

NOTES AND NEWS

The Twenty-second Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club will be held at Asilomar, California, on the Monterey Peninsula, April 20 to 22, 1951, under the sponsorship of the Southern Division. Plan now to attend. A call for contributions to the scientific program will soon be issued.

After 42 years of service in the business management of the Cooper Ornithological Club, W. Lee Chambers has declared he must be relieved of his duties. Planning and developing of Club affairs and the performance personally of all manner of detailed business chores have been the avocation and the generous contribution of Mr. Chambers, compensated for only by the knowledge that he has been a larger factor in building a worthy scientific organization.

The Board of Directors has recently named the following corps of Business Managers to conduct the affairs of the Club in 1951: C. V. Duff, Business Manager, in charge of promotion; Ed N. Harrison, Assistant Business Manager; Thomas R. Howell, in charge of sales of publications; J. R. Pemberton, chairman of the endowment committee; Sidney B. Peyton, Treasurer; and W. J. Sheffler, chairman of the investment committee.

The colored frontispiece, the eleventh in the series of paintings by Andrew Jackson Grayson published in *The Condor*, appears through the generosity of Mr. Earl B. Gilmore. It portrays the Fulvous Tree-duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*). The following paragraph of comments is taken from Grayson's notes on this species.

"At the conclusion of the rainy season, or the month of October, Fulvous Tree Ducks make their appearance in the vicinity of Mazatlan, San Blas and southward in large flocks, inhabiting the fresh water ponds and lakes in the coast region or Tierra Caliente during the entire winter or dry months, subsisting principally upon the seeds of grass and weeds and often at night visiting the cornfields for grain . . . Although its geographical range is confined within the limits of the tropics, yet this species has its seasons of periodical migrations from one part of the country to the other. During the month of April their well known and peculiar whistle may be heard nightly as they are passing over Mazatlan in apparently large flocks going northward. Some, however, remain and breed in the state of Sinaloa. I found young broods near San Blas that were unable

yet to fly as late as the month of November . . . Whilst in the City of Mexico during the months of February and March, I saw none of these ducks in the market, where a great many of our northern species were to be seen every morning. Nor have I met with it on the high central plains."

Rollo H. Beck, ornithological explorer of remarkable skill, energy, and daring, died on November 22, 1950, at eighty years of age. The excellent account of his life in Murphy's "Oceanic Birds of South America" (pp. 3-25) should be read in full to gain a true understanding of his fascinating career.

In order to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Frank M. Chapman and to continue his influence, a memorial fund under control of The American Museum of Natural History was established after his death in 1945 by Mrs. Elsie M. B. Naumburg and her husband; Walter W. Naumburg. Many of Dr. Chapman's friends and admirers have since contributed to this fund, which has grown sufficiently to permit a grant or grants to be made from the income. The Frank M. Chapman Memorial Committee is happy to announce that the first awards may be allotted in the year 1951.

Applications for fellowships should be addressed to the Chapman Memorial Fund, in care of the Department of Birds of the American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, N. Y. Applicants should state their training and experience and describe the nature and the scope of the proposed project as well as the plan of procedure, previous work on the project (if any), and the amount of financial aid required. They should also supply the names of one or more sponsors.

Projects that are eligible under the provisions of the Chapman Memorial Fund include field expeditions, travels undertaken for the purpose of intensive studies of behavior of species of birds or of bird colonies, and support of laboratory or museum studies—in fact, almost any phase of sound ornithological research. A sum of approximately \$2000.00 will be available for the first grants.

The American Museum of Natural History will be responsible for judging the qualifications of the applicants. Any necessary collections made during the tenure of a Chapman Fellowship will be deposited in the American Museum. Applications must be received before June 1, 1951.

The late Florence Merriam Bailey bequeathed to the Cooper Club her collection of bird art (see back cover of this issue for listing) and \$500, both for the Club's Endowment Fund. The grateful appreciation of the Club is herewith expressed for the aid she has thus given to our ornithological undertakings.

On approval of the Board of Directors, the Editor has invited a group of ornithologists removed from the center of principal editorial activity in Berkeley to serve as consultants and advisors with respect to manuscripts and Condor affairs. The following have agreed to serve on this advisory committee in 1951: David E. Davis, Herbert G. Deignan, Jean M. Linsdale, George Lowery, Jr., Ernst Mayr, and Robert W. Storer.

COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

SOUTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held October 24, in Hancock Hall, University of Southern California, Los Angeles. The following names were proposed for membership: Mrs. Gladys M. Caprini, 1807 Sacramento St., Vallejo, Calif., by J. McB. Robertson; John Bowman Davidson, P. O. Box 276, Corona del Mar, Calif., by Mrs. J. Q. Burch; Paul A. Florian, 427 W. Colorado, Glendora, Calif., and Dr. Everitt Vincent Payne, 538 East "I" St., Ontario, Calif., both by K. E. Stager; and Francis Raymond, 1029 Cliff Dr. (P. O. Box 2371), Laguna Beach, Calif., by Wade Fox, Jr.

Dr. Robert T. Moore was unanimously elected to Honorary Membership.

Thomas R. Howell, Curator of the Dickey Collections, University of California at Los Angeles, spoke on "The Natural History and Relationships of the Western Sapsuckers."—DOROTHY E. GRONER, *Secretary*.

NORTHERN DIVISION

OCTOBER.—The monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, on October 5, 1950. The following were proposed for membership: Willard D. Hartman, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, Calif., by F. A. Pitelka; Joseph J. Zucca, 618 Sanchez St., San Francisco 14, Calif., by Robert T. Orr.

H. L. Cogswell reported a Gray-backed Shearwater on September 10 off the Farallones, a Pectoral Sandpiper at Bay Farm Island on September 24, and a Prairie Falcon at Sears Point on September 30.

Gordon W. Gullion presented the results of his two years research on the behavior of the American Coot in the San Francisco Bay region, illustrating his talk with many very excellent Kodachrome slides.—HENRY E. CHILDS, JR., *Secretary*.

NOVEMBER.—The monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, on November 2, 1950. George Piternick, 2310 Ellsworth St., Berkeley 4, was proposed for membership by F. A. Pitelka.

Dr. H. C. Bryant, former president of the northern division, spoke briefly on bird migration at Grand Canyon National Park.

E. Lowell Sumner, speaker of the evening, discussed the wildlife of the Channel Islands National Monument.—HENRY E. CHILDS, *Secretary*.

DECEMBER.—The monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, on December 7, 1950. The following were proposed for membership: Laurence J. Thompson, 225 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach, Calif., James Whitehead, Mt. Tamalpais State Park, Mill Valley, both by Frank A. Pitelka; Clare M. Creighton, 1070 3rd St., Hermosa Beach, Calif., by A. H. Miller; Hubert R. MacCarthy, 1006 W. 19th St., North Vancouver, British Columbia, by H. E. Childs.

Dr. Pitelka reported for the Research Committee and announced that the project to be undertaken for the next year was to be devoted to nesting records of the Allen Hummingbird and the Bush-tit. He illustrated the use of such data with a graph showing the breeding seasons of hummingbirds in the Santa Barbara area where the Anna, Allen, Black-chin, and Costa hummingbirds occur.

President Kelly appointed John Chattin, Frank Pitelka, and E. Lowell Sumner, Jr., to the nominating committee.

Mr. Curl reported the Clark Nutcracker, Evening Grosbeak, and Townsend Solitaire at Fremont Peak State Park on November 11.

Dr. Charles G. Sibley spoke on his recent field experiences in western Mexico and showed Kodachrome slides taken on the trip.—HENRY E. CHILDS, JR., *Secretary*.