

## NOTES AND NEWS

The biennial membership roster of the Cooper Ornithological Club which concludes the present issue of the *Condor* was prepared by the Club's Treasurer, Mr. John McB. Robertson. It contains 919 names of persons as of full standing on April 25, 1938. This is considerably the largest membership in our history. This roster will serve ornithologists generally as a guide to the latest addresses of correspondents. Also, of course, it indicates the addresses used currently in sending out the *Condor*. In the latter connection, any correction or change necessary in anyone's address should be reported at once to Mr. Robertson, in order to insure prompt receipt of our magazine as issued. The officers of the Club herein listed are as in office at the conclusion of the elections held at the last annual meeting, in Fresno, April 15 and 16, 1938. This, the first mid-state meeting of the Club, was successful in every conceivable way; it will be reported upon in full in our July issue.—J. G.



Fig. 37. Jean Delacour, General Secretary of the Ninth International Ornithological Congress that meets this month in Rouen, France.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

## NORTHERN DIVISION

**JANUARY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, January 27, 1938, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Kinsey in the chair

and about 150 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for December were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division were read by title only. Names proposed for membership were: George T. Oberlander, 1735 Rose Street, Berkeley, and Wallace Taber, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, by Frank Richardson; Richard Compton Santee, 432 Midway Avenue, San Mateo, California, by E. L. Sumner, Sr.; Alfred H. Reuss, Jr., 12910 S. Mozart Street, Blue Island, Illinois, by J. M. Linsdale.

The secretary read a letter from City Manager Hollis R. Thompson, informing the Cooper Club that the Berkeley City Council had never considered adopting an ordinance which would permit shooting on the waterfront. This was in reply to a letter and a set of resolutions sent to him by the corresponding secretary on December 30, 1937.

Mr. Test reported on the December meeting of the Alameda County Wildlife Federation, at which four major issues were considered. A proposed change in the name of the central organization from General Wildlife Federation to National Wildlife Federation was to come up for approval in February. A change in policy to permit initiation of local projects by the local organizations was approved. Plans were outlined for Wildlife Restoration Week, to be held March 20 to 27. Discussion of plans for wild life management in the Regional Parks was scheduled for the March meeting.

Mr. Alden Miller, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the following slate of officers for 1938: President, John T. Emlen, Jr.; Vice-President, E. Lowell Sumner, Jr.; Secretary, Mrs. Joseph Grinnell; Recording Secretary, Miss Frances Carter. It was moved and carried that the nominations be closed and the secretary instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for those officers. Mr. Kinsey then turned the meeting over to the new president, Mr. Emlen.

Mr. Grinnell reviewed two recent publications: Nuttall Ornithological Club, 1873-1919, by Charles F. Batchelder, and Bird Studies at Old Cape May, by Witmer Stone, in two volumes, published by the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club. Mr. Laidlaw Williams reported some of his field observations for the past three months on the Monterey peninsula. Also, at the Los Baños Game Refuge, January 4, the same observer had seen the carcasses of 8 Barn Owls at one pole trap and one at another. Mrs. Meade had seen four Snowy Egrets and three American Egrets on a marsh within the city limits of San Diego, in December. Mr. Kittredge had recently seen one

Condor between Ojai and Maricopa. Mr. Emlen had observed 250 Wood Ducks on a slough near Butte City, January 12. Occasional statements by Sacramento Valley residents as to great loss of bird life during recent floods were not entirely borne out by observations of either Mr. Emlen or Mr. Covel. Mr. Kinsey's records from Marin County indicated the greatest scarcity of birds in his twelve years of observation there.

Mr. Andrew Shirra Gibb presented, under the title of "Bird Shots by an Amateur Photographer," several splendid reels of motion pictures in color. These included the birds in his garden in Berkeley, waterfowl at Lake Merritt, and remarkable habitat studies at the Point Lobos reserve and in various parts of Marin County.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

**FEBRUARY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, February 24, 1938, at 8 p. m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President Emlen in the chair and about one hundred members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for January were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division were read. Names proposed for membership were: John Davis, 2427 Durant Avenue, Berkeley, by Alden H. Miller; Andrew Shirra Gibb, 2664 Shasta Road, Berkeley, by Mrs. Charles A. Harris; Charles G. Sibley, 6524 Dana Street, Oakland, by Joe T. Marshall, Jr.; Dana Sperr, 335 Newton Avenue, Oakland, by Brighton C. Cain. The president announced that the dates of the Annual Meeting, to be held in Fresno, had been set for April 15 and 16, and urged early preparation of any papers to be read at that meeting.

Reviews of recent literature, the president stated, would be welcomed from any member who might care to contribute to that part of our programs. The meeting was opened to reports of field observations. Mr. Dyer said that a White-tailed Kite had been seen between Richmond and San Pablo by Dr. Reynolds and later by himself. With the head of a White Pelican, found dead at Clear Lake, Mr. Cain demonstrated the effective fishing apparatus made by the pouch and lower mandible. Milton Siebert gave detailed records of the Starling in Wyoming, for November, December and January. The greatest numbers were 21 at Pine Bluff on December 25, 13 at Laramie on January 15, and 16 on January 22, as recorded by O. C. McCreary. A record of the White-throated Sparrow from Marin County, October 23, 1937, by Dr. A. Sidney Hyde, and additional records from Berkeley by Mrs. Saunders, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Thompson, and from Oakland

by Mr. Dyer, indicate that the species is now being observed more commonly about the Bay region. Mr. Santee had seen a Golden Eagle attacked by a Red-tailed Hawk, at Spring Valley Lakes, San Mateo County. Mr. Wolfson reported the trapping, in Strawberry Canyon on February 14, of one typical Slate-colored Junco and four other races of Junco, in the same flock. Mr. Covel said that the February Bulletin of the San Diego Natural History Society contained protests against the slaughtering of Sea Lions off Lower California by the manufacturers of a certain dog food. Mr. Laidlaw Williams added that the Fish and Game Commission had been asked to investigate the shooting of Sea Lions from fishing boats off Point Lobos.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Aldo Starker Leopold, presented "Some Observations in the Sierra Madre of Chihuahua," illustrating his talk with lantern slides. The interior of this mountainous country, which for political and economic reasons has remained virtually undisturbed, may represent the ecological conditions which existed in comparable areas of Arizona and New Mexico, before over-grazing and other factors brought about erosion. Hence, this region has great value as a research laboratory, where a picture may be obtained of conditions toward which restoration work in our own semi-arid southwest should strive.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

**JANUARY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on Tuesday, January 25, 1938, at 8 p. m., with President Little presiding and about thirty members and guests present.

Minutes of the Southern Division for December were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division were read. The following applications for membership were read: C. Lynn Hayward, Dept. Zoology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, proposed by W. Lee Chambers; Irving Edward Hampe, Natural History Society of Maryland, 2103 North Bolton Street, Baltimore, Maryland, also proposed by W. Lee Chambers; and Miss Phyllis Jeanette Wiseman, of 277 Saint Pierre Road, Bel Air, Los Angeles, proposed by Kenneth Stager.

A letter from the Secretary of the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was read. This indicated that the Pacific Division would meet in San Diego, June 20 to 25, 1938, and inquired regarding the Cooper Club's plans to be presented as an affiliated society at that meeting. A motion was made, seconded and carried that in view of the

Cooper Club's annual meeting in Fresno in April, we should not meet again as an organization in San Diego in June, but that any members who desired to present papers might join the program from the San Diego Society of Natural History.

Attention of the Club was called to a reprint of the Proceedings of the Ecological Society for 1936, sent to John McB. Robertson by A. O. Weese, Chairman of the Committee on the Preservation of Natural Conditions for the U. S. The reprint and a letter from Mr. Weese were placed on the table for consideration of anyone interested.

Mr. Robert T. Moore reported that Dr. Arthur A. Allen would be pleased to speak before the Cooper Club this spring. President Little indicated that in written communication with Dr. Allen the tentative date of April 21 or 22 was set.

The meeting was opened for election of officers for 1938. Dr. Miller announced the candidates proposed by the nominating committee as follows: Herbert N. McCoy, President; Sidney Peyton, Vice-President; Hildegard Howard, Secretary. The nominations were seconded, closed, and candidates elected.

Many members contributed bird observations, the mild winter having been conducive to more than the ordinary number of trips for this time of year. An eastern visitor, Mr. James Murdock, commented on his impressions of bird-life in California. He deplored the use of pole-traps in which he had found harmless predators, and asked if some action could be taken in the matter. Mr. Chambers explained his efforts in conservation and the difficulties involved.

Adjourned.—HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Secretary*.

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on Tuesday, February 22, 1938, at 8 p. m., President McCoy presiding and about 125 members and guests present.

The minutes of the Southern Division for January were read and approved. Two applications for membership were read: James Murdock, 1240 West 2nd St., Los Angeles, proposed by George Cantwell; and Walter F. Nichols, 120 S. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena, by Harold Michener.

The secretary read an announcement from the Fresno Natural History Society regarding the annual meeting of the Cooper Club in April, indi-

cating that the objective of the field trip for Sunday, April 17, will be the Los Baños overflow lands, the leader John Tyler.

Further business was postponed until the end of the meeting, and Dr. Loye Miller was called upon for the evening's program. The motion pictures which were shown, entitled "A Herpetologist in Mexico", were taken by the late Dr. Mosauer, a former colleague of Dr. Miller's at the University of California at Los Angeles. The entire five reels concerned life in the vicinity of Acapulco, Mexico. The scientific party was housed on a sandspit separating the open ocean from a lagoon bordered by mangrove forests. Although the film contained few actual views of birds, the concentration of the pictures around this one setting, together with Dr. Miller's accompanying remarks on his own experiences with bird life in a similar locality, afforded an unusually clear conception of the biotic conditions of the area.

The last two reels, which were in color, included photographs of the Roseate Spoonbill feeding at the water's edge, and in flight. There was also an exceptionally interesting view of the forested banks of the lagoon with great numbers of birds, particularly American Egret and Wood Ibis, on the shore and in the tree tops.

Following the program, members were invited to give recent observations. Mr. Sidney Peyton told of a report from a man in Santa Paula who believes that the coyote may be partly responsible for the disappearance of the California Condor. This man observed four Condors feeding upon the carcass of a deer, recently killed by hunters; a week later he found one Condor feeding, and observed a coyote in the vicinity; the following week he found the carcass and scattered feathers of the Condor—and a live coyote. Mr. Roland Ross took exception to the idea of the coyote, itself a scavenger, killing the Condor; suggested that the hunters who killed the deer may still have been in the region! He cited a recent occurrence known to him of a Condor on the Big Martinas Creek having been trapped and shot, and afterward devoured by coyotes.

There being no further observations, President McCoy announced the tentative programs for the next two months: For the regular March meeting Mr. Robert T. Moore will talk on his Mexican experiences and will probably show pictures. Dr. A. A. Allen is scheduled for the evening of April 22. Adjourned.—HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Secretary*.