

## NOTES AND NEWS

By the death on September 29, 1941, of Commander Henry E. Parmenter, the Cooper Ornithological Club lost one of its most active observers in the field. He and Mrs. Parmenter recorded observations for more than 1700 days during their residence in San Francisco, beginning in the fall of 1930. In this vicinity their attention was given to shore birds rather than to the smaller terrestrial species. The preceding period of ten years was spent at Santa Barbara, where field work was done at times with William L. Dawson and Ralph Hoffmann. After his appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy on October 1, 1880, Commander Parmenter spent his entire life in the Naval Service. His last active service was as Assistant Commandant of the 12th Naval District during the World War. His interest in biology and especially in birds was aroused in his two periods of service on the U.S.S. Albatross, covering nearly four years.—J.M.L.

Award of the Brewster Memorial Medal for 1941 was made to the late Donald R. Dickey and to A. J. van Rossem for their excellent work on the birds of El Salvador. It is gratifying to see this well merited honor come to Pacific coast ornithologists and to members of the Cooper Ornithological Club.—A.H.M.

The index for this volume of *The Condor* was prepared by Miss Selma Werner, who thus again has rendered a great service to users of information published in the magazine.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

## SOUTHERN DIVISION

**JULY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, July 24, 1941, with President Howard in the chair and about eighty members and guests present. The minutes of the June meeting of the Southern Division were read, approved and corrected.

President Howard introduced Mr. James B. Dixon and his son Howard, who presented a motion picture in color depicting the life history of the Red-bellied Hawk. They also showed Kodachrome slides of the nesting birds of the Mono Basin. The pictures were beautiful and instructive, and were enjoyed by all present.

Following the pictures, the meeting was opened for questions and observations. Dr. McCoy mentioned large numbers of Wilson Phalaropes seen by him in the Mono Basin in the fall in comparison with the smaller number of nesting birds in the spring.

Adjourned.—IRWIN D. NOKES, *Secretary*.

**AUGUST.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum on Tuesday, August 26, 1941, with President Hildgarde Howard in the chair and about 78 members and guests present. The minutes of the July meeting of the Southern Division were approved as read.

The following applications for membership were read: Joost ter Pelkwyk, Kananweg, Batavia, Java, Netherlands East Indies, proposed by Mrs. Margaret M. Nice; Dr. Arthur Trevenning Harris, 275 Broadway, Laguna Beach, California, and Mrs. Ruth Ebert, 413 Shore Drive, Monette, Washington, proposed by Dr. Hildgarde Howard.

George Willett made a motion, which was seconded by Howard Robertson, that the application of a certain candidate, whose name was not read, be referred for investigation by the Board of Governors. The motion was put to question and carried.

Mr. Willett read a resolution opposing the opening of the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument in Arizona to prospecting and mining. A motion for the adoption of the resolution made by Dr. C. A. Warner, seconded by C. O. Reis, was unanimously carried.

President Howard introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Arthur T. Harris, who presented three motion pictures in color. The first one depicted Herring and Ring-billed gulls and Caspian Terns in Wisconsin. The second was of the Marsh Hawk, Great Blue Heron, American and Least bitterns and Virginia, Sora and King rails in an Indiana swamp. The third picture was of the Red-headed Woodpecker and the Bluebird.

The meeting was then opened to discussion and observation.

Adjourned.—IRWIN D. NOKES, *Secretary*.

## NORTHERN DIVISION

**JULY.**—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, July 24, 1941, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with President E. Lowell Sumner, Jr., in the chair and 78 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for June were read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Sumner described the sea bird colony at Cape Lookout, Oregon. California Murres, Pigeon Guillemots and Western Gulls were abundant the last week in June. The state of Oregon has asked the Park Service to keep the area as a reserve comparable to Point Lobos. Mrs. Kelly reported that on the rocks at Requa, the murres were present in uncountable numbers in the first week in

June. Shorebirds were again to be seen in abundance at Alameda; on July 9, dowitchers numbered 250. Mrs. Kelly also called attention to the leaflet sent out by the National Audubon Society urging its members to write in an attempt to forestall any possible legislation that might remove protection from the Wood Duck. Floyd Durham told of the nesting of Sparrow Hawks at the letter "I" in the Richfield Tower at San Geronio Pass. Presence of the male at "C" prevented easy access to the nest.

As speaker of the evening, Mr. David G. Nichols gave an account of the birds of the Berkeley Aquatic Park, illustrated with some of the many pictures he has taken in his extensive studies of bird postures. Meteorological factors affect importantly the park population, which may be halved or doubled according to prevailing weather conditions. Another variable to be taken into account in any census work is the day and night rhythm of different species.

Adjourned.—FRANCIS CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

AUGUST.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, August 28, 1941, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with Alden H. Miller presiding and 40 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division for July were read and approved.

Mrs. Bracelin gave an early fall date for the return of Audubon Warblers as August 25 in Golden Gate Park. Mr. E. L. Sumner, Sr., observing on Cape Code with Ludlow Griscom on July 12, counted 20 Arctic Terns. Mr. Miller displayed an unwelcome "return" record, the large band from the condor, Herkimer, banded as a nestling two years ago.

Mr. Miller then introduced as speaker of the evening one of the runners of a recent ornithological marathon, Mr. Charles Sibley, whose subject was "16,000 Miles through the United States and Mexico, in Search of Birds and Birders." The real object of the "marathon," in which Sibley participated with Robert Storer and John Davis, was to see as many birds, visit as many museums, and meet as many people as possible. The itinerary led first across the continent. Following down the east coast and through Florida and Texas, they arrived in Mexico City. The distribution of many Mexican birds extends nearly to the United States, but the Sierra Madre of Mexico, where there are found such exotic species as the squirrel cuckoo and the green parrot, tapers off just before the border. One of the most striking characters they met on the trip was W. W. Brown, whose diligent care in the preparation of specimens made him an esteemed

collector for Thayer and Ridgway. A tray of representative study skins illustrated the account, and was examined with great interest after the meeting.

Adjourned.—FRANCES CARTER, *Recording Secretary*.

SEPTEMBER.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday, September 25, 1941, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, with Vice-president Richard M. Bond presiding and 45 members and guests present. Minutes of the Northern Division were read, corrected and approved. Names proposed for membership were: (Mrs.) Kathryn K. Fletcher, 24 Roble Court, and (Mrs.) Leontine R. Watts, 52 Eucalyptus Road, both of Berkeley, by Amelia S. Allen; Miss Alice Victoria S. Johnson, 2834 Garber Street, Berkeley, by Prof. S. G. Morley; Thane Riney, Carmel, California, by Ned W. Stone; Richard W. Neil, 2135 Haste Street, Berkeley, by Alden H. Miller.

Dr. Miller reported on activities of the American Ornithologists' Union at its annual meeting, in Denver, Colorado, September 1-6.

Mrs. Grinnell brought the club's attention to a new book, "We Follow the Western Trail," by a member of the Cooper Club, Mrs. Ruth Wheeler, of Angwin, California.

Mr. Bond reported a 10 per cent return on bandings of Brown Pelicans on Anacapa Island, with extreme coastal returns from Colima, Mexico, and the Del Norte-Humboldt County line, California. Mrs. Allen displayed a Bush-tit's nest without an entrance opening and also a vireo's nest sent to her from New England. She added recent observations on masses of shearwaters at Point Reyes and on land bird migration at Inverness. Mr. Bond reported a pairing of California Quail and Chuckar Partridge during the past season, discovered by Mr. Ray Alcorn near Fallon, Nevada.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Frank Watson, gave an interesting account of his experiences in observing migration in New Jersey. He discussed the general sequence of migratory movements during the spring and fall seasons and described the phenomenon of migration waves. Spring flights, in general, are to be correlated with periods of warm weather. During migration waves, night-flying migrants, especially warblers, may be heard chiefly from 8 to 11 p.m., and from 2 to 4 or 5 a.m. The lull in calls during the middle of the night is to be explained probably by the fact that the birds gain higher altitudes at that time.

Adjourned.—FRANK A. PITEKKA, *Acting Secretary*.