

# THE WILSON BULLETIN

Published at Sioux City, Iowa, by the Wilson Ornithological Club, with the co-operation of the following societies, viz.:

The Nebraska Ornithologists' Union.  
The Iowa Ornithologists' Union.  
The Kentucky Ornithological Society.  
The Tennessee Ornithological Society.

The subscription price in the United States is \$1.50 a year, and 50 cents a number; in all other countries of the International Postal Union the price is \$2.00 a year, and 60 cents a number. Subscriptions and orders for single copies should be addressed to the Secretary, Prof. Howard K. Gloyd, Ottawa, Kansas, U. S. A.

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## EDITORIAL

The Kansas City meeting is now a matter of history, and those in attendance must have been in agreement that it was a success from every point of view. Kansas City is the most western point at which we have thus far held a meeting, and we felt that it brought us in contact with that great group of southwestern states, including Texas and Oklahoma, from each of which we had representatives. About thirty other scientific societies held meetings during the same week in conjunction with the American Association. All of the meetings were held in the business district of the city, most of them being held in the various hotels, which are bunched together within a few blocks of one another.

The minutes of the meeting are given elsewhere, and, while trying to avoid a duplication of facts there presented, we may review a few impressions gathered at the time. All arrangements had been carefully planned by our local committee, of which Dix Teachenor was chairman, in co-operation with the local committee of the A. A. A. S., and the success of the whole affair was attributable very largely to Mr. Teachenor's thoughtfulness.

Perhaps the outstanding feature of the meeting, aside from the formal program, was the cordial and democratic good-fellowship which was felt on every hand. There are various reasons for this, and we hope it may always remain so. A very pleasant little affair, not on the published program, was the visit on Tuesday evening to the home of Mrs. M. W. Barber to see the set of Audubon's "Birds of America" in the elephant folio edition. The setting was unique, and all were interested in again looking upon this magnificent work.

The attendance at this meeting was probably the largest we have ever had, although we do not have the figures of the Nashville meeting at hand. Twelve states were represented, besides Washington, D. C. A large number of members were present who had not previously attended a W. O. C. meeting. We trust it may become a habit.

Conversation during the sessions brought to light some sentiment favoring an occasional meeting earlier in the fall, to accommodate those business men who are particularly busy at the close of the year. The Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving would be the most suitable time, and it would probably be feasible to hold a meeting at this time when we do not go with the American Association.

The frontispiece of this number of the BULLETIN is reproduced from a charcoal drawing by Mr. Edward von Seibold Dingle, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The subject is a Barred Owl, from life, and as it appeared in the shadowy background of night. The frontispiece in the last, December, issue of the BULLETIN was made from a wash drawing in black and white by Mr. George Miksch Sutton, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We think our readers will be interested in noting the differences, insofar as they are apparent in the reproductions, in the various methods in artistic technique. We are looking forward to other contributions by both of these artists.

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At the recent Kansas City meeting of the W. O. C. the resignation of Professor Gordon Wilson as Secretary was accepted. Professor Wilson has served the Club in this official capacity for three years, and during this time the Club has grown and prospered as in no other period of its history—and for this a good share of credit may go to the Secretary. The Club owes a debt of gratitude to Professor Wilson for his faithful and efficient services.

The newly elected Secretary, Howard K. Gloyd, is professor of Biology in Ottawa University, at Ottawa, Kansas. He is a graduate of the Kansas State Agricultural College, and has done graduate work in the University of Michigan. His major interest is ornithology. He enters his new work with enthusiasm, and we are confident that his office will be effectively carried on. We bespeak for him the cordial co-operation of our members.

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At the last meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, in New York, steps were taken to establish a memorial to the life work of Robert Ridgway; it is to be known at present as the Ridgway Memorial Project. The plan is to raise a fund sufficient to hold in perpetuity as a bird sanctuary the eighteen acres which constitute "Bird Haven", the present home of Mr. Ridgway. The idea is a very happy one, and we trust that the committee in charge will be able to carry on the project to immediate completion. At the Kansas City meeting the Wilson Ornithological Club appointed Mr. Percival Brooks Coffin, of Chicago, as its representative on the joint committee which is to have charge of the matter. Their plans, when formulated, will be made known.

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We trust that our new cover design has been noticed, and that it meets with approval. We are indebted to Mr. George Miksch Sutton for its production. The old etching has been in service through ten volumes, and was beginning to show the effects of old age.

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Most of our readers are lovers of the out-of-doors, and are interested in the welfare of our national parks. We have just read a freshly printed pamphlet entitled "Hands Off the National Parks", by Willard G. Van Name. We are here told how commercial interests are making dangerous headway in planning a re-mapping of some of the national parks in such a way as "to juggle out timber or other things", as Dr. Van Name puts it. We believe that any reader may obtain a copy of this booklet by addressing Dr. Van Name in care of the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, and it will be well worth while for all friends of the national parks to do so.