

NOTES AND NEWS



Fig. 55. Robert C. Miller, director of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, and past president of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club.

Report of elections at the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union held at the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, on September 2-6, 1946, is as follows: O. S. Pettingill, Jr., Secretary, other officers as before; new council members, G. H. Lowery, Jr., S. C. Kendeigh, and F. A. Pitelka; fellows, J. Bond, H. G. Deignan, J. Delacour, Hildegard Howard, and A. F. Skutch; members, L. J. Bennett, V. H. Cahalane, D. S. Farner, H. I. Fisher, R. A. Johnson, A. S. Leopold, H. L. Mendall, A. R. Phillips, A. C. Twomey, and E. Witschi. Pontus Palmgren and David Lack were elected honorary fellows.

In collaboration with the Joslyn Memorial of Omaha, the Wilson Ornithological Club will sponsor a unique bird and mammal art exhibit in connection with their coming meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, November 29-30, 1946. Exhibitors will be members of the United States armed forces who made drawings and paintings during World War II. The drawings need not have been made overseas, but it is hoped that the birds and mammals of Asia, Europe, Africa, Australia, and

the Pacific Islands will be among those shown. Possible exhibitors, or those who have friends whose work might be shown, should get in touch at once with George Miksch Sutton, President of the Wilson Club, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, or W. J. Breckenridge, Chairman of the Club's Illustrations Committee, Museum of Zoology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.—F. A. P.

In the May-June Condor, Robert T. Moore recites some "legends" concerning the Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Aimophila carpalis*), a species already sufficiently abused. Since Howell (Condor, 18, 1916:212-213) called attention to its scarcity, few of the records made have been published, and the first of these was mentioned in an off-hand way in a generally overlooked paper (Dawson, Jour. Mus. Comp. Zool. 2 [1-2], 1921:33). Published discussions of the species were therefore misleading, the principal offenders being Swarth (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., ser. 4, 18, 1929:328) and the 1931 A.O.U. Check-list. The way was thus cleared for Moore's "legends."

These sparrows have long been of special interest to me, and I have studied them in what are probably the most favorable habitats remaining in Arizona. But even here one would not term them "abundant," as does Moore; and his photographs show Fresno to be poor Rufous-wing country.

The Rufous-winged Sparrow is easily identified in the field by its song, call, and head markings; but Moore's "field marks" may not prove helpful. This is not so much because the rufous shoulder is normally concealed as because some of Moore's own identifications are open to question. Three times he speaks of finding Rufous-wings associating with Chipping Sparrows at Fresno in late June, and he relates that he was able to distinguish the two by using field glasses and lists his "field marks." But the cold facts of distribution are that the Chipping Sparrow is not known to breed anywhere in the Lower Sonoran Zone of Arizona; in late June it does not normally occur within many miles of Fresno, and indeed it has only recently been found in summer *anywhere* in southern Arizona (see Monson, Condor, 44, 1942:224-225). Under these circumstances, Moore's identifications must be questioned.

One notes, too, a slight discrepancy in dates. Moore states that he arrived at Fresno on June 22; but he has previously listed an *Empidonax difficilis* from the same place on June 20 (Auk, 57, 1940:369).

We have every right to add new data and re-evaluate those previously published. But let us

do so carefully, without introducing new errors into the overburdened literature. Enthusiasm is all very well in the field; but in writing, which becomes a permanent record, strict accuracy must be the goal. Let us steer clear of "legends" and be sure we give only the facts.—ALLAN R. PHILLIPS.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The business session of the 1946 Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by President Robertson in Room 4505, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, California, at 10 a.m., May 17, 1946.

Mr. Robertson appointed the following members as a committee to examine proxies: John McB. Robertson, Adriaan van Rossem, and E. W. Martin; the following members were named as a committee to present nominations for membership on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for the ensuing year: Loye Miller, Walter Richardson, and Stanley Jewett. Both committees were instructed to report on the morning of May 18.

The 1946 business session was then adjourned until the following day.

The business session of the 1946 Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was resumed at 9:45 a.m. on May 18, 1946, in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, California, with Howard Robertson presiding.

At the request of the President, John McB. Robertson presented the report of the proxy committee, as follows: Of a total of 1013 members, 462 were represented by proxies, and registration showed 76 members present in person, making a total of 538. The President, accepting the report of the proxy committee, declared a quorum existent.

Reporting for the committee on nominations for membership on the Board of Directors of the Corporation, Loye Miller declared that the committee recommended the reelection of eight members now serving on this Board. The ninth member, Mr. J. S. Appleton, having submitted his resignation to the Board, the committee proposed the nomination of Mr. Adriaan van Rossem. The complete slate of nominees as submitted follows:

W. Lee Chambers	Alden H. Miller
Hilda W. Grinnell	J. R. Pemberton
Hildegarde Howard	Howard Robertson
Jean M. Linsdale	John McB. Robertson
Adriaan van Rossem.	

On a motion by Sumner Brooks, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the proposed nominations were accepted, and the nominations closed; and on the motion of Loye Miller, seconded by

Ed Harrison and again unanimously carried, those so nominated were elected.

President Robertson explained an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Club designed to increase the membership of the Board of Governors, pursuant to the custom prior to incorporation of the Club of including on said Board all past presidents of the Northern and Southern divisions. He explained further that this amendment had been passed by the Board of Directors of the Corporation and that a resolution approving the action of the Board of Directors was ready for consideration by the members of the Corporation. The resolution was read, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of this corporation at a Special Meeting held on the 18th day of May, 1946, in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, University of California, in the City of Berkeley, Alameda County, State of California, pursuant to Waiver of Notice of time and place for the holding thereof, signed by all members of said Board of Directors, adopted and approved by resolution of said Board, an amendment of the Articles of Incorporation of this Corporation amending Article Fifth of said Articles so as to provide for increasing the number of members constituting the Board of Governors, as follows:

FIFTH: . . . There shall also be constituted a Board of Governors consisting of the President, Vice-president and Secretary of each division, during incumbency, together with such persons as shall formerly have served for one year or longer as President of the Northern Division and/or the Southern Division of the aforesaid Cooper Ornithological Club, an unincorporated association, also such persons as will have served for one year or longer as President of the Northern Division and/or of the Southern Division of this Corporation,* and such persons as shall have served for one year or longer as President of this corporation, during such time in each instance as such persons continue their membership in this corporation without interruption, and also such persons selected in the manner provided by the By-laws of this corporation to hold the positions of Editor and Associate Editors of the publications of this corporation during incumbency. Said Board of Governors shall determine the policy relating to all matters concerning the scientific and educational policies and undertakings of this corporation and recommend the same for adoption by the corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the foregoing amendment of the Articles of Incorporation of this Corporation be, and the same is, hereby approved and adopted by the members of this Corporation, and that Article Fifth of the Articles of Incorporation of this Corporation be amended to read as herein set forth.

*Proposed addition to Article Fifth, in italics.

It was moved by Loye Miller, seconded by Hildegarde Howard, and unanimously carried, that this resolution be adopted.

President Robertson then stated that a similar change in Article III of the By-laws is required in order to be in agreement with the Articles of Incorporation. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the change in Article III of the By-laws, necessary to effect agreement with the amendment to the Fifth Article of Incorporation, be made.

Resolutions concerning the death of a number of prominent members of the Club, since the last Annual Meeting was held, were read and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Sibley, stating that there would be no meeting of the Northern Division in May, asked