

NOTES AND NEWS

A joint meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club and the Pacific Northwest Bird and Mammal Society will be held at the University of Washington, Seattle, on Thursday, June 18, 1936, in connection with the Seattle meeting of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, June 16-20. A morning session will be held for the reading of papers on ornithology and mammalogy, while the afternoon session will consist of a symposium on plant and animal distribution in the Northwest, this program being sponsored jointly by the Cooper Club, the Northwest Bird and Mammal Society, the Botanical Society of America, and the Western Society of Naturalists. A dinner for all biologists will be held Thursday evening. Arrangements for the program and the dinner are in the hands of Professor Robert C. Miller of the University of Washington.

The biennial membership roster of the Cooper Ornithological Club featuring the present issue of the *Condor* was prepared by the Club's Treasurer, Mr. John McB. Robertson. It contains 867 names of persons, as of regular standing on April 20, 1936. Duplication of names in the several lists of officers will be noted; but this duplication is necessitated by certain legal proprieties.

The Directorship of the Colorado Museum of Natural History, vacant since the resignation of Mr. J. D. Figgins last November, has been filled through the appointment of Mr. Alfred M. Bailey, for ten years previously Director of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Aside from his administrative success, Mr. Bailey's excellent work in bird photography has brought him widespread recognition through lectures and magazine articles.—J. G.

The post of Curator, Department of Ornithology and Mammalogy in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, has been filled through the appointment of Mr. James Moffitt, who took office as of date May 1, 1936. Mr. Moffitt brings to the Academy a wide first-hand experience with Pacific Coast bird-life, especially as pertaining to waterfowl. In cooperative ability as well as curatorial acumen he is excellently qualified to develop the Academy's ornithological and mammalogical interests, both outside and inside its walls.—J. G.

Under the title "295 American Birds" the University of Minnesota Press has reissued (March 7, 1936) the 92 color plates from Dr. T. S. Roberts' "The Birds of Minnesota." There is no text, but an index is provided, giving the scientific and popular names of all the birds depicted. The artistry of Brooks, Sutton, Weber,

Jaques and Breckenridge is done good justice in the reproduction, and the whole portfolio is a thing of beauty as well as a source of pictorial information. The spiral binding, hard cover, and box are interesting features from the book-making standpoint. This new bird book may be obtained (price \$2.00) from the University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis.—J. G.

The book-of-the-year, ornithologically speaking, will probably prove to be Robert Cushman Murphy's "Oceanic Birds of South America" (Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 2 vols., demy 4to [197 by 260 mm.], pp. xxii + 1245, 16 colored unnumbered pls. [the work of Jaques], 72 numbered plates, 80 text figures). At least, anything more thorough for a given area, more scholarly in text, superior in illustrative excellence, would be phenomenal indeed. Further indicative of the nature of this work is the subtitle: "A study of species of the related coasts and seas, including the American quadrant of Antarctica, based upon the Brewster-Sanford Collection in the American Museum of Natural History." Rollo H. Beck was the chief collector of the specimens, and Californians who have known him will be particularly interested in his "biographical notes," which are included in Part I. In the same Part comes Murphy's extended philosophical discussions of marine ecology as concerned with birds. This is so important that no modern, serious ornithologist can afford to pass it by. The descriptive and life-history accounts of the 183 species and subspecies are satisfyingly exhaustive.—J. G.

In the death of George M. Wright on February 25, 1936, the cause of wild life conservation lost a far-seeing leader and the Cooper Ornithological Club one of its most valued members. Joining the Cooper Club in 1927, when he was a senior at the University of California at Berkeley, George Wright became at once interested in the present and future welfare of our organization. Soon a past-president of the Northern Division, he then on May 24, 1935, became Vice-president of the Board of Governors. Here his judgment in matters concerning the Club's financial problems was as highly valued as was his happy way of presiding at an annual dinner of the members. The generous hospitality of Mrs. Wright and himself, whenever the yearly meetings were held in Berkeley, will be recalled by all of us fortunate in attending. In the National Park Service, where he was the youngest man to become a division head, George Wright was Chief of the Wildlife Division which he helped to found. His advocacy of the establishment of such rare species as the California Condor, White-tailed Kite and Trumpeter Swan as "wards of the Government" will be remem-

bered as one of his many constructive plans. That George Wright had dedicated his life to the cause of restoring and protecting our native wild-life is the inevitable conclusion of anyone

privileged to have worked with him or to have read the letters which he wrote from Washington during the last months of his life.—H. W. G.



Fig. 27. Hildegard Howard, Avian Paleontologist at the Los Angeles Museum; author of many contributions to our knowledge of the prehistoric bird faunas of the West.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS NORTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, February 27, 1936, at 8 p.m. in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Miller in the Chair and about 140 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for January were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for January were read in part. The name of Mrs. Mary Van E. Ferguson, 1 Orchard Lane, Berkeley, Calif., was proposed for membership by the secretary, and that of

Mr. Frederick H. Test, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Calif., by Alden H. Miller.

The Chairman spoke of the irreparable loss which the cause of wild life conservation has suffered in the death of George M. Wright and stated that a committee would be appointed to draw up appropriate resolutions.

Two members of the National Park Service, just returned from Washington where they attended the Wild Life Conference, reported upon its sessions. Mr. Joseph Dixon, the first speaker, told of the formation of the "General Wildlife Federation" and its aim to bring about more effective coöperation among the organizations concerned over the need for the protection of