

was thus in his 86th year. It was Aiken who started me in ornithological collecting. I became acquainted with him while living in Colorado Springs in the winter of 1875. One day in conversation with him I happened to say that I was thinking of going to California in the spring. He said "Why not collect birds for me on the way?" I told him that I did not know how to make bird skins. He said he would show me how. We finally made arrangement by which I collected birds and eggs for him for three years in New Mexico, Arizona and California. He was always helpful and our dealings were pleasant. Two or three years before I became acquainted with Aiken he had been a member of a government party working in east-central Arizona and often spoke of it. I think that was the only long collecting trip he ever undertook.—FRANK STEPHENS, *San Diego, California, February 17, 1936.*

It turns out that the provisions of the recent National Firearms Act, intended to curb the possession of sub-machine guns and similar weapons, apply also to certain types of collecting guns. By definition, "the term 'firearm' means a shot gun or rifle having a barrel of less than eighteen inches in length, or any other weapon, except a pistol or revolver, from which a shot is discharged by an explosive if such weapon is capable of being concealed on the person." Thus, by chance, it becomes by law necessary to register on a special form with the Collector of Internal Revenue such collecting guns as the Marble Gamegetter and some models of the Stevens Pocket Rifle. Lack of compliance brings severe penalty. It is suggested that registry papers be accompanied by a statement that the fact that this law applied to collecting guns has only just been ascertained, since registration is supposed to have been made not later than September 24, 1934.—A. WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS SOUTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The October meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8:00 p.m., on Tuesday, October 29, 1935, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Cowles in the Chair and twenty-five members and guests present. Minutes of the Southern Division for September were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for September were read. Applications for membership were presented, as follows: Mr. Charles K. Nichols, 212 Hamilton Road, Ridgewood, New Jersey, and Mr. Jerry E. Stillwell, 7460 San Benito Way, Dallas, Texas,

proposed by W. Lee Chambers; Mr. Norman Ronald Jackson, Camp Verde, Arizona, and Mr. Victor Ralph Kiessling, Box 203, Flagstaff, Arizona, proposed by Lyndon L. Hargrave; Mr. Herbert Buckalew, 120 Marshall St., Millford, Delaware, Mr. Paul H. Cheney, 48 Hartford Road, South Manchester, Massachusetts, Mr. Walter J. Eyerdam, 9253 Corliss Ave., Seattle, Washington, Mr. Gale Monson, Box 432, Safford, Arizona, and Dr. John W. Sugden, 1743 Yale Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah, proposed by John McB. Robertson.

In announcing the sudden death of Harry S. Swarth, a member of the Club for 39 years, and one whose friendship has been highly valued and whose scientific and literary abilities are widely known and respected, Dr. Loye Miller moved that in deference to the wishes of the family no resolutions be transmitted, but that the Southern Division place upon its minutes a record of the passing of Mr. Swarth as an appreciation of the great loss that has been sustained by the Cooper Ornithological Club and by the science of ornithology at large. This motion was seconded by Mr. Glassell and unanimously carried. The death of two other Club members, Mrs. Ella H. Ellis and Dr. James J. Parsons, was brought to the attention of members present, and on motion made by Mr. Pierce, seconded by Mr. Glassell, and duly carried, the secretary was asked to write letters to the respective families, conveying the sincere sympathy of the Southern Division of the Club.

Mr. Pierce spoke of the illness of Mr. Clinton G. Abbott, former President of the Southern Division, and on motion made by Dr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Pierce, the secretary was asked to write Mr. Abbott a letter extending the good wishes of his many friends for a rapid return to health and scientific activity.

For inspection and further action by anyone interested, the following were laid on the table: a letter from Mr. Forbes, of Vera Cruz, Mexico, suggesting the possibility of obtaining specimens for interested collectors; a letter from the American Wildlife Institute regarding the conference in 1936 to be held at Washington, D.C., February 3 to 7, inclusive; a magazine, "The Living Wilderness," published by The Wilderness Society, and a letter from them addressed as "A Word to Hikers."

Piñon Jays were reported as having been seen this fall in Claremont, by Mr. Pierce; in Fillmore, Piru, Sespe, and Santa Paula, by Mr. Sidney B. Peyton; in Buena Park, by Messrs. Calder and Robertson; and Mr. Carl Chambers said that the Piñon Jays had also been seen near Sandbergs on the Ridge Route. Black Petrels were reported by Dr. Miller as having been seen on August 31 rafting in numbers of thousands on the surface

of the sea half way between San Clemente Island and San Pedro. Recently taken specimens were exhibited of the Least, Wilson, and Black petrels. These birds represented the most northern record for the Least, and the second record from California for the Wilson. A migration route outside the islands was an interesting find made by Dr. Miller during the past summer.

Royal Terns were reported by Dr. McCoy as having been seen at Cardiff on October 11 and 14, and at Ventura on October 21. One Lesser Yellow-legs was seen with two Greater Yellow-legs, a Dowitcher, and a Killdeer near Oceanside on October 14, and 40 Snowy Egrets and 30 American Egrets were noted in a neighboring inlet. Dr. Miller said Royal Terns were present in the San Diego area practically all summer after July 20, and it was his belief that a few of these birds remained at Point Mugu throughout the year. Two White-fronted Geese at Del Rey, in October, were observed by Mr. Platford. Messrs. W. Lee Chambers and Howard Robertson, on a trip into Arizona in late September, saw a flight of fully 500 Swainson Hawks east of Wickenburg. The hawks were feeding on grasshoppers. Six Harris Hawks were noted on the Papago Reservation in southern Arizona. Dr. Miller reported Swainson Hawks as abundant just west of Casa Grande, Arizona, in late April.

After discussion, the motion was made by President Cowles, seconded by Mr. Glassell, and duly carried, that the date this year for the December meeting of the Southern Division be changed from Tuesday, December 24, to Friday, December 27.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at 8 p.m., on Tuesday, November 26, 1935, at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with President Cowles in the Chair and twenty-three members and guests present. Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division for October were read. Applications for membership were presented, as follows: Mr. Lawrence E. Hicks, Department of Botany, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, proposed by Mrs. Margaret M. Nice; Mr. Edwin Thor McKnight, 201 I St., N.W., Miami, Oklahoma, and Mr. Karl Snyder Hazeltine, 398 South 12th St., San Jose, California, proposed by John McB. Robertson; Mr. John Welty Handlan, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, Mr. Archibald Weir Bell, 365 South Hoover St., Los Angeles, California, Mr. Frederick B. Philipp, 150 William St., New York, N.Y., Mr. Logan Johnson Bennett, Zoology Department, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, and Mr. Fred P.

Roullard, 220 Holland Bldg., Fresno, California, proposed by W. Lee Chambers.

As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee for the next annual meeting of the Cooper Club, Mr. Pierce told of the progress to date toward an interesting program. Relative to the present duck shooting season, Dr. Bishop reported having received a card from the National Association of Audubon Societies suggesting that one see No. 8 of the film "March of Time", as an indication of how ducks have been slaughtered. Mr. Chambers said that Mexico had this year closed its borders against invading duck hunters. Mr. Platford reported seeing quite a few ducks on the Salton Sea Refuge, but not so many as last year. President Cowles said he had been at Salton Sea several times during previous seasons and never failed to see a raft of ducks in deep water at the north end, but this year, when there, he did not see a duck of any kind. Mr. Pierce was at Bear Lake at the first of the shooting season and reported quite a few scaup, the usual run of sprigs, and some ruddys, but in his estimation only one-fifth as many ducks were on the lake as were there a year ago. Inasmuch as it will take several years to develop the proposed water refuges, it is hoped that a continuance of poor bags may discourage hunters and give the remaining ducks a chance. In comparison with the duck situation, the abundance of quail was cited. Mountain Quail in the San Bernardino Mountains have greatly increased, probably due to the closed season last year, Mr. Pierce stated, and President Cowles said he had heard there were more quail at Warner Hot Springs this year than ever before.

In reply to the question asked by Mr. Platford as to the age of geese before mating, Dr. Miller said he had no knowledge, though indications are that they do not mate the first year. Dr. Bishop told of geese used as decoys in Canada that nested in the second year.

Comments on the migration of Screech Owls were asked for by Dr. Miller. He said he had always considered the Screech Owl a sedentary bird but now he was of the belief that we get an autumnal or seasonal drift of these owls. Opinions voiced by other observers were in confirmation of this impression and were to the effect that the Screech Owl does apparently leave home, or its breeding territory, during the winter months. Another query of interest was that of President Cowles who said he had been watching various birds feed on the desert mistletoe and was interested in obtaining information as to the different species that use mistletoe berries for food. Any definite knowledge of birds actually seen feeding on this plant will be appreciated.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Friday, December 27, 1935, at 8:00 p.m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with fifty-four members and guests present. In the absence of both president and vice-president, Mr. George Willett was asked to preside. Minutes of the Southern Division for November were read and approved. The minutes of the Northern Division for November were read. Applications for membership were presented, as follows: W. S. Long, Springdale, Utah, proposed by Alden H. Miller; Miss Grace McCoskey, State Hospital, Stockton, California, by Susan Chattin; Robert Browne Wallace, Asheville School, Asheville, North Carolina, by J. McB. Robertson; Karl William Haller, R.D. 1, Short Creek, West Virginia, and William Griffin Webb, 2563 Hill Drive, Eagle Rock, Los Angeles, California, by W. Lee Chambers; Miss Marjorie Peyton, R.D. 2, Fillmore, California, by Mrs. Laura B. Law.

A proposal that Major Allan Brooks be elected to Honorary membership was presented by Harry Harris, W. Lee Chambers, George Willett, Laura B. Law, and Louis B. Bishop. The Chair remarked that, following the provisions of the Constitution, no action would be taken upon this proposal until after its second reading. (For text of proposal see minutes of January meeting, Northern Division.)

Mr. Pierce announced that the next annual meeting of the Cooper Club would be held in Los Angeles some time in April, and suggested that it was none too soon for members to make plans for attendance and for contribution to the program. The Chair announced the appointment of the following members as a nominating committee to propose officers for the Southern Division for 1936: Dr. Louis B. Bishop, Messrs. W. Lee Chambers and Wright M. Pierce. Mr. Sidney Peyton reported seeing a pair of Condors, about 500 feet up, sailing over his home in Fillmore at noon today.

The evening's program, "Glimpses of northern Honduras, ornithological and otherwise," was presented by Mr. Frederick H. Test, a graduate student of the University of California at Berkeley. With other students from Purdue University, headquarters were established in the summer of 1933 at Tela, Honduras. Illustrating his talk with motion pictures, Mr. Test gave impressions of the village, its inhabitants, neighboring towns, the surrounding hills, the jungle, and something of the native flora and fauna. During his stay in Honduras a trip was made into the back country to Lake Yojoa. This lake at an altitude of some 2000 feet was a regular paradise for many species of water birds. In out-

lining the birds found in Honduras, Mr. Test said he would divide them into three groups: (1) the birds of the sea and shore, such as ringed plovers, turnstones, pelicans, frigate birds, boobies; (2) birds of the second timber growth, tanagers, seedeaters, grosbeaks, hummers, etc.; (3) birds of the jungle, comprising, among others, the honey creepers, some flycatchers, woodhewers, trogons, tinamous, and toucans. Mr. Test spoke of how meager was the ornithological knowledge of Honduras as compared even with that of Guatemala and suggested that it would undoubtedly prove a very fertile field for anyone who could get down there for intensive bird study.

Adjourned.—LAURA B. LAW, *Secretary*.

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Tuesday, January 28, 1936, at 8:00 p.m., at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, with thirty-eight members and guests present and President Cowles in the Chair. Minutes of the Southern Division for December were read and approved. The minutes of the Northern Division were read. Applications for membership were presented, as follows: Jack Sturgeon, 3022 Pleitner Ave., Oakland, Calif., by Hilda W. Grinnell; George B. Saunders, Michigan Dept. of Conservation, Lansing, Michigan; Owen Cecil Furniss, 2203 1st Ave., West, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada, David Edward Davis, 721 Elmwood Ave., Wilmette, Illinois, Thomas Henry Dodge, Navajo Agency, Fort Defiance, Arizona, and Arthur Skogman Einarsen, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon, by John McB. Robertson; Paul Marshall Rea, Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, Calif.; James Lloyd Poland, 526 West Burke St., Martinsburg, West Virginia; Hollis T. Ross, 109 South 3rd St., Lewisburg, Pennsylvania; and Carl William Chambers, 1120 North Ave. 57, Los Angeles, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers.

A letter from the Affiliation Committee of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, asking for the names of the representatives from the Southern Division, was read. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Northern Division be notified and their representatives be directed to act for the Southern Division also.

In the absence of the other members of the Nominating Committee, Wright M. Pierce announced the following names for officers for the year 1936: President, Luther Little; Vice-president, Laura B. Law, and Secretary, Sidney B. Peyton. It was moved, seconded and carried that the nominations be closed and that

the officers be declared elected. Mr. Cowles turned the gavel over to Mr. Little, and Mrs. Law turned over her duties to Mr. Peyton. Mr. Little made a few remarks and said that he did not intend to take office with any "New Deal" platform; and the regular business continued.

A notice of the meeting of the North American Wild Life Conference, to be held in Washington, D. C., February 3 to 7, 1936, was read. It was moved, seconded and carried that Harold C. Bryant, George Wright, and A. B. Howell be notified that if they attended the meetings they were to act as representatives of the Southern Division.

A minute in memory of John W. Maillard, by J. Grinnell, was read. It was moved, seconded and carried that the Southern Division concur with the Northern Division in this expression. This notice of the passing of Mr. Maillard came as a shock to the older members of the Club, as he was well known to all of them.

Following the second reading of the proposal for Honorary Membership of Major Allan Brooks, it was moved, seconded and carried unanimously that he be duly elected.

Wright M. Pierce spoke on the coming Annual Meeting, the dates to be April 17 and 18, with several field trips planned for Sunday, the 19th for those who cared to take them. The official hotel is to be the Coliseum Hotel at Figueroa and Santa Barbara streets. He urged the members to get their papers ready and to submit the titles and the approximate time of delivery to the committee.

Kenneth Stager told of his recent visit to Mono County, in the vicinity of Bridgeport. About forty species of birds were noted, the most numerous being American Rough-legged Hawks near Bridgeport, and about three hundred Canada Geese on Twin Lakes. Other species were scarce, and no Rosy Finches or Pine Grosbeaks were seen.

Mr. Appleton reported that he had taken a set of Zebra Finches' eggs from an aviary in San Fernando Valley. George Cantwell told of his recent visit to Mexico. Mr. Woods told of his visit to Death Valley and of the birds and mammals noted there. Dr. Miller reported Costa Hummingbirds at Point Mugu in company with Anna Hummingbirds in December; he also had seen them at Indio. Numbers of Black-bellied Plovers also were noted at Point Mugu. Wright Pierce told of the absence of Piñon Jays in their regular haunts in Bear Valley; he also told of two male Anna Hummingbirds apparently fighting, one of them killing the other. Miss Mary Fossler reported on the dissection of a California Brown Pelican. Dr. Wood told of his studies at the Los Angeles Junior College on the blood protozoa from birds trapped by the Micheners.

So far, parasites have been found only in the blood of one Audubon Warbler and one House Finch.

Adjourned.—SIDNEY B. PEYTON, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

DECEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, December 19, 1935, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Miller in the Chair and about forty-five members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for November were read and approved. Proposals for membership were: Edward Eugene Clay, 1112 Excelsior Ave., Oakland, Calif., by Alden H. Miller; Mrs. Ethel R. Farnsworth, 453 Fairmont Ave., Oakland, Calif., and Ralph H. Imler, 923 First St. South, Stockton, Kansas, by Jean M. Linsdale; Joe T. Marshall, Jr., 1992 Yosemite Road, Berkeley, Calif., by J. Grinnell; Morton Themmen Swarth, 2800 Prince St., Berkeley, Calif., by H. W. Grinnell. The President announced the appointment of the following committee to nominate officers for the coming year: Cornelia C. Pringle, Ernest I. Dyer, Jean M. Linsdale (Chairman).

Mr. Joseph Grinnell reviewed briefly the new World list, *Systema Avium Rossicarum*, by Buturlin and Dementiev, the latter of the Museum at the University of Moscow. This volume, printed in Paris and issued first in parts from 1933 to 1935, lists 709 species and races of birds occurring in the U.S.S.R. Of especial interest to North American ornithologists are those circumpolar groups of which forms occur both here and in Russia.

Mr. Tom Kirksey reported a flock of 75 Pipits on Hamilton Field, Marin County, and a Belted Kingfisher, on November 17, west of Sacramento. Mr. Jack Sturgeon observed a Pigeon Hawk over central Oakland on December 19. Mr. Walter Moore saw a male Gadwall on Lake Merritt on December 1, and 16 Snow Geese in flight above College Avenue, Berkeley, on December 8. On November 28, at Manor, Mr. Eric C. Kinsey found a Western Tanager in his banding trap.

The evening's talk was given by Mr. Frederick H. Test, now a graduate student at the University of California. In the summer of 1933, Mr. Test was one of a group of students which went from Purdue University to Spanish Honduras. Headquarters were established at Tela, the "model city" of the United Fruit Company, in northwestern Honduras. Here at the edge of the jungle most of the expedition's time was spent; but a brief trip was made to Lake Yojoa, which proved to be an especially fascinating

place for study. About forty species of birds were briefly and interestingly characterized by Mr. Test, and a reel of 16-millimeter film illustrated the talk.

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

JANUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, January 23, 1936, at 8:00 p.m. in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Miller in the Chair and about seventy members and guests present. Because the evening's speaker, Mr. Richard M. Bond, had received word which necessitated his leaving for Washington on that night's train, the usual order of the evening was reversed and the business meeting was preceded by the program. Mr. Bond's topic was "Advantages and Disadvantages of Falconry." His impartial account of his own joys and sorrows experienced in rearing, training and losing birds aroused the sympathetic admiration of his audience. Although his hearers caught the speaker's enthusiasm for the thrill which comes when an owner watches his falcon stoop swiftly to its quarry, yet we doubt whether any will have the courage to begin the long apprenticeship which must be served before the tyro becomes a successful trainer of falcons.

Following the program the December minutes of the Northern Division were read and approved and the December minutes of the Southern Division read. Proposals for membership in the Club were: Richard M. Bond, 305 Underwood Bldg., San Francisco, Calif., by E. Lowell Sumner, Jr.; Mrs. Florence R. Connick, 18 Tanglewood Rd., Berkeley, Calif., by Amelia S. Allen; Dana Sperr, 335 Newton Ave., Oakland, Calif., by B. C. Cain; Edwin H. McClintock, 2448 Monticello Ave., Oakland, Calif., Dwight C. Smiley, 612 Underwood Bldg., San Francisco, Calif., and Mrs. Helen M. Steinfeld, 2371 Oak St., Berkeley, Calif., by J. M. Linsdale.

In accordance with a provision of the Club Constitution, the appended proposal for Honorary membership in the Club, having been read at the December meeting of each Division, was given a final reading and a vote called for. On motion of Wm. H. Behle, duly seconded, the name proposed, that of Major Allan Brooks, was unanimously endorsed.

We, the undersigned members of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club, hereby propose for Honorary membership in the Club, Major Allan Brooks, of Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, Canada. For thirty years Major Brooks has been a loyal member of the Club: for a much longer period has he been a close student of birds; while his work has lain chiefly in western Canada, his travels have brought him wide acquaintance with birds and bird students throughout the World; pre-eminently has he won universal approval of his talents as bird artist. This last attainment alone, we believe, qualifies Major Brooks for the recognition we propose. Joseph Maillard, E. I. Dyer, Aiden H. Miller, J. Grinnell.

Anticipating similar action by the Southern Division at its January meeting, the Chairman expressed to Major Brooks his own pleasure at the Club's action. The latter responded that he was heartily grateful to his many warm friends among the members of both divisions of the Club for the honor so unexpectedly bestowed upon him.

The following minute in memory of John Ward Maillard was read by Mr. Joseph Grinnell:

John Ward Maillard became a member of the Cooper Ornithological Club in 1894, thus in the second year of the existence of our organization. During the forty-two years of his continuous membership, he has been ever loyal in his support of the purposes for which the Club has been maintained. In the earlier years his kindly encouragement of younger members, socially as well as ornithologically, was widely beneficial. His active help in 1912 and 1913 in a certain conservation campaign participated in by the Club went far toward bringing the success attained. His own collecting and study of birds in the 1890's and 1900's, supplementing the activities of his brother, Joseph Maillard, directly and indirectly contributed importantly to growth in the ornithology of California.

Therefore, concerning the death of John W. Maillard, on January 9, 1936, it seems proper to place among our permanent records this minute memorializing the facts recited.

The Chairman requested Mr. J. M. Linsdale to report the recommendations of the committee appointed in December to nominate officers of the Northern Division for 1936. Mr. Linsdale replied that it was the unanimous suggestion of the committee that the officers serving in 1935 be retained for a second year. The Chair thereupon asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Mr. Lewis W. Taylor moved that the nominations be closed and the incumbent officers declared re-elected. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried. Mrs. Amelia S. Allen, who served as secretary of the Northern Division for eight years, moved that the present secretary be given a vote of thanks for the continued services. It was so ordered.

The following reports from the field were among those given. Mr. D. L. Kraus noted a Ruddy Turnstone near Oakland Airport on December 25, 1935, and on January 12, 1936, a Black-throated Gray Warbler in Faculty Glade. Miss Hope Gladding made a similar report, possibly of the same individual warbler. Mr. John H. Gibson saw a Western Mockingbird near Faculty Glade on December 20, 1935, and a bird of the same species near Sunset View Cemetery on January 18, 1936. Mrs. A. Hillebrand observed a Golden Eagle on January 19, on the Livermore road about two miles from Danville. Mrs. Kelly reported Long-billed Curlews more numerous than usual this winter. Mr. Dexter reported that three or four California Thrashers may be commonly seen near the head of Chabot Road.

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