

## NOTES AND NEWS

The Allan Brooks collection of birds has been given to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and is now being unpacked and arranged at the Museum's quarters in Berkeley. Approximately 9000 specimens were received; these are in addition to those which Major Brooks previously had given to that institution.

The San Diego Society of Natural History announces the death of Clinton G. Abbott who had for the past twenty-four years been the director of its museum. During the tenure of his office he had built up the museum from a purely local institution to one of the more important organizations of its kind in the country. In appreciation of his character and in recognition of his services to the museum, the society has established a fund to be known as the Clinton G. Abbott Memorial Publication Fund, all contributions to which shall be invested, and the interest alone used to finance the enlarged publication program of the society. Friends and admirers of Clinton Abbott, wherever they may be situated, are invited to contribute. Checks should be made payable to the San Diego Society of Natural History, marked "Abbott Memorial Fund," and mailed to Arthur C. Wells, Treasurer, % San Diego Trust and Savings Bank, 540 Broadway, San Diego, California.

An interesting pamphlet, entitled "A Program of Desirable Scientific Investigations in Arctic North America," has been published as Bulletin No. 1 (March, 1946) of the Arctic Institute of North America, with headquarters in Montreal. Included is a list of suggestions for ornithological work prepared by Dr. Herbert Friedmann of the United States National Museum. Suggestions are classified according to "areas still unknown or poorly known ornithologically" and "species problems." To the latter list we would add a study of local populations of the White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). From so frequently visited a place as Churchill, we have no conclusive information on the interrelations of *Z. l. leucophrys* and *Z. l. gambelii* which occur there together. This is a situation of considerable theoretical interest. For a clear statement of this problem, see Taverner and Sutton, *Annals of the Carnegie Museum*, 23, 1934:77-79.—F. A. P.

Preparation of the biennial Cooper Club roster which appears in this issue is the work of John McB. Robertson. Hilda W. Grinnell has aided in checking addresses and in reading proof. The Club is grateful to these members for this important service.

## MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Berkeley, California, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 17, 18, and 19, 1946.

The program was arranged by a committee of the Northern Division. Papers were well grouped, and each session was planned to allow ample time for discussion of each paper. The tedium which frequently characterizes continuous sessions of papers was markedly absent. Papers presented were as follows:

May 17, morning session, Sumner C. Brooks presiding. Survival in Banded Birds, Jean M. Linsdale; The Spotted Towhees of the Mexican Highlands: A Preview, Charles G. Sibley; Aggressive Behavior in Anna and Allen Hummingbirds, Frank A. Pitelka; An Ancestral Golden Eagle Raises a Question in Taxonomy, Hildegard Howard; Occurrence of the Song Sparrow in Salt Marsh Habitat in California, Joe T. Marshall, Jr.

May 17, afternoon session, Ed N. Harrison presiding. Parasitology's Contribution to Bird Classification, Carlton M. Herman; Ornithological Note from Mendocino County, 860 A. D., Robert C. Miller; The Avifaunal Affinities of the St. Matthias Group, Bismark Archipelago, Charles G. Sibley; Observations on Local Distribution and Behavior of Dusky and Ruffed Grouse in Central Idaho in Autumn, Robert T. Orr; The Boreal Avifauna of California and its Subdivisions, Alden H. Miller.

May 18, morning session, C. V. Duff presiding. The Role of the Male Black-headed Grosbeak at the Nest, Henry Weston, Jr.; Jays of the Genus *Aphelocoma*, Frank A. Pitelka; Notes on Sea Birds off San Francisco, Robert W. Storer; Notes on Nesting of Red-throated Loon on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Theed Pearse (read by title only); A Study of Variation in Length of Humerus and Femur in *Aphelocoma californica* and *Cyanocitta stelleri*, Grace Crowe; Breeding Birds of the Forest-edge in Illinois, Verna R. Johnston; Foods of Chukar Partridges in Nevada, Frank Richardson.

May 18, afternoon session, Sumner C. Brooks presiding. Field Observations on "Sibling Species" of *Halcyon* in Micronesia, Joe T. Marshall, Jr.; The Status of the California Condor, 1946, Carl Koford (illustrated by Kodachrome slides taken by Ed Harrison and Francis Roberts); The Flight of Albatrosses and Other Sea Birds, Robert C. Miller; An Experiment on Form Perception in the Western House Wren (illustrated by motion picture), Kenneth Gordon; Some Southwest Owls, Loye Miller.

Following the afternoon session of Friday, the group enjoyed the hospitality of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at tea and open house, with the opportunity of examining the collections and getting reacquainted with old friends.

The banquet for the entire membership was held at the Claremont Hotel on Saturday, May 18. After the banquet, the 110 members and guests assembled had the privilege of seeing the remarkable film by Ed Harrison and Frances Roberts on the life history of White-tailed Kites.

On Sunday, May 19, an all-day field trip was held in Marin County, for the purpose of visiting the aviary of Eric C. Kinsey at Manor and studying the birds of Inverness and of Point Reyes.

HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Secretary*.

#### SOUTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 145, Allan Hancock Foundation, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, on Tuesday, April 30, 1946, at 8:00 p.m., President Ed M. Harrison presiding, with about 170 members and guests present. The following names were proposed for membership: Mrs. Ada Antevs, The Corral, Globe, Ariz., Mrs. Blanche Emeline Robinson, 3646 56th St., Sacramento 17, Calif., and Raymond Newton Shuart, 229 Ave. "E", Redondo Beach, Calif., all by W. Lee Chambers.

It was moved by Mr. Duff, seconded by Dr. Wood, that a copy of the following resolution as submitted by the committee consisting of Howard Robertson, W. Lee Chambers and Hildegard Howard, be adopted and spread upon the minutes:

WHEREAS, in the death of Clinton G. Abbott, on March 5, 1946, the Cooper Ornithological Club has suffered the loss of a loyal friend and esteemed member, who ably served the Southern Division as President and contributed largely to its programs, and

WHEREAS, Clinton Abbott's work as an ornithologist, a naturalist, and a director of scientific activity has long been an inspiration to all who knew him; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club take this means of honoring the memory of our good friend, and expressing our appreciation of his ornithological contributions, accomplished oftentimes at the expense of his own health, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, together with an expression of our heartfelt sympathy in their loss, which is, as well, our own.

Motion carried.

Mary V. Hood announced that in the current issue of the quarterly published by the Los Angeles Museum, there is a highly interesting article on bird migration written by George Willett.

Dr. Loye H. Miller, the speaker, indulged in what he termed "friendly gossip" concerning some southwestern owls.

Adjourned.—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

MAY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 145, Allan Hancock Founda-

tion, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, on Tuesday, May 29, 1946, at 8:00 p.m., President Ed N. Harrison presiding, with 30 members and guests present. The following names were proposed for membership: Donald H. Drake, 1614 N. Kenmore, Los Angeles 27, Calif., by Sherwin F. Wood; Mrs. Ethel S. Willits, Route 2, Box X-144, Lodi, Calif., by W. Lee Chambers; Walter G. Dungey, 421 E. 51 St., Los Angeles 11, Calif., and Mrs. Agnes Johnson, 421 E. 51 St., Los Angeles 11, Calif., both by Kenneth E. Stager; Lorraine D. Waas, The Sycamores, Victorville, Calif., and Francois Haverschmidt, 14 Waterkant, Paramaribo, Suriman, Dutch Guyana, both by Alden H. Miller; Ferdinand S. Ruth, 118 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, Calif., by Jean M. Linsdale; Jacqueline Watkins, 915 Fresno Ave., Berkeley, Calif., by Susan E. Chattin, and Miss Marjorie Jane Moody, 610 S. Ross St., Santa Ana, Calif., by C. V. Duff.

Loye Miller moved that meetings for July and August be vacated. Motion carried.

Loye Miller reported that a sora rail had spent at least a week around April 24 in his rose garden at Westwood. On April 21, at Big Bear City, Howard Cogswell said he was able to approach within 15 feet of a flock of 11 red crossbills feeding on pine cones on the ground. He saw about 40 evening grosbeaks the same day. On May 19, he observed red crossbills at Bluff Lake (Big Bear region), where he heard a male singing and saw a female feeding a streaked bird, possibly a young one.

The evening's program was devoted to reports by members who had attended the recent Annual Meeting at Berkeley.

Adjourned.—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

#### NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on April 25, 1946, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, on the Berkeley Campus of the University of California. President Sumner C. Brooks presided and 40 members and guests were present.

Hilda W. Grinnell proposed Lois Chambers Taylor, 1615 La Vereda Road, Berkeley 4, California, for membership and Charles G. Sibley proposed Harold Culvin Reynolds and Joye Harold Severaid, both of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

Field observations centered around the arrival dates of spring migrants.

The speakers of the evening were Henry Weston who discussed some phases in the life history of the Black-headed Grosbeak and Robert W. Storer who talked on certain aspects of the adaptations of diving birds.

Adjourned.—CHARLES G. SIBLEY, *Recording Secretary*.