

## NOTES AND NEWS



Fig. 64. M. French Gilman, pioneer naturalist of the southwestern deserts. Member of the Cooper Ornithological Club since 1901.

After an interval of almost three years since the publication of volume three of Peter's "Check-list of Birds of the World," volume four of this work made its welcome appearance in June of this year. Consistent in plan and style with preceding sections, it includes the orders Cuculiformes, Strigiformes, Caprimulgiformes, and Apodiformes. The author points out that the owls have required particular attention from a revisionary standpoint. In the introduction is a brief comparison of numbers of genera and species included in comparable sections of Sharpe's and Peter's lists, demonstrating that in the latter list the total of species and subspecies has increased about 40 per cent, whereas the genera, with modern conservative treatment, have been reduced 30 per cent. Some generic names currently in use for birds covered by the A. O. U. Check-list are replaced as follows: *Micrathene* takes priority over *Micropallas* for the elf owls; *Aegolius* for like reason is used instead of *Cryptoglaux* for the saw-whet owls and their relatives; *Scotiaptex*, for the great gray owls, is synonymized under the more inclusive *Strix*, and *Antrostomus*, for the whip-poor-wills, under *Caprimulgus*. The specific name for the Snowy Owl becomes *Nyctea scandiaca* and the Long-

eared Owl is designated as a race of *Asio otus* of Europe. Literature up through December 31, 1938, has been considered in the compilation of the work. Mr. Peters is to be congratulated on the sustained progress made on this valuable check-list.—A. H. M.

Many Cooper Club members may be interested in a proposal to form an organization concerned with the dynamics of the origin of species and races. This suggestion comes from Professor Alfred E. Emerson of the University of Chicago who would be happy to learn of persons with such interest. A loose organization of cooperating members is contemplated which would sponsor the publication of a booklet about twice a year for spreading pertinent information concerning bibliographical citations and notes from various members and laboratories. One main end to be gained is the exchange of information between botanists and zoologists interested in diverse phases of the origin of species. The suggested name of the organization is the Association for the Study of Speciation.—A. H. M.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, February 27, 1940, at 8:00 p.m., with Robert T. Moore presiding and about 100 members and guests present.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. Eight applications for membership were read as follows: F. H. Bosbyshell, 829 North Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, California; Hutchinson I. Cone, Jr., 1215 Barnett Bldg., Jacksonville, Florida; John Walton Livermore, 130 East End Ave., New York City, New York; C. Carroll McGettigan, 2644 Filbert St., San Francisco, California; and George W. Pyle, Box 647, Berwyn, Pennsylvania, all proposed by W. Lee Chambers. Mrs. Arthur E. Hussey, 6017 Atlas Place, Seattle, Washington, by Elizabeth L. Curtis; Mary V. Hood, 138 South Wilton Drive, Los Angeles, California, by C. V. Duff; and Mary Ferguson Coble, 3400 San Marino, Los Angeles, California, by Ed. N. Harrison.

A letter from William Alanson Bryan expressing appreciation for nomination to honorary membership was read by the secretary.