

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

BY FRED T. HALL, SECRETARY

The Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society was held at Duluth, Minnesota, from Thursday, June 13, to Sunday, June 16, 1957. It was sponsored by the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, the University of Minnesota at Duluth, and the Duluth Bird Club.

There were four sessions devoted to papers and two business meetings at the Science Building on the University Campus. A first showing of Dr. Olin S. Pettingill, Jr.'s new movie, *Faraway Falklands*, opened the Thursday evening program, which was followed by an informal reception in the ballroom of the Kirby Student Center. The host group was the Duluth Bird Club. At the same time, the Executive Council met in the Kirby Student Center. The Annual Dinner was held in the Student Center on Saturday evening and President John T. Emlen, Jr. delivered the President's address. Entertainment provided by the Local Committee completed the program. The tables were attractively decorated with birds made by the Local Committee and several booklets of local information on natural history were at each place setting.

Even though the weather did not cooperate, early morning field trips were taken to Harbor Island and Minnesota Point, and to places along the West Boulevard. An evening trip visited the Fox Farm Road area. The Sunday field trip was to the famous Wilderness Canoe Country of northern Minnesota.

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

President Emlen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Friday, June 14. Dr. R. W. Darland, Provost of the University of Minnesota at Duluth, welcomed the Wilson Ornithological Society and President Emlen responded on behalf of the organization. The minutes of the 37th Annual Meeting were approved as published in *The Wilson Bulletin* for September, 1956.

Secretary's Report

The secretary, Fred T. Hall, summarized the principal actions taken at the previous evening's Executive Council meeting as follows:

1. The Council confirmed the 1958 meeting to be held at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, from April 24 to 27. The tentative plan to meet in Kentucky in 1959 was withdrawn and the future remains open to further invitation.
2. The Council unanimously reelected Keith L. Dixon editor of *The Wilson Bulletin*.
3. The Council voted to name the Society library, The Josselyn Van Tyne Memorial Library.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer, Ralph M. Edeburn, submitted the following report on the finances of the Society:

REPORT OF TREASURER FOR 1956

GENERAL FUND

Balance as shown by last report, dated December 31, 1955 \$ 4,195.23

RECEIPTS

Dues:

Active	\$ 3,819.00	
Sustaining	1,020.00	\$ 4,839.00
Subscriptions to <i>The Wilson Bulletin</i>		572.25
Sale of back issues and reprints of <i>The Wilson Bulletin</i>		186.05

Gifts:

Color Plate Fund	\$ 22.00	
Library Book Fund	28.00	
Miscellaneous	25.00	75.00
Interest on Investments and Savings		419.62
Miscellaneous Income		9.02
Total Receipts		\$10,296.17

DISBURSEMENTS

<i>The Wilson Bulletin</i> —printing and engraving	\$ 4,545.25
<i>The Wilson Bulletin</i> —mailing and maintenance of mailing list	943.81
Color Plates (2)	874.80
Editor's Expense—Clerical	95.00
Treasurer's Expense—printing, postage, etc.	268.57
Secretary's Expense—stationery, printing, postage for annual meeting	276.60
Committee Expense—printing and postage	16.48
Purchase of books from Book Fund for Library	25.16
Purchase of back issues and reprints	15.09
Miscellaneous—other officers	15.38
Total Disbursements	\$ 7,076.14
Balance on hand in Twentieth Street Bank, Huntington, West Virginia, December 31, 1956	\$ 3,220.03

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account as shown by last report, dated December 31, 1956 .. \$ 842.46

Receipts:

Sale of U.S. Postal Savings Coupon Bonds (matured)	\$ 1,012.50
Life Membership Payments	700.00
3 Shares Mass. Invest. Trust at \$32.62 (included below)	1,712.50
Total Receipts	\$ 2,554.96

Disbursements:

S. Morris Pell Painting Grant	\$ 25.00
Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Grants	200.00
Purchase 20 Shares Firemans Fund Insurance	1,420.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 1,645.00

Balance in Savings Account, Twentieth Street Bank, Huntington, West Virginia, December 31, 1956 .. \$ 909.96

Securities Owned*

U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "G," dated December 20, 1944 (maturity value, \$1,500.00)	\$ 1,518.75
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "G," dated June 1, 1945 (maturity value, \$500.00)	593.00
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "G," dated July 1, 1945 (maturity value, \$900.00)	887.40
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "G," dated Oct. 1, 1945 (maturity value, \$1,400.00)	1,374.80
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "F," dated February 1, 1947 (maturity value, \$2,000.00)	1,800.00
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "F," dated April 1, 1948 (maturity value, \$2,000.00)	1,748.00

U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "F," dated October 1, 1948 (maturity value, \$1,450.00)	1,248.44
U.S. Savings Bonds, Series "F," dated April 1, 1950 (maturity value, \$1,000.00)	822.00
Total Value of Government Bonds	\$ 9,992.39
Massachusetts Investors Trust (378 shares at \$11.68)	4,415.04
Firemans Fund Insurance (70 shares at \$50.00)	3,500.00
Total Securities Owned	\$17,907.43
Total in Endowment Fund,** December 31, 1956	18,817.39

*Bonds carried at redeemable value December 31, 1956

Stocks carried at closing prices December 31, 1956.

***In Reserve*

Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Fund (special gifts) \$ 125.00

S. Morris Pell Fund (special gift)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/RALPH M. EDEBURN,

Treasurer.

Research Grant Committee

Kenneth C. Parkes, chairman, reported that three applications for the S. Morris Pell awards for the encouragement of bird art were received. The Committee awarded \$25 each to Mrs. Carl (Colleen) Nelson, temporarily of Rome, Italy, and Mr. Albert Earl Gilbert of Chicago, Illinois, thus exhausting the S. Morris Pell Fund.

There were only four applicants for the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Grant and the Committee felt the projects were all of excellent quality. The Committee awarded the 1957 grant of \$100 to Mrs. Robert (Millicent) Ficken of Ithaca, New York, for a "Comparative Study of the Behavior of the Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*) and the Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*)." The Committee also reported that the Fuertes Grant funds were reduced to \$25.00.

The Council regretted the termination of the S. Morris Pell award but hoped that similar funds might be forthcoming so that this project could be resumed. The Council appropriated funds to be used to continue the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Research Fund if no other funds were contributed for this purpose. It was hoped that someone might be interested in perpetuating this research grant.

Membership Committee

Howard F. Young, chairman, reported that 152 names of new members were posted for inspection by the members prior to the election at the final business meeting. On December 31, 1956, the Society had 112 life, 198 sustaining, and 1268 active members, a total of 1578. The addition of the new members and the loss of 180 old members leaves a balance of 1550. There are 183 institutional subscriptions to *The Wilson Bulletin*.

Library Committee

H. Lewis Batts, Jr., chairman, reported that during the past 12 months the Society has received gifts to the Library of 31 books, 381 reprints, 32 magazines, 25 bulletins, 18 pamphlets, 81 periodicals, and 25 disk recordings. Compared to last year, this listing represents fewer items received, except in the reprint and recording categories. In addition, 80 journals are exchanged for *The Wilson Bulletin*, and 22 others are received as gifts. The book fund has been increased by approximately \$45.00.

Captain Karl Haller, in addition to again contributing generously to the book fund, donated the large collection of bird song recordings.

Special mention should be made of the list of serial holdings, published in *The Wilson*

Bulletin, as compiled by the late Josselyn Van Tyne, to whom The Wilson Society owes much gratitude for its excellent Library.

The University of Michigan continues to catalogue accessions, to bind completed serial volumes, and to aid W.O.S. members in their bibliographic and library loan requests. The University now separates the W.O.S. Library from that of the Bird Division and houses the two in separate rooms. This gives more shelf space to both libraries. The Library Committee has been expanded to four members; the additions are Robert W. Storer, William A. Lunk, and Haven H. Spencer.

Conservation Committee

Robert A. Pierce, chairman, reported by letter.

"Again, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the excellent cooperation received from each member of the Committee, which was composed of P. F. English, Lee E. Yeager, Thomas G. Scott, and Frank Bellrose, Jr. I should also like to point out again, that the vigorous individual efforts of members of the Society in supporting good conservation legislation and practices on both the national and local levels are very important and effective.

"With this thought in mind, I feel that it is important for each of us to remember that there are presently many activities important to conservation which are being decided at State and local levels. Some of these activities are nationally important also, but while some of us can do much at the national level, all of us can do something locally.

"Tremendous quantities of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and rodenticides are being widely distributed annually over marshes, forests, farms and gardens, often with much damage to fish and wildlife. All of us can encourage more testing and research within our respective States on the effects of these poisons and can encourage legal controls for the use of these poisons where it is desirable. Often, too, foresters, farmers, entomologists, public health officials, and others need to be reminded that consideration must be given to all members of the fauna, not alone to the pests which they hope to eradicate.

"With increasing frequency we hear in game management circles that hunters are under-harvesting game and that bag limits and lengths of seasons may be relatively unimportant, since, when game becomes hard to find, hunters will cease hunting, leaving sufficient game to fill the habitat to its carrying capacity by the time the next hunting season arrives. While this philosophy has been developed quite vigorously in regard to pheasants, it is being extended to other species, and is not infrequently encountered in discussions of waterfowl and Mourning Doves. It is a theory which is sure to find much favor with many hunters, few of whom will care to distinguish between those situations where such practices may prove to be practical and those where the theory can be demonstrated to be invalid. As individuals we can remind those conservation leaders who do their leading behind the pack that certain fundamental precepts should be considered as well as license fees and pressure groups. On the national level we should demand some very sound experimental evidence before we accept the liberalization of hunting regulations for waterfowl and other migratory birds. Those who feel that theories without experimental evidence justify action might well read "Safety Testing of Poliomyelitis Vaccine" by Paul Meier (1957. *Science*, vol. 125, no. 3257, pp. 1067-71) and ponder the Cutter incident.

"Promiscuous introductions of exotic birds and mammals continue. Since most of this work is performed by State or local groups, it again falls to our lot as individuals interested in conservation to become informed about the merits of such activities and to lend our support to sound biological practices in our own communities.

"As a result of recent publicity, we are all aware of the fact that captive Whooping Cranes have hatched two eggs in New Orleans' Audubon Park Zoo. This serves to accent the fact that opinions differ as to whether or not wild birds should be taken captive to maintain a captive nucleus whose progeny could be added to the wild. David E. Davis represented the Society at a Whooping Crane Conference in Washington, D. C., called by Mr. John L. Farley on October 29. As a result of this conference, Dr. Davis suggested that perhaps an unbiased comprehensive plan of action could best be formulated by an advisory group appointed by some independent agency, such as the National Research Council or the Ecological Society of America. I feel that this suggestion has real merit, not only in respect to this problem, but also in other controversial conservation matters."

Endowment Committee

Olin S. Pettingill, Jr., chairman, gave no report but spoke briefly of the endowment needs of the Society.

Temporary Committees

The President appointed the following temporary committees:

Auditing Committee

N. Bayard Green, Chairman
Mary Lois Garrett
Kriston Macland

Resolutions Committee

Joseph J. Hickey
Betty Carnes
William A. Dyer

Nominating Committee

Walter J. Breckenridge
William W. F. Gunn
William F. Rapp, Jr.

SECOND BUSINESS SESSION

The final business session was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, June 15.

The applicants for membership, whose names were posted, were elected to membership.

Report of the Auditing Committee

The committee reported by letter that they had examined the books and accounts of the Treasurer and found them in good order.

Report of the Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne was so largely responsible for the continued development of the Library of the Wilson Ornithological Society as a unique bibliographical instrument in the biological sciences; and

WHEREAS Dr. Van Tyne so successfully raised the standards of *The Wilson Bulletin* to world-wide eminence during the 10-year period of his editorship for the Society; and

WHEREAS Dr. Van Tyne served the Wilson Ornithological Society with such great distinction and sustained devotion as vice-president from 1931 to 1935; as president from 1935 to 1937; as councillor from 1931 to 1957; and as a member for thirty-five years;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society at its Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting herein assembled, record its great sorrow upon his passing away on January 30, 1957; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Society record on its minutes this small tribute to the great modesty, the life-long unselfishness, the tremendous labors, and the

enduring vision with which Dr. Van Tyne contributed to the development not only of the Wilson Ornithological Society but of American ornithology in general; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society convey to his family the great sense of loss which they share in the passing of one of America's greatest ornithologists.

WHEREAS this Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society has made for the continued interchange of facts, findings and new hypotheses in ornithological science; and

WHEREAS this meeting has been made possible by the great labors of the Society's hosts here in Duluth;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Wilson Ornithological Society extend its sincere thanks to the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, the University of Minnesota at Duluth, and the Duluth Bird Club for their many efforts in making this Thirty-eighth Meeting of the Society a reality.

Election of Officers

The Nominating Committee proposed the following officers for the coming year: President, John T. Emlen, Jr.; First Vice-President, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw; Second Vice-President, Phillips B. Street; Secretary, Fred T. Hall; Treasurer, Ralph M. Edeburn; Elective members of the Executive Council, Leonard C. Brecher (term expires 1958), Andrew J. Berger (term expires 1959), and Pershing B. Hofslund (term expires 1960).

The report of the committee being accepted, and there being no nominations from the floor, the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for these nominees.

PAPERS SESSIONS

Friday, June 14

- Rodney L. Bleifuss, Research Laboratory, Oliver Iron Mining Division, United States Steel Corporation, Duluth, Minnesota. *Introduction to the Geology of Minnesota*, slides.
- O. A. Finseth, Duluth, Minnesota. *Ornithological History of Minnesota*.
- Olga Lakela, University of Minnesota at Duluth. *Some Floral Elements in Northeastern Minnesota*, slides.
- P. B. Hofslund, University of Minnesota at Duluth. *Some Aspects of Bird Migration in the Duluth Area*, slides.
- Dwain W. Warner, University of Minnesota. *Some Comments on Mexican Overland and Trans-Gulf Migration*.
- Robert W. Dickerman, University of Minnesota. *Preliminary Report on a Study of the Song Sparrows of the Mexican Plateau*, slides.
- Dale A. Zimmerman, University of Michigan. *Distribution and Subspecific Identification of the Northern Waterthrush in Michigan*, slides.
- Joyce Heckenlaible Le Febvre, University of Minnesota. *Responses of Four Species of Thrushes to Weather and Lumbering in a Mexican Cloud Forest*, slides.
- Wendell Taber, Maine Audubon Society. *The Indigo Bunting, A Life History*.
- Keith L. Dixon, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. *Some Aspects of Social Organization in the Carolina Chickadee*, slides.

Saturday, June 15

- Byron E. Harrell, University of Minnesota. *Temperate Forest Birds of Mexico and Eastern United States*, slides.
- Kenneth C. Parkes, Carnegie Museum. *Feathers, Filipinos and Fevers*, slides.
- Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, Battle Creek, Michigan. *Some Birds of Northern Michigan*, slides.
- J. David West, Port Credit, Ontario. *1956-1957 Invasion of Three-Toed Woodpeckers*.

(Summarized by J. Murray Speirs, read by Doris Huestis Speirs, Dorion, Ontario).

Fred T. Hall, Buffalo Museum of Science. *An Arctic Three-Toed Woodpecker in Buffalo*, Kodachrome film.

Robert A. McCabe, University of Wisconsin. *Transplanting of Yellow-headed Blackbirds*, slides.

Frances Hamerstrom, Wisconsin Conservation Department, Plainfield, Wisconsin. *Myiasis in Hawks' Ears*, slides.

ATTENDANCE

Members and guests who registered totalled 143. Twenty-one states, the Territory of Alaska, The Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, and Germany were represented.

From **Arizona**: 4—*Phoenix*, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Hawkins; *Tucson*, Mr. and Mrs. Anders H. Anderson.

From **Florida**: 1—*Fort Walton Beach*, Gerald T. Rogers.

From **Illinois**: 4—*Blue Island*, Karl E. Bartel; *Evanston*, Monica Evans; *Peoria*, Ferd Luthy, Jr.; *Quincy*, T. E. Musselman.

From **Indiana**: 2—*Indianapolis*, Mrs. S. G. Campbell, Mildred Campbell.

From **Iowa**: 2—*Cedar Rapids*, Virginia Olson, Pauline Wershofen.

From **Kansas**: 3—*Lawrence*, John William Hardy, Robert M. Mengel, Harrison B. Tordoff.

From **Kentucky**: 3—*Louisville*, Leonard C. Brecher, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stovoner.

From **Maine**: 1—*Wayne*, O. S. Pettingill, Jr.

From **Massachusetts**: 2—*Cambridge*, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Taber.

From **Michigan**: 13—*Alma*, Lester E. Eyer; *Ann Arbor*, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Branch, Mrs. Reuben L. Kahn, Haven H. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Storer; *Battle Creek*, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw; *Imlay City*, Dale A. Zimmerman; *Kalamazoo*, H. Lewis Batts, Jr.; *Marquette*, Mary Spear Ross; *Union City*, William A. Dyer; *Ypsilanti*, Maud Hukill.

From **Minnesota**: 55—*Albert Lea*, Charles Flugum; *Duluth*, J. K. Bronoel, Margaret Brown, Goldie Cohen, Flora Evans, James Glick, P. B. Hofslund, Catherine Lieske, Evelyn Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Putnam, Mrs. Arthur Roberts, Helen Smith, Mrs. Lee Taylor; *Excelsior*, Arnold B. Erickson; *Fergus Falls*, Raymond Duenow; *Glenwood*, Mrs. E. R. Selnes; *Grand Rapids*, Bernie Bashingbauer; *Hibbing*, Clara Lilly, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Naddy; *Mankato*, William Luwe; *Minneapolis*, Mrs. Pearl Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Breckenridge, Amy Chambers, Robert W. Dickerman, Beth Doeringsfeld, Barbara J. Farrand, Edith Farrand, John Futcher, Harvey L. Gunderson, Bruce Hayward, Alfreda Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Lien, Mary Lupient, Ethel Slider, Dana Struthers, John Testor, Mr. and Mrs. Dwain W. Warner, Mrs. John Watson; *Minnetonka Beach*, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Mikkelson; *Northfield*, Arnold J. Petersen; *Owatonna*, Mrs. H. A. Northrop; *St. Paul*, Mrs. William F. Davidson, Byron E. Harrell, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Jaques, Orwin Rustad; *Virginia*, Ruth Ambrose; *White Bear Lake*, Mrs. R. M. Berthel, Joyce W. Le Febure.

From **Nebraska**: 2—*Blue Springs*, Mrs. F. J. Patton; *Chadron*, Doris Gates.

From **New Jersey**: 3—*Spotswood*, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley S. Dickerson; *Tenafly*, Betty Carnes.

From **New York**: 3—*Buffalo*, Harold H. Axtell, Fred T. Hall; *Ithaca*, Lawrence I. Grinnell.

From **Ohio**: 6—*Cleveland*, Mary Stewart; *Delaware*, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Stull; *Painesville*, Mrs. Robert V. D. Booth; *Steubenville*, Earl Farmer; *Toledo*, John M. McCormick.

- From **Pennsylvania**: 2—*Chester Springs*, Phillips B. Street; *Pittsburgh*, Kenneth C. Parkes.
- From **South Dakota**: 3—*Sioux Falls*, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Findley, Herbert Krause.
- From **Tennessee**: 2—*Knoxville*, Mary Enloe; *Maryville*, Ralph Zaenglein.
- From **Texas**: 1—*College Station*, Keith L. Dixon.
- From **West Virginia**: 1—*Huntington*, Ralph M. Edeburn.
- From **Wisconsin**: 20—*La Crosse*, Howard F. Young; *Madison*, Mr. and Mrs. John Emlen, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Eynon, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Hickey, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scott; *Milwaukee*, Daniel D. Berger, Helmut C. Mueller; *Oshkosh*, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Kaspar; *Plainfield*, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick N. Hamerstrom, Jr.; *Ripon*, Paul Cors; *Superior*, Elizabeth Fisher, Juanita Walker; *Viroqua*, Margarette E. Morse; *West Bend*, Marvin Vore.
- From **Alaska**: 1—*Anchorage*, Grace Schinske.
- From **Bavaria, Germany**: 1—*Übersee*, Karl Beringer.
- From **Manitoba, Canada**: 2—Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Lawrence.
- From **Ontario, Canada**: 6—*Fort William*, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Allin; *Pickering*, Mr. and Mrs. J. Murray Speirs; *Port Arthur*, Keith Dennis; *Toronto*, Frederick M. Helleiner.

In recognition of the need of our Hungarian colleagues, the American Ornithologists' Union has established a Committee for the Aid of Hungarian Ornithologists. The Chairman, Frederick Greeley, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois, has a list of some 50 persons who are in urgent need of field clothes and/or woollens. Persons who are willing to send used clothing should inform Dr. Greeley of the sizes and kinds of garments, and he will provide the names and addresses of prospective recipients, and instructions for the mailing of packages to them. Whenever possible he will try to place donors in contact with recipients of similar ornithological interests. Also needed are issues of American journals prior to 1945 for the ornithological library at Budapest. Money for the purchase of these items may be sent to the Committee; checks should be made to "Frederick Greeley—Hungarian Relief." It is hoped that the response of our members will be prompt and generous.
