

collecting were issued to seven hundred and eighty-three individuals, from which figure it is evident that "the army of collectors" has dwindled to an almost negligible few.

Although it has been generally conceded that the last wild buffalo had disappeared from the American continent, the Canadian government sent an expedition to investigate the tales told by Indians of a large herd in the remote north. F. H. Kitto of the Canadian Department of the Interior, who headed the expedition, located a herd of approximately a thousand and secured photographs of them. The herd was found in the district south of Great Slave Lake and west of the Slave River. This herd brings the known number of buffalo in North America up to nearly ten thousand.

At the recent meeting Dr. Bales was drawn into relating some of his experiences among the tidal marshes of the Virginia coast, where he is wont to hie himself each June. One day, relates the Doctor, he left his balky guide in the boat and waded alone, deep into the quaking morass, in search of a colony of Laughing Gulls. Like a rainbow quester he was drawn on and on, zigzagging erstwhile to keep within his depth, until finally he came upon the colony. Until now he had given little thought to his return, and a downpour had set in, with no more to guide him than the waving sawgrass, he vainly tried to retrace his steps. His load was as heavy as his legs were weary and with the tide rising he began to wonder what Mrs. Bales and the boys at home would do with his big egg collection. He floundered on and on until his recollection of passing events became very hazy. However, he recalls that when the guide finally dragged him over the gunwale he surveyed his sorry plight and gurgled out, in words of Mother Goose, "Lawk a mercy me, can this be I?"

ANNUAL MEETING

The seventh annual meeting of The Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Chicago, Ill., on December 27 and 28, 1920. As one of the constituent organizations forming The American Association for the Advancement of Science its meetings were held with the annual meeting of that body at the University of Chicago. The sessions of the various associated and affiliated organizations extended from December 27 to January 1.

The morning session of The Wilson Club began with a conference of the officers, following which the meeting was convened and the preliminary business taken up. President Strong sketched over the work of the past year and outlined the needs and possibilities for increasing the Club's activities during 1921. The report

of Treasurer Fordyce was read and developed the fact that, by careful management and by reducing the size of the official organ, a balance of about twenty dollars was on hand. Secretary Ganier reported on his work during 1920 and presented a list of 71 new members. The present membership, excluding those who are delinquent, was given as approximately 400. He spoke in favor of an aggressive campaign of activity for new members during 1921 and a larger membership fee to make possible a larger and more attractive official organ. Letters, from a number of members not in attendance, were read in support of this view. Editor Jones was called upon to outline his ideas. He expressed himself as wishing to see *The Wilson Bulletin* put on a good financial footing in order that at least 64 pages of illustrated matter might be published in each number. He also suggested and requested that several associate editors be appointed to assist in gathering suitable material.

The president gave the gist of some correspondence which had developed with a firm specializing in the publication of scientific periodicals and which had made a tentative proposition for taking over *The Bulletin*. A letter was read from Vice-President Oberholser favoring its acceptance. Inasmuch as the contract made necessary a considerable advance in dues and certain changes in the established editorial policy, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee, with instruction to report its recommendations at the afternoon session of the second day.

A committee on nomination of officers for the year 1921 was appointed and instructed to report at the same time. Upon motion the Club voted its support to the movement to make a National Park of the Sand Dunes of Lake Michigan along the Indiana shore. A committee consisting of Messrs. Schantz and Coffin and Miss Catherine Mitchell was instructed to draw up resolutions to that effect.

After lunch hour on the second day, business was again taken up. The committee on Indiana Sand Dunes presented their resolution, which was accepted and passed.

Mr. Metcalf brought in, from The Ecological Society of America, resolutions protesting the use of our National Parks for water power or other commercial purposes. The Wilson Club voted its support and ratification of the resolutions.

The committee on nomination of officers reported that their recommendation was for the reelection of the present officers, viz., R. M. Strong, President; H. C. Oberholser, Vice-President; Albert F. Ganier, Secretary; George L. Fordyce, Treasurer.

A committee of three was called upon to report on the matter of publication. They reported a unanimity of opinion that the official organ be enlarged to at least 48 pages, but there was

divergence of opinion as to how the means should be secured. It was brought out by Dr. Swenk that a raise in dues would make necessary a revision or abrogation of the contract with the Nebraska Ornithologist's Union. After considerable discussion, Mr. Ganier moved that the dues be raised to two dollars for Associate and three dollars for Active members. Dr. Jones amended, that the subscription be raised to two dollars. The question of the legality of such action at this time was raised, and the point being sustained, it was agreed to defer action until the next annual meeting, at which time the whole matter of the increase of membership dues, subscription price of the official organ, and the publication procedure of the official organ will be up for action.

It was later voted to advance the subscription price of The Wilson Bulletin to non-members to \$1.50.

The Committee asked for an extension of time in which to study the proposal from the publishing concern relative to taking over the management of The Bulletin. The request was granted and they were instructed to make a definite recommendation at the next meeting.

A committee of Ways and Means, consisting of Messrs. Swenk, Stephens and Bales was appointed by the president to canvas the membership to lay before them in detail the financial needs of The Club and to receive funds for enlarging The Bulletin. The Secretary volunteered to organize two competing membership teams to increase the membership. A vote of thanks was extended to the Chicago Ornithological Club, through its committee chairman, Mr. Coffin, for the many courtesies shown the Wilson Club during its meeting.

The literary and social features of the Chicago meetings were particularly successful. A registration of members showed 32 present and nearly as many visitors. Quite a number of those present had come from a considerable distance and the interchange of experiences thus afforded was most profitable to all. A well selected list of papers was read at the meeting and illustrations were well above the average. The subject of the President's address was "The Problem of Soaring Flight," in which Dr. Strong gave the result of his observations during the past few summers on the Great Lakes, and with particular reference to the flight movements of gulls and terns. Several reels of motion pictures were secured from the National Association of Audubon Societies, and were much appreciated.

A motion was made by Dr. Jones, and passed, thanking Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson for the loan of the motion picture reels.

The evening meeting was a feature, affording as it did opportunity for informalities and the making of new acquaintances. A number of paintings, by Mr. Carl Plath, were on exhibition, as

well as one of the Duck Hawk from the brush of Mr. George M. Sutton, and loaned by the owner. The evening was concluded with Mr. Richardson's collection of slides, at which time over 250 accurately tinted and splendidly taken views of birds and wild flowers were thrown on the screen.

When the hour of adjournment arrived, at the close of the second day, those who had attended expressed themselves as well repaid for their time and not a little loath to wait a year for a repetition of the pleasure.

The complete program was as follows:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:30 A. M.—Conference of Officers.

Business Meeting of the Club.

The New Standard Catalog for Oological Exchange,
B. R. Bales, Circleville, O.

Ornithological Pot-Pourri—Members.

President's Address.

12:30 P. M.—Buffet Luncheon, Men's Cafe, University of Chicago Campus.

2:00 P. M.—Bird Banding; Purpose, Methods and Results.

(Slides)—S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland, O.

Bird Banding in the Douglas Lake Region of Northern Michigan.

(Slides)—Dayton Stoner, Iowa City, Iowa.

Observations Made on Auto Trips Through the Far West,
Lynds Jones, Oberlin, O.

Bird Notes from Eastern Florida, (Slides),

Gerard Alan Abbott, Gallipolis, O.

Breeding Warblers About Atlanta, Ga.,

Wm. H. La Prade, Atlanta, Ga.

MONDAY EVENING

6:30 P. M.—Annual Dinner at the City Club, Plymouth Place, near Van Buren St.

8:30 P. M.—Birds and Seasons in the Chicago Area.

(Slides)—Wm. D. Richardson, Chicago, Ill.

TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28

9:00 A. M.—Impressions of a Nature Lover in the Appalachian Mountains, (Slides),

O. M. Schantz, Cicero, Ill.

June Bird Notes from the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee,

Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

Changes in Bird Habitat and Other Notes,

C. W. G. Eifrig, Oak Park, Ill.

The Great Horned Owl,

Herbert L. Stoddard, Milwaukee, Wis.

- 2:00 P. M.—Reports of Committees and Conclusion of Business.
 Songs and Call Notes of Warblers,
 George R. Mayfield, Nashville, Tenn.
 Symposium of Bird Notes from the Nebraska Region,
 Myron H. Swenk, Lincoln, Neb.
 Notes on Birds of the Cape Fear Region of the North
 Carolina Coast, (Slides),
 Z. P. Metcalf, West Raleigh, N. C.
 Seabird Colonies Along the Texas Gulf Coast.
 Motion Pictures taken by Wm. H. Finley, for the
 National Audubon Societies.
 Adjournment.

CORRESPONDENCE

Comments on Migration Records of Eastern Kansas Birds.—

In the Wilson Bulletin of December, 1920, Mr. P. B. Peabody, Blue Rapids, Kan., seeks more light on the migration records for Kansas birds; critically reviewing the list published at the University of Kansas, Department of Zoölogy. Being entirely unacquainted with the parties who have of late years worked over these records in the University I have no disposition to defend them beyond my personal knowledge of the facts. I happen to know, however, that the first records had their foundation in work done many years ago and that they are the result of cumulative painstaking observation and effort.

I had the following experiences at the Fort Leavenworth Military Reservation and vicinity, as may be gathered from my article in the September number of the Wilson Bulletin. The Whip-poorwill (*Antrostomus vociferus vociferus*) is extremely abundant, and I have flushed them several times in broad daylight almost from under my feet. As to the Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) it was common in pairs that were always found in the same locality and no doubt nesting, my observations extending up to June 30.

As to the Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra rubra*) it was not extremely rare. My original record for Kansas of a summer resident pair of Louisiana Tanagers (*Piranga ludoviciana*) I fear will knock some bird men off the Christmas tree, and may merit the criticism: "This is absurd, enough." However, this pair was seen several times at close range and in good light. There is no other bird to my knowledge which could be mistaken for it even with field observation alone.

I do not believe that the birds care particularly about our records on Ornithology and they often migrate beyond our lawful ranges for them. It is possible, of course, to be mistaken in field observations, but as to observations that were made under proper