richmond, for thirty-eight years in curatorial service in the Division of Birds, United States National Museum, ornithology has lost an eminent scholar—one who has contributed importantly directly or indirectly to publication in this field; and

Whereas, we of the Cooper Ornithological Club, in which organization Dr. Richmond was an Honorary Member, have had occasion, many of us, to know of his constant readiness to help others in their studies, and also to become individually aware of his genial and stimulating personality; therefore be it

Resolved, that we of the Cooper Ornithological Club hereby express our deep sorrow at this loss to ornithology as a science and to students of birds both within our Club and elsewhere; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions, with an expression of our sincere sympathy, be sent officially from the Club to Mrs. Richmond.

The Chair then called attention to the recommendation of the special committee on nominations for honorary memberships in the Club, this committee having presented the names of Mr. A. W. Anthony of San Diego, and Mr. Albert M. Ingersoll, also of San Diego. Following the usual course these nominations will be ratified at the July meeting of the Northern Division.

Mr. Dexter reported having seen a Black-crowned Night Heron and an American Bittern at Lake Temescal on May 8, and a Kingfisher and nesting Black Phoebe at the same place on May 15. Mr. Bunker saw a flock of Cedar Waxwings on May 20. Mr. W. F. Sampson reported by letter that on the morning of June 11 he noticed a female Western Evening Grosbeak on top of the aviary of Dr. Hugh Fraser of Piedmont. Among the birds confined in the aviary were two male Western Evening Grosbeaks. Mr. H. Robert Poultney told of the taking of a Bronzed Grackle in southeastern Nevada and Mr. E. R. Hall of securing a Yellow-throated Vireo in the same region.

Prof. Loye Miller of the Southern Division being present, the Chairman asked him to tell of his trip through the Santa Barbara Channel on May 14. Dr. Miller then told of noting an adult Sabine Gull in breeding plumage, his first spring record for the species in those waters. A wave of migrating warblers was encountered, including Audubon and Black-throated Gray Warblers, a female of the last named species coming aboard the boat and remaining for some time. On the eastern end of Anacapa Island a lighthouse had been erected since Dr. Miller's last visit and he found that the Western Gulls,

Farallon Cormorants and Pelicans which formerly nested there had been driven away by a pack of terriers and also as the result of shooting by persons on the lighthouse reservation. On the smaller, separated, western end of the island, protected from these depredations by a channel, available nesting sites were being occupied.

The evening's talk was given by Mr. Leo K. Wilson, Chief of the Bureau of Education and Research, California Division of Fish and Game, on "The Waterfowl Situation." Mr. Wilson marshalled before his hearers a comprehensive array of facts accounting for the lessening numbers of our waterfowl and remedies suggested. However, he could offer but slight hope for the restoration of their numbers. It was good to learn, though, that at the recent conference in Salt Lake, delegates from British Columbia told the speaker that conditions in the breeding areas of the prairie provinces this year are excellent, in marked contrast with the drought of last season.

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

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The May meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, May 31, 1932, at 8 p. m., in the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Michener in the Chair and about 35 members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division were read. Proposals of new names for membership were: Howard P. Davis, 2608 W. Ramona Blvd., Alhambra, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; S. W. Holmers, 5296 E. 2nd St., Long Beach, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; Allen W. Mains, Box 43, Calexico, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; Arnold L. Nelson, U. S. Biological Survey, Food Habits Research, Washington, D. C., by Francis Uhler; Dr. S. Charles Kendeigh, Biology Dept., Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, by S. Prentiss Baldwin; Dr. Robert M. Campbell, 746 S. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., by G. Willett.

A letter was read requesting the appointment of two representatives to serve in behalf of the Southern Division of the Cooper Club at the next meeting of the Affiliations Committee, Pacific Division of the A. A. A. S., to be held in the audi-

torium of Bryan Hall, June 16, at Pullman, Washington. It was moved and seconded that the matter of representation be left to the Northern Division with the request that their appointees act for the Southern Division also. Motion passed. It was moved and seconded that the Secretary be instructed to communicate with the Northern Division notifying them of this request. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Secretary be instructed to communicate with the Northern Division relative to the possibility of that body formulating resolutions in connection with the death of Dr. Richmond. Motion amended to read: That the Secretary be instructed to communicate with the Northern Division relative to the possibility of that body formulating resolutions in connection with the death of Dr. Richmond; if any such action has been taken, the Secretary of the Southern Division be instructed to indorse the resolution. Motion as amended, passed.

The special committee on Nominations for Honorary Membership in the Cooper Ornithological Club presented the following recommendations.

"We, the undersigned members of the Cooper Ornithological Club, propose for Honorary Membership in the Club Mr. Alfred W. Anthony, 3947 Center St., San Diego, California. Mr. Anthony was one of the first collectors to work extensively along the coast of Lower California and on its numerous islands. His tremendous activity has enriched our knowledge of bird life and clearly entitles him to a place on our Honorary Membership List. Signed, G. Willett, W. Lee Chambers, Howard Robertson, Loye Miller, J. R. Pemberton.

"We, the undersigned members of the Cooper Ornithological Club, propose for Honorary Membership in the Club Mr. Albert M. Ingersoll, 908 F Street, San Diego, California. Mr. Ingersoll's work as an ornithologist, especially in the oological line, has been unique. Mr. Ingersoll has assembled a wonderful collection of birds' eggs with complete data, all of his own collecting. All these, as far as possible, are beautifully prepared with nests *in situ*. Ornithology throughout the world has been directly benefited by his careful work and we are very glad to propose Mr. Ingersoll for addition to our list of Honorary Members. Signed, G. Willett, Howard Robertson, W. Lee Chambers, Loye Miller, J. R. Pemberton."

Both names were passed, separately, by an unanimous vote.

Preceding the discussion of the evening's topic, Mr. Michener turned the meeting over to Mr. Howard Robertson who led a discussion on the history of the Cooper Club, tracing its development step by step from a loosely organized group of kindred spirits to its present form. Among those contributing historical data were the following members: W. Lee Chambers, J. R. Pemberton, George Willett and Otto Zahn. Mr. Miller described the formation of the Board of Governors, explaining its function and describing its present composition,

showing that it is a self-perpetuating body, growing with the growth of the organization and being controlled by the Club at large through their election of the yearly office holders and the presence at meetings, as ex officio members, of the active secretaries.

Adjourned.—RAYMOND B. COWLES, *Secretary*.

JUNE.—The June meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held Tuesday, June 28, 1932, at 8 p. m., in the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Michener in the Chair and about twenty members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division were read. Mr. Harry Spang, 1640 Corning St., Los Angeles, Calif., was proposed for membership by W. Lee Chambers.

It was suggested that a standing committee be appointed to review recent publications in ornithology. Mr. John McB. Robertson suggested that the task would be almost impossible of accomplishment owing to the great quantity of material and the diversity of its sources. Mr. John McB. Robertson called attention to the publication of Bent's "Life Histories of North American Gallinaceous Birds". A suggestion was made relative to the vacating of one or more of the summer meetings. Mr. Howard Robertson moved that the meetings be held regularly during the summer. Motion seconded and passed.

Mr. Willett reported that a well known conservation league had invited both him and Mr. Wright Pierce to attend one of their meetings which was to be devoted to a discussion of poisoning campaigns. During the first meeting expressions were unanimously opposed to the methods now employed. At a second meeting, representatives of State and County departments of agriculture were present and expressed their views, naturally favoring the campaigns. The league voiced opposition to the methods now in vogue and suggested that poison be placed in the burrows as a substitute for exposed bait. In reply it was stated that poison in such places was entirely useless as animals would not feed on it when so placed. Messrs. Willett and Pierce have agreed to experiment with bait used in burrows and are now in search of a suitable terrain. Mention was made of the apparent fact that a few grains of the bait placed in the burrow worked in a satisfactory manner, whereas

a handful of the seed failed to show the same results. Mr. John McB. Robertson reported having had almost invariable success with poison placed in burrows and stated that for a long time it was the only method used.

Mr. John McB. Robertson displayed a series of maps published by the "More Game Birds in America Inc." foundation, based on temperature records. The foundation's conclusion as drawn from a study of these maps recommends a change in the open season on ducks. The opinions of members of the Cooper Club are illustrated by the following quotations. "Merely a new scheme devised for insuring a 90 day open season on ducks." "Offers the rich sportsman opportunities to follow the ducks from north to south and increase the slaughter." "No value in the suggestion." "The maps are a splendid piece of work and could be used for other purposes."

Mr. Don Meadows reported his observations on the avifauna of Santa Catalina Island and presented many exceedingly interesting facts. It was suggested that this material be published as a paper rather than in the minutes. Mr. Willett led a discussion on the status of the species of doves introduced into California, and Mrs. Law reported a decrease in the number of quail near her home in Altadena and noted that there had been an increase in the number of skunks and opossums in the vicinity.

The proposed Duck Stamp Law was described by Mr. W. Lee Chambers. The stamps are to cost one dollar and may be purchased at the nearest Post Office. Eighty-five cents of the dollar are to be used for propagation and the remaining fifteen cents are to be used for law enforcement. Since this law taxes only the duck hunter it has been approved by many hunters' organizations. Mr. Willett stated as his opinion that unless there were a four or five year closed season on ducks, those buying the stamps would soon find it impossible to obtain enough ducks to cover the stamp. Mr. Chambers reported a 33 1/3% reduction in ammunition sales in 1931 and intimated that there might be a similar decrease for 1932. It was also suggested that sufficient breeding ground territory might be almost as essential for the preservation of ducks as regulations of the shooting. Alarm was expressed over the rapid reduction in the size of present, remaining breeding areas.

Adjourned.—R. B. COWLES, *Secretary*.