

NOTES AND NEWS

An essay contest, open to all nature lovers, has recently been announced by Claremont Colleges, California. The contest is part of a project to foster interest in the study of nature and to encourage an appreciation of beauty and other values in nature as a force in noble living. Manuscripts should be of suitable length for magazine publication, but should not exceed 3000 words, and must reach the judges before February 1, 1940. Three cash prizes are offered: first prize, \$100; second, \$75; third, \$50. Each essay should consist of an original study of some subject in nature and should embody the appreciation of such factors as beauty, strength, form, and variation. Drawings or photographs should be used if possible. Complete information concerning the contest may be obtained by writing the John Muir Nature Enterprise, Room 100, Harper Hall, Claremont, California.



Fig. 55. A. Brazier Howell, member of the Cooper Ornithological Club for 31 years, who assisted in placing the Club on a firm financial basis in the middle years of its history; contributor of many articles in the *Condor* and of a masterly review of the avifauna of the islands of southern California (*Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 12, 1917).
Photograph by Bachrach.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JULY.—About 75 members and guests assembled for the regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, July 25, 1939. The meeting was called to order by President Peyton at 8:20 p. m.

The minutes of the Southern Division for June were read and approved. One application for membership was read: Robert Cyril Stebbins, Van Nuys, California, proposed by Loye Miller.

The secretary mentioned receipt of a letter from the Catalina Island Company inviting the Cooper Club to take advantage of special group rates to the island.

A letter from Mrs. Grinnell was read, in which she thanked the Southern Division for the wreath of flowers sent as a tribute to the memory of Joseph Grinnell.

The scheduled program of the evening comprised two reels of moving pictures of the sea otters off the coast of Monterey County. One reel, in black and white, was taken by Dr. Guy Rukke of Monterey, the other, partly in color, by Mr. J. R. Pemberton. Mr. Pemberton showed the films and made a few comments on the habits of the otters.

After the pictures, the meeting was open for questions and observations. Dr. Miller gave a resumé of a recent two weeks' voyage off the Mexican coast. Mr. Willett reported upon some birds seen off the coast of southern California a few days before and Mr. Brode discussed some birds seen on a trip into the southern Sierra.

Mr. Peyton announced that the program of the next meeting would be "The Life-history of the Long-billed Curlew," by Mr. Bennett.

Adjourned.—HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Secretary*.

AUGUST.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, August 29, 1939, at 8 p. m. Mr. Peyton presided and there were about 60 members and guests present.

The minutes of the Southern Division for July were read and a correction made in the title of the paper announced for the August meeting.

Five applications for membership were read, as follows: Mrs. Ruth Wheeler, Angwin, California, proposed by Milton S. Ray; J. Laurence Murray, 115 N. Mayo Ave., Compton, California, by George G. Cantwell; Raymond F. Conway, care Feather River Logging Camp, Delleker, California, by Mrs. N. Edward Ayer; and Clifton M. Greenhalgh, 1230 E. 1st South, Salt Lake City, Utah, and Paul S. Bartholomew, U.S. Forest Service, Santa Barbara, California, both by W. Lee Chambers.