



THE ANNUAL MEETING

The eighth annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Chicago, Ill., December 26th and 27th, 1921. The Lecture Hall of the new Field Museum of Natural History had been placed at the disposal of The Club by the directors, through the courtesy of Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, the Curator of Zoölogy.

The first session was called to order by the President, Dr. R. M. Strong, and business was announced for the morning's program. At the request of Secretary Ganier, Dr. G. Eifrig was appointed and kindly consented to act as recording secretary. The first matter was to take from the table the motion to increase the annual dues. The Secretary presented a tabulation of the answers received from the questionnaire mailed to all members. Of the 136 replies received, 93 per cent voted to increase the dues to \$2.00 and \$3.00 for Associates and Actives respectively. Two of the votes favored retaining the present dues and the balance advocated raising the fee in various amounts. Dr. Jones, Editor of *The Bulletin*, brought out the fact that last year's publication was only made possible by the Special Fund raised by the Ways and Means Committee. He stated that a larger revenue was imperative to meet existing conditions and that it should be enough to make possible an increase to 64 pages per number. Other speakers followed advocating the procedure and a letter was read from Dr. Myron H. Swenk of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union pledging the support of that organization and stating that the matter of the proposed increase in dues would not likely interfere with their present affiliation. Dr. Jones stated, that by actively increasing the membership and with the aid of a small surplus of last year's Fund he felt that a 50 cent increase per member would suffice, and made motion to that effect. Seconded by Dr. Stephens. Mr. Coffin, stating that he felt too small a margin would be afforded, offered an amendment making the dues \$3.00 and \$1.50. After further discussion the amendment was withdrawn and the original motion, providing for dues of \$2.50 for Active and \$1.50 for Associate, was passed. The Council was instructed by the Chair to take up with the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union the revisions made necessary in the existing agreement by the change in dues. The Secretary spoke of the advisability of creating paid up Life Memberships and making provisions for taking care of such funds for investment. A motion in favor of the consummation of the plan passed and a committee, composed of Messrs. Stephens, Swenk, Whitney and Jones was instructed to make arrangements and to can-

vas for such memberships. The Special Committee on Ways and Means, through its Treasurer, Dr. Stephens, reported that the members had been circularized during the year and invited to contribute to a fund to meet the current deficit. His detailed report was read, giving the amounts and names of contributors, and showed that nearly \$400 had been made available and turned over to the Treasurer. Mr. Stoddard called attention to the fact that the Constitution and By-Laws were in need of revision and the Chair appointed a committee to report back the needed changes at a later session.

A committee on Resolutions, Messrs. Eifrig, Hunt and Coale, were next appointed.

The committee on Nomination of Officers, composed of Messrs. Stephens, Jones and Whitney, was appointed to report back after lunch hour. The report of Treasurer Fordyce was read and showed a balance on hand of \$115, with no indebtedness at the end of the fiscal year.

An Auditing Committee, composed of Messrs. Coffin, Stoddard and Lyon, was appointed.

The Secretary was called upon to report on his work for the year. He stated that he had received about six hundred Club communications and sent out about twice as many. The membership campaign, with which he had been entrusted at the last meeting, had been mapped out and put through with measurable success. Messrs. Mayfield and Stephens had kindly consented to act as Captains of two "teams" to make a systematic canvas with the aid of a form letter of invitation and the necessary blanks. The work resulted in the addition of 162 new members. A circular letter and questionnaire was sent out in November and a tabulation made of the replies. Work was done from time to time in keeping the mailing and membership lists up to date, thus cooperating with the Treasurer in this task. The work of suffixing to the names in the membership list the year of each member joining was carried on. The list was reported as partially complete in this respect. A special canvas was made during the year for increasing the membership in the South. Reports had been received and filed in reference to the number of complete sets of The Wilson Bulletin in existence.

President Strong spoke next, reviewing the work of the year and expressing optimism with reference to the future of The Club. He outlined the desirability of cooperation between students of bird life, of accurate and intensive field studies and the taking of comprehensive notes on the habits and home life of birds.

Editor Jones of The Bulletin said that there was much excellent manuscript on hand and that he would welcome the enlargement of the publication. He made a plea for more short articles suitable for the Field Notes Department and expressed thanks to the Editorial Board for assistance given him during the year.

The hour for luncheon having arrived the members adjourned to the Museum Lunch Room for the meal and informalities.

The afternoon session was opened with the report of the Nominating Committee. The following officers for 1922 were nominated and duly elected:

President—Thos. L. Hankinson, Ypsilanti, Mich.

Vice-President—Dayton Stoner, Iowa City, Iowa.

Secretary—Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

Treasurer—George L. Fordyce, Youngstown, Ohio.

Dr. Lynds Jones was unanimously reelected as Editor of The Wilson Bulletin.

The program began with an address of welcome by Dr. Wilfred H. Osgood, Curator of Zoölogy of the Field Museum. The papers scheduled for the afternoon were then read, and discussed more or less extensively. Attention was brought to the fact that many hundreds of people who are banding birds would welcome a department in The Bulletin devoted to this subject. It was decided to inaugurate such a feature, and at the request of Dr. Jones Mr. Wm. I. Lyon of Waukeegan, Ill., consented to look after such a department.

The Annual Banquet was held in the evening at the Fort Dearborn Hotel, there being about 25 members in attendance. At the suggestion of President Strong the various members were called on for a "personal experience" story. Reminiscences of arduous trips afield were given with warmth and candor, some dating back to the days of bare-foot boyhood. In concluding his remarks each speaker acted as toastmaster in introducing the member at his right. The entire informality throughout the meeting was notably in keeping with the tastes of lovers of nature.

The morning session of Tuesday was begun with the election of 162 new members. This was followed by a report from the Committee on Resolutions, as follows:

(a) That a vote of thanks be extended to the authorities of the Field Museum, and especially to Dr. Osgood, to the committee in charge of the program (Messrs. Coffin, Sanborn and Steele), to the Committee on Ways and Means for the result of their efforts, to the personnel of the Membership Teams, to the Editor of The Wilson Bulletin, and to the other officers of The Club for their work of the past year; (b) that hereafter the annual meetings be at least one day removed from Christmas Day; (c) that all members be urged to assist in extending the membership of The Club, and (d) that the Secretary be instructed to address a petition on behalf of The Club to the proper authorities in Indiana, pointing out the disastrous results to the Dune Region of the lake shore in the event the proposed automobile highway is built through them. The report was adopted. The Committee on Revision of Constitution reported their recommendations, and after discussion the Constitution was amended as needed. The papers of the morning session were next taken up and continued until 12:30.

After luncheon the members were shown through the halls of ornithology and mamology by Dr. Osgood. Much interest was expressed in the attractiveness of the exhibits and favorable comment was general on the arrangements as compared with the way the collections were displayed in the old building. Dr. Osgood explained that he was just getting things "ironed out" and that plans for new features and exhibits would follow in due time. The meeting was re-convened for the last session at 2:30 p. m., there being about 40 members in attendance. Professor Stoner, the incoming Vice-President, in the absence of the President-elect, was invited to take the Chair. Five papers concluded the

afternoon's program, which included a number of slides of W. D. Richardson's splendidly executed photographs of wild birds and nests. A feature of the day was an exhibit of water color drawings by George M. Sutton of Pittsburgh, Pa., loaned for the occasion. The technique of Mr. Sutton's work elicited much favorable comment.

Space prohibits a more detailed account of the meeting, which was one of the best in The Club's history. Those who attended left with a feeling of good will, time profitably spent and stimulus acquired for more and better ornithological work the coming year.

ALBERT F. GANIER.

Secretary W. O. C.

THE LIST OF PAPERS FOLLOWS:

Reminiscences of Early Ornithologists of the Chicago Area. Henry K. Coale, Highland Park, Ill.

Hithertoo Unrecognized Facts in Bird Migration. G. Eifrig, Oak Park, Ill.

Nesting of the Sharp-shinned Hawk in Tennessee. Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn.

Notes on Twenty-five Years of Migration Data from Oberlin, Ohio. Illustrated with charts. Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.

On the Breeding Grounds of Texas Gulf Coast Birds. Slides. Alvin R. Kahn, College Station, Texas.

Methods of Bird Banding and Results from Illinois. Slides. W. I. Lyon, Waukegan, Ill.

Sketch of the Field Museum and its Plans for the Future. Wilfred H. Osgood, Chicago, Ill.

Notes on the Hatching of the Ruffed Grouse and Woodcock. Slides. Wm. D. Richardson, Chicago, Ill.

The Joys of the Campaign. Miss Althea R. Sherman, McGregor, Iowa. (Read by Mr. P. B. Coffin.)

An Unusual Eastern Movement of the Magpie. Dr. T. C. Stephens, Sioux City, Iowa.

The Lake Okoboji (Iowa) Biological Laboratory. Slides. Dr. T. C. Stephens, Sioux City, Iowa.

Notes on the Birds of Sauk County, Wis. Herbert L. Stoddard, Milwaukee, Wis.

Habits of Terns on Woepecket and Muskeget Islands. R. M. Strong, Chicago, Ill.

Observations on the Facial Expressions of Birds. Illustrated with sketches. George M. Sutton, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Notes on the Hatching of the Ruffed Grouse and Woodcock. Wm. D. Richardson, Chicago, Ill.