

seen White-necked Ravens in the Santa Cruz Valley in the past few, probably the last five years. Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of the U. S. Biological Survey, stationed in Tucson since 1922, agrees that these birds seem to have been absent for some time; but our records alike fail to show when they last occurred.

Would that I had a movie record of the soaring, circling flight of a flock of these birds as they took off from the old garbage dump—a flight more like that of a group of buzzards or hawks than like crows. The last such flight seen was in November, 1931, in Sonora, Mexico, between Magdalena and Hermosillo.

One seems almost forced to the conclusion that the most significant ecological factor in this change of status is the unsanitary garbage dump!—CHARLES T. VORHIES, *University of Arizona, Tucson, December 1, 1933.*

## NOTES AND NEWS

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, held in San Diego under the auspices of the San Diego Society of Natural History, proved one of the most intellectually profitable as well as entertaining meetings in the history of the Club. Secretarial reports of this series of meetings will be found elsewhere in this issue of the *Condor* (pp. 126 to 129).

On January 19, 1934, a meeting of local bird students was held in the Jordan Room of Jordan Hall, Stanford University, for the purpose of organizing a Stanford Chapter of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club. Appropriately, the day chosen was the birthday of Dr. David Starr Jordan. Dr. Isabel McCracken presided, Dr. Willis H. Rich was elected president for the ensuing year, and Miss Clare McGee served as temporary secretary. At a subsequent meeting the first Thursday of each month was chosen as the date for meetings. The eleven members and two guests present to form the chapter were: Alice H. Baldwin, Mrs. O. D. Baldwin (guest), Mr. and Mrs. John E. Borchert, Mrs. Marie F. Greene, Dr. Isabel McCracken, Clare McGee, Mrs. Adelaide H. Perry, Dr. Gayle Pickwell, Lea Reid, Gladys M. Relyea, Dr. Willis H. Rich, and Anna L. Wright. The great amount of interest being shown in the Stanford Chapter of the Cooper Club is indicated by the fact that the attendance at the later meetings runs between sixty and seventy members and guests. Minutes of the Chapter will be recorded in the *Condor* regularly, beginning with this issue (see page 123).

The Library of Congress has recently received as a gift from Ruthven Deane his famous collection of photographs of

ornithologists. A count made after receipt of the collection lists about 1,800 items, the result of the devoted efforts of the past fifty years. The photos include likenesses of ornithologists from all parts of the world; in some cases there are from two to ten of the same individual at different ages. The collection is composed mostly of studio photos, but there are many "snap shots" that were taken in the field, and also group pictures such as are taken at the A. O. U. meetings. The collection is unique. Nothing to compare with it exists in this country and probably not in Europe. Years ago Dr. Paul Leverkühn, of Sofia, Bulgaria, started such a collection, but it is not known what became of it after his death. Deane's accumulation of likenesses is well-nigh all inclusive, at least as regards American ornithologists, with this reservation, that there are probably some of the younger men who have come to the fore in recent years who are not represented therein. It is hoped that the collection will continue to grow in its new surroundings. —H. S. S. [The copy for the above note had just been received back from Ruthven Deane, to whom it had been sent for verification, when the sad news came, of his death, on March 20.—Editors.]

Pacific Coast Avifauna number 22, published March 31, 1934, by the Cooper Ornithological Club under the authorship of Harry S. Swarth, is an account of the "Birds of Nunivak Island, Alaska" (64 pp., 4 ills.). It is based upon collections and observations gathered by the late C. G. Harrold during an Alaskan trip made in the interests of the California Academy of Sciences in the summer and fall of 1927. Besides the field observations, important

for the ornithology of northwestern America are Swarth's discussion of distributional matters and his comments upon the systematics of several birds. This new number in the Avifauna series may be had

or resident, had no measurable influence on carrying capacity [of quail habitats], despite heavy quail mortality sometimes due to predation. Material winter losses from predators have pointed to quail



Fig. 23. From left to right: Oscar Neumann, Ernst Hartert (now deceased), and Erwin Stresemann. Photo taken in Berlin, September 5, 1933, by A. J. van Rossem. Dr. Stresemann is President of the VIII International Ornithological Congress, to convene in London, July 2 to 7 this year.

for \$2.00 from W. Lee Chambers, 2068 Escarpa Drive, Eagle Rock, California.—J. G.

Another of Dr. Paul L. Errington's careful studies of quail mortality appears in the current issue of *Ecology* (15, April, 1934, pp. 110-127). Under the title "Vulnerability of Bob-white Populations to Predation" he concludes that, among the things his field work showed, "kinds and numbers of wild predators, migrant

populations top-heavy for the environment. Stated otherwise, the predators consumed mainly an ill-situated surplus." Current indications are that wild-life administration, *in practice*, is beginning to heed the findings of qualified naturalists, such as these, which point toward the preservation of the entire biotic community as being the best course to pursue, in economic as well as all other interests. The outlook to conservationists begins to brighten a bit.—J. G.