

Governmental reorganization in Manila has resulted in many changes recently in management and status of sundry divisions. Zoology in its various branches has been removed from the Bureau of Science, and, together with certain other activities, combined in a new departmental division, of the same standing as a "Bureau" and designated "Fish and Game Administration" of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The new division, besides zoological investigation, is concerned with oceanography; it has taken over "forest fauna" from the Bureau of Forestry, and it exercises supervision over game protection, fisheries, and the aquarium. Mr. Wallace Adams, formerly Director, Division of Fisheries, becomes Chief, and Insular Game Warden. Mr. Richard C. McGregor is made Chief of Publications of the Department, and will continue his editorial work on the Philippine Journal of Science. Mr. McGregor is Honorary Curator of Ornithology.—H.S.S.

#### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

##### NORTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p. m., Thursday, March 23, 1933, in Room 2003, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with about seventy-five members and guests present and Vice-president Miller in the Chair. Minutes of the Northern Division for February were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for February were read. The following proposals for membership were made: Albert R. Brand, 47 Park Ave., White Plains, N. Y., Ludlow Griscom, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass., and Mrs. Lotta Bean Schwerin, Hotel Solano, Vallejo, Calif., by J. Grinnell; and Mrs. Fred C. Laskey, Graybar Lane, Nashville, Tenn., by E. L. Sumner, Sr., through the Western Bird Banding Association. A second reading was given to the proposal of the name of Arthur Cleveland Bent for election to honorary membership in the Cooper Club and the Chair asked for a motion so ordering. The motion was made by Mr. Dixon and unanimously carried.

Mr. James Moffitt reported having seen four White-checked Geese near Eureka, at the mouth of the Eel River, and told of others seen in Oregon by Stanley Jewett.

Mr. Moffitt stated that there are fewer Black Brant at Tomales Bay this year than last but that the birds are a month earlier. At Willows he noted a flock of about 2500 Whistling Swans and at Tule Lake, Honey Lake and Pit River Lake flocks of about 700 each. He estimated that probably 20,000 of these birds winter on the west coast. Mr. Alden Miller reported hearing a Green-tailed Towhee in Strawberry Canyon on March 18. Mr. Donald McLean reported the finding of the mummified remains of a Black Pigeon Hawk near San Jose.

Mr. Joseph Dixon was the speaker of the evening and gave an illustrated talk upon "Birds of the 1932 Mt. McKinley Expedition." During his stay in Mount McKinley National Park, Mr. Dixon found 112 kinds of birds within the Park area. The heavy snows of an unusually severe winter hampered field work, and some species found in 1926 were not seen in 1932. No Surf-birds were seen and no Kennicott Willow Warblers. Along the coast Bald Eagles seemed about as plentiful as in 1907 in spite of the one dollar bounty which is paid. Mr. Dixon told entertainingly of his observations on the inter-relationships existing between denizens of the Park.

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

##### SOUTHERN DIVISION

MARCH.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, March 28, 1933, at 8:00 p. m., in the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. President Robertson occupied the Chair and about seventy members and guests were present.

Minutes of the Southern Division for February were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for January and February were read by title only. The application of Oliver L. Austin, Jr., North Eastham, Cape Cod, Mass., proposed by Joseph Grinnell, was presented for membership.

At the request of the Chair, the secretary read the recommendation submitted by the Northern Division presenting Arthur Cleveland Bent, of Taunton, Massachusetts for Honorary Membership in the Cooper Ornithological Club. On motion by Dr. Loye Miller, seconded by Dr. Charles A. Warmer, and unanimously

carried by a rising vote, the Southern Division of the Club endorsed the action of the Northern Division proposing Mr. Bent to Honorary Membership. Following the usual course, this recommendation will be ratified at the April meeting of the Southern Division.

President Robertson called attention to a report of the Committee on the Preservation of Natural Conditions. This committee is under the Ecological Society of America. The report was forwarded in duplicate from Secretary Luck of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. If any member of the Cooper Club plans to attend the meeting of the Association, to be held in Salt Lake City, in June, he may secure a copy of the report from Mr. Robertson.

The program of the evening, "A Collecting Trip in Guatemala," was very entertainingly presented by Messrs. Herbert N. McCoy and George Willett. Mr. McCoy, with the aid of many splendid lantern slides, outlined the six weeks trip made by himself and wife and Mr. and Mrs. Willett. Views were shown of Mazatlan, San Jose, Guatemala, the Valley of the Montagua where camp was first made, Lake Atitlan at 6,000 feet, the cloud forest, and then of the headquarters of the United Fruit Company at sea level, where many courtesies were extended to them and pleasant accommodations provided. There were also slides showing methods of transportation, and some of the customs and dress of the native inhabitants.

This interesting introduction to Guatemala by Mr. McCoy was followed by Mr. Willett's account of the birds seen and collected. The excellent series of skins brought back from the trip were on exhibit and during the course of his talk Mr. Willett called particular attention to many of the species, including the specimen of the exceedingly rare Guan. With the exception of the hummingbirds, no birds were found nesting at this time of the year, mid-November to January, although a few specimens taken were in more or less breeding condition. The similarity to the North American fauna existing among the jays, towhees, woodpeckers, juncos, robins, and flickers of Guatemala was pointed out, as was the surprise at finding cactus wrens in the tops of high trees. The means by which one specimen of the fast-flying Collared Swift was collected, were of especial interest.

In order that a more informal discussion and view of the collected specimens might be had, the meeting was adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, April 25, 1933, at 8:00 p. m., in the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles. President Robertson occupied the Chair and about fifty-five members and guests were present.

Minutes of the Southern Division for March were read and, after corrections were noted, they were approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for March were read. The following proposals for membership were presented: Theo. H. Scheffer, P. O. Box 307, Puyallup, Wash., and Ernst Mayr, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y., by J. Grinnell; Michael J. Magee, 603 South Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, by Harold Michener, and Arthur G. Butzbach, P. O. Box 62, Lower Lake, California, by E. L. Sumner, Sr., through the Western Bird Banding Association.

The recommendation proposing Arthur Cleveland Bent, of Taunton, Massachusetts, for Honorary Membership in the Cooper Club was presented for the second time, and on motion by George Willett, seconded by Wright M. Pierce, and unanimously carried by a rising vote, the Southern Division endorsed the action of the Northern Division in electing Mr. Bent to Honorary Membership.

An invitation to the Cooper Club from the California Audubon Society, Inc., to meet at the home of Mrs. Harriet Williams Myers, its president, on May 11, 1933, for a morning and afternoon program, was read.

The Chair called attention to the annual meeting of the Cooper Club to be held in Berkeley, California, on May 5 and 6, and it was hoped that quite a number from the Southern Division might find it possible to attend.

Because of conflicting with Memorial Day, it was decided to hold the May meeting of the Southern Division on Tuesday, May 23, a week in advance of the regular schedule.

Colonel John R. White, superintendent of the Sequoia National Park, was the speaker of the evening and gave an illustrated talk upon "The Big Trees and Big Mountains of the Sequoia National Park."

Before telling of the Park, however, Colonel White gave some interesting information regarding his early years in England and his contact with the English birds; of time spent in the Philippine Islands where his ornithological interest was renewed under Major E. A. Mearns, who taught him to skin birds, and of a still later period when, stationed at the penal colony on Palawan, he was able to collect a fine series of the Palawan Peacock Pheasant. Colonel White is also acting superintendent of the recently created Death Valley National Monument, and after his interesting description of the beauties of the Sequoia National Park, he very kindly permitted us to enjoy several excellent views of Death Valley and of that section which has been set aside as a national monument.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

#### EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Eighth Annual Meeting was held at the University of California, Berkeley, on Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6, 1933. The sessions for presentation of papers were held in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building. The meetings opened with a brief word of welcome from G. B. Pickwell, President of the Northern Division. The program of papers presented was as follows: Friday morning: "Studies on the Distribution of the Western Mockingbird in California," John R. Arnold; "The Lconte Thrashers of the San Joaquin," Joseph Grinnell; "Comments upon the Systematics of Pacific Coast Steller Jays," James Stevenson; "Climate and Magpies," Jean M. Linsdale; "Ages of House Finches Trapped During February, 1933," Harold Michener and Josephine R. Michener, read by John McB. Robertson. Friday afternoon: "Wren-tit Population of Smythe Canyon [Berkeley]," Mary M. Erickson; "Seasonal Behavior of Some Banded Golden-crowned Sparrows," E. L. Sumner, Sr.; "Average Dates of Arrival of Summer and Winter Visitants in the San Francisco Region," Amelia S. Allen; "The Landing of a Gull on a Small Object in a Strong Wind," William E. Ritter; "Men and Birds in Joint Occupation of the National Parks," George M. Wright. Saturday morning: "Highlights of Utah Ornithology," William H. Behle; "The Vulture's Fair-way," Joseph Grinnell; "Some Problems of Classification and Nomenclature," Harry S. Swarth; "Span of Nesting Season of Birds as Related to Food Habits," William B. Davis; "Items from

the Field Notes of an Oologist," John G. Tyler; "Pterylography of the Osprey," Lawrence V. Compton; "The Midsummer Status of Certain Birds in the Lowlands of Southern California," John McB. Robertson; "Faunal Regions in Eastern Oregon and Northern Idaho," Alden H. Miller. Saturday afternoon: "Observations on the Life History of the California Quail," E. L. Sumner, Jr.; "A Project to Determine Mode of Flight of Swifts by Photography," George M. Wright; "The Vocal Apparatus of Owls," Alden H. Miller; "Some Observations of Horned Larks," Gayle B. Pickwell; "Nesting of the Wandering Tattler," Joseph S. Dixon.

On Friday afternoon the staff of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, together with several of the graduate students, held an open house in the Museum's main gallery at the west end of the Life Sciences Building. The bird, mammal and fur collections were opened to the visitors. On Friday evening motion pictures of birds were presented in Room 2000, Life Sciences Building; "Some Birds of the Stanford Campus" being presented by John B. Price of Stanford University, while "Life History Studies of the Red-bellied Hawk" were shown by Wright M. Pierce of Claremont. On Saturday evening at 7:00 o'clock an informal dinner was held at the Durant Hotel for members and guests. George M. Wright acted as toastmaster and several members responded to his calls. From fifty to seventy-five persons were present at the scientific sessions, more than two hundred attended the exhibition of motion pictures, and seventy-five were present at the dinner.—TRACY I. STORER, *Secretary*.

#### GOVERNORS' MEETING

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at Berkeley, May 7, 1933. The Board was entertained at breakfast by Mr. and Mrs. George M. Wright at their residence, 1936 Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Berkeley. Neither president nor vice-president being present, the secretary called the meeting to order. George Willett was elected temporary chairman. The following were present: Mrs. A. S. Allen, H. W. Carriger, J. S. Cooper, J. S. Dixon, Mrs. H. W. Grinnell, Joseph Grinnell, C. B. Lastreto, J. M. Linsdale, A. H. Miller, G. B. Pickwell, W. M. Pierce, J. McB. Robertson, T. I. Storer, H. S. Swarth, J. G. Tyler, George Willett, and G. M. Wright. The following proxies were at hand: J. S. Appleton,