

THE SIXTY-SIXTH STATED MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

BY OLIN SEWALL PETTINGILL, JR., SECRETARY

THE first meeting of the Union in the Missouri Valley and the fifth meeting west of Chicago was held in Omaha on October 11 to 15, 1948, at the invitation of The Nebraska Ornithologists' Union. Headquarters were at the Hotel Fontenelle where the business sessions and the Annual Dinner took place. Public sessions, an exhibition, special exhibits, and a reception were held in the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

The business sessions were as follows: (1) First Session of the Council, Monday, October 11, 10:10 a. m. to 12:10 p. m. Number in attendance, 17. (2) Second Session of the Council, Monday, 1:35 to 4:05 p. m. Number in attendance, 17. (3) Meeting of the Fellows, First Session, Monday, 4:20 to 5:45 p. m. Number in attendance, 20. (4) Meeting of the Fellows and Members, Monday, 8:15 to 11:35 p. m. Number of Fellows present, 20; number of Members present, 21. (5) Third Session of the Council, Wednesday, 8:05 to 9:35 a. m. Number in attendance, 17. (6) Meeting of the Fellows, Second Session, Thursday, 8:10 to 9:35 a. m. Number in attendance, 20.

Reports of Officers. The Secretary reported that the total number of members of the Union, including both Honorary and Corresponding Fellows, is 2,040. This figure, when broken down into the various classes of membership, is as follows: Fellows, 51; Fellows Emeriti, 1; Honorary Fellows, 14; Corresponding Fellows, 61; Members, 141; Associates, 1,772. Three hundred and ninety persons have been proposed for associate membership. Their election will bring the total number of members to 2,430. Notices of the following deaths were received: Founder: Albert Kenrick Fisher. Fellow: Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey. Corresponding Fellows: Walter Edward Collinge, Austin Roberts. Members: George Kruck Cherrie, Leon Jacob Cole, William Augustus Jefferies, Aldo Leopold, Francis Beach White. Associates: William Clark Adams, Courtney Brandreth, Grant MacDonald Cook, Reinhold Leo Fricke, Frederick Woods Haecker, Sadia Haskell, Arthur Hudson Helme, Robert Bruce Horsfall, Edwin Lincoln Moseley, Harry Arthur McGraw, Augustus Gibson Paine, Jr., George Parmly, William Pepper, Jr., Nels Theodore Peterson, John Livzey Ridway, Henri des Rivieres, John Bonner Semple, Golds-

borough Serpell, William Thomas Shaw, Harry Herbert Stone, Jr., John William Sugden, Henry Norton Torrey.

The Treasurer gave his report which is published in this number of 'The Auk.'

Dr. John T. Zimmer, Editor of 'The Auk,' gave a brief report in which he pointed out many of the current financial problems. According to the Intelligencer Printing Co., printers of the journal, an increased cost of about 20 per cent is anticipated in 1949. At the conclusion of the report, Dr. Zimmer submitted his resignation as Editor. The Council, in accepting his resignation, extended to him its deep appreciation for his seven years of service.

Report of Committees. Dr. R. Allyn Moser, Chairman of the Committee on Endowment, stated that 18 life memberships, two installments on life memberships, and 19 donations were obtained as a result of his committee's efforts, making a total addition of \$2,006.00 to the General Endowment Fund.

The report of the Special Canadian Committee, given by Mr. Hoyes Lloyd, Chairman, showed total receipts since August 16, 1947, of \$831.41. This sum was obtained from membership fees, bank interest, and donations. Total assets in Canada as of August 18, 1948, were \$3,267.02.

During the year Dr. Leonard Wing, Chairman of the Committee for the Nomination of Associates, personally signed and sent out 2,360 letters soliciting associate memberships. At the time of the meeting he had received at least 209 acceptances.

Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Chairman of the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds, reported that the fifth edition of the Check-List is gradually nearing completion but will not be ready for publication in 1949. The ranges of species and subspecies are being entirely revised with the cooperation of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Material on ranges for the first half of the Check-List is already being summarized, mimeographed, and sent to collaborators for checking.

The Committee on Research is undertaking an active program. As outlined by Dr. Albert Wolfson, Chairman, it consists of four parts: (1) Organizing and publishing a book of recent research in ornithology with a view to stimulating additional research. (2) Building up a current file of research projects in the United States. (3) Providing editors of ornithological journals with a list of specialists for consultation. (4) Indexing unpublished doctoral theses.

The Committee on Education concerned itself with the selection of

candidates for student memberships, following the plan outlined in 1947. Dr. Frank A. Pitelka, Chairman, reported that letters sent to over 50 ornithologists inviting sponsorship of candidates resulted in the submittal of ten applications. All were favorably received and each candidate was informed of his grant. It is expected that 14 student memberships may be granted in 1949.

According to the Committee for the Relief of European Ornithologists, the task of getting food and clothing to European colleagues has been shared by several committees of American ornithological societies, including this committee. Packages have almost without exception been sent from individuals rather than in the name of an organization. Ornithologists who have received packages are located in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Finland, England, France, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Yugoslavia, Rumania, and Holland. The known total number of packages sent through the efforts of this committee and others is 2,309. Dr. and Mrs. John T. Emlen, Jr., who had charge of food, placed orders for 849 CARE packages. Dr. and Mrs. F. N. Hamerstrom, Jr., in charge of the clothing assignment, have records of at least 1,385 packages sent or assigned.

The Award of the Brewster Medal. The 1948 Brewster Medal was awarded, by action of the Council, to David Lack of Oxford, England, for his two publications, "Darwin's Finches" (Cambridge University Press, 1947) and "The Galapagos Finches (Geospizinae) A Study in Variation" (Occ. Papers Calif. Acad. Sci., No. 21, 1945).

Next Stated Meeting. Fellows and Members, meeting jointly, accepted the invitation of the Buffalo Ornithological Society and the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences to hold the Sixty-seventh Stated Meeting in Buffalo on October 10 to 14, 1949. The President appointed James Savage, Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements.

Amendments of the By-Laws. Two proposed amendments of the By-Laws were adopted and referred to the Union for final approval in 1949. The first would remove the limit on the number of Members to be elected in any one year. At present no more than 15 Members may be elected. The second would make official a newly edited version of the By-Laws.

Miscellaneous Matters. Plans for the Tenth International Ornithological Congress are highly indefinite. There is some indication that a meeting might be held in Switzerland or Sweden in 1950.

Because an increased cost in the manufacture of 'The Auk' is anticipated in 1949, it is expected that the number of pages will be reduced, perhaps to about 500.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The officers elected for 1949 are as follows: *President*, Robert Cushman Murphy; *Vice-Presidents*, Josselyn Van Tyne and Alden H. Miller; *Secretary*, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., *Treasurer and Business Manager*, R. Allyn Moser. *Members of the Council* (in addition to officers and ex-presidents): Austin L. Rand, A. J. van Rossem, John T. Zimmer, Frederick C. Lincoln (term to expire in 1950).

The Council elected Harvey I. Fisher, *Editor of 'The Auk'*; Julian K. Potter (Chairman), R. M. de Schauensee, and James Savage, *Investing Trustees*.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS, MEMBERS, AND ASSOCIATES

FELLOWS—5

Oliver Luther Austin, Jr., Tuckahoe, New York.
Thomas Dearborn Burleigh, Moscow, Idaho.
James Cowan Greenway, Jr., Cambridge, Massachusetts.
Roger Tory Peterson, Glen Echo, Maryland.
Frank Alois Pitelka, Berkeley, California.

CORRESPONDING FELLOW—1

Sálim Ali, Bandra, India.

MEMBERS—15

Maurice Broun, Kempton, Pennsylvania.
Allen Joseph Duvall, Washington, D. C.
Albert I. Good, Cameroun, West Africa.
Charles Overton Handley, Sr., Charleston, West Virginia.
George Elford Hudson, Pullman, Washington.
Joe T. Marshall, Jr., Berkeley, California.
Charles Ketcham Nichols, Ridgwood, New Jersey.
Max Minor Peet, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
William Henry Phelps, Jr., Caracas, Venezuela.
John McBriar Robertson, Buena Park, California.
James Osborne Stevenson, Washington, D. C.
Robert Winthrop Storer, Berkeley, California.
Arthur Stupka, Gatlinburg, Tennessee.
Wendell Taber, Cambridge, Massachusetts.
Ralph Emerson Yeatter, Urbana, Illinois.

ASSOCIATES—390

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at the meeting showed a total of 121 members, composed of 21 Fellows, 24 Members, and 76 Associates. Represented were 28

states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, and two provinces of Canada (Saskatchewan and Ontario). About 110 guests were present, bringing the total registration to approximately 241.

FELLOWS, MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES PRESENT

PATRONS:—HOYES LLOYD, MRS. DAYTON STONER.

FELLOWS:—John W. Aldrich, Arthur A. Allen, A. M. Bailey, James P. Chapin, Herbert Friedmann, Lawrence E. Hicks, S. Charles Kendeigh, Frederick C. Lincoln, Jean M. Linsdale, Alden H. Miller, Robert T. Moore, Robert Cushman Murphy, Mrs. Margaret M. Nice, James L. Peters, Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr., A. L. Rand, Herbert L. Stoddard, A. J. van Rossem, Josselyn Van Tyne, Alexander Wetmore, John T. Zimmer.

MEMBERS:—Dean Amadon, Mrs. A. Marguerite Baumgartner, William H. Behle, Maurice Brooks, Allen J. Duvall, John T. Emlen, Jr., Paul L. Errington, Donald S. Farnier, Harvey I. Fisher, O. J. Gromme, Harry W. Hann, Joseph J. Hickey, Laurence M. Huey, Peter Paul Kellogg, Burt L. Monroe, R. Allyn Moser, Richard H. Pough, Charles H. Rogers, Alexander Sprunt, Jr., T. C. Stephens, Gustav A. Swanson, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw, Leonard Wing, Albert Wolfson.

ASSOCIATES:

Alaska, 1—Henry C. Kyllingstad, Mountain Village.

California, 1—Mrs. Junea W. Kelly, Alameda.

Colorado, 1—Virgil C. Rosenbaum, Denver.

Illinois, 5—Karl E. Bartel, Blue Island; William J. Beecher, Chicago; Paul E. Downing, Highland Park; Mrs. Tom Sorrill, Ursa; John Wannamaker, Elsah.

Iowa, 7—J. Harold Ennis, Mt. Vernon; Myrle L. Jones, Boone; Zell C. Lee, Sioux City; Jack W. Musgrove, Des Moines; Fred J. Pierce, Winthrop; Maynard Reece, Des Moines; Bruce F. Stiles, Des Moines.

Kansas, 5—Rollin H. Baker, Lawrence; L. B. Carson, Topeka; E. Raymond Hall, Lawrence; Charles G. Sibley, Lawrence; H. Wayne Trimm, Manhattan.

Maryland, 3—Seth H. Low, Laurel; Chandler S. Robbins, Laurel; Robert E. Stewart, Laurel.

Michigan, 1—Robert M. Mengel, Ann Arbor.

Minnesota, 4—Harvey L. Gunderson, St. Paul; Bryon E. Harrell, St. Paul; Forrest Lee, St. Paul; Dwain W. Warner, Minneapolis.

Missouri, 3—Robert H. Gensch, Kansas City; Oscar Hawksley, Warrensburg; Esther L. O'Connor, Kansas City.

Nebraska, 17—Mrs. A. M. Brooking, Hastings; David Damon, Lincoln; Mary E. Ellsworth, Omaha; William Ferguson, Omaha; Adrian C. Fox, Lincoln; L. O. Horsky, Omaha; Rodney K. Johnson, Friend; Mrs. Velistia P. Leist, Omaha; Mrs. Jane M. Moser, Omaha; Nellie E. Orme, Omaha; Mrs. S. A. Perkins, Omaha; William F. Rapp, Jr., Crete; Sigsby S. Sears, Omaha; Mrs. Jane B. Swenk, Lincoln; Thomas B. Thorsen, Lincoln; Wilson Tout, North Platte; Joseph J. Unger, Omaha.

New Jersey, 1—Mrs. Herbert E. Carnes, Tenafly.

New York, 8—Mrs. Ruth T. Chapin, New York; Duane Featherstonough, Duaneburg; Lawrence I. Grinnell, Ithaca; Fred T. Hall, Rochester; Raymond J. Hock, Ithaca; Mrs. Grace E. Barstow Murphy, New York; Carl Tucker, Mt. Kisco; Mrs. Marcia B. Tucker, Mt. Kisco.

North Dakota, 1—R. T. Gammell, Kenmare.

Oklahoma, 1—F. M. Baumgartner, Stillwater.

Ontario, 3—W. Earl Godfrey, Ottawa; Mrs. Wilmot Lloyd, Ottawa; Margaret H. Mitchell, Streetville.

Oregon, 1—George C. Ruhle, Crater Lake.

Pennsylvania, 2—Frederick V. Hebard, Philadelphia; George B. Thorp, Pittsburgh.

Saskatchewan, 1—Dick Bird, Regina.

South Carolina, 1—E. B. Chamberlain, Charleston.

South Dakota, 1—Herman F. Chapman, Sioux Falls.

Tennessee, 1—Joseph C. Howell, Knoxville.

Texas, 2—Albert J. B. Kirn, Somerset; Mrs. Anne Hinshaw Wing, College Station.

Wisconsin, 4—James R. Beer, Madison; Warren Dettman, Milwaukee; Brina Kessel, Madison; Elizabeth A. Oehlenschlaeger, Milwaukee.

Wyoming, 1—A. B. Mickey, Laramie.

PUBLIC SESSIONS

Six public sessions were held in the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum. Four sessions were featured by the reading of papers. The session on Wednesday afternoon was devoted to a symposium, and the session on Thursday afternoon consisted mainly of a showing of motion pictures. An outline of the program is presented below. Titles marked with an asterisk (*) indicate lantern slide illustrations; those with two asterisks (**) indicate motion pictures.

TUESDAY MORNING SESSION

Welcome by MR. GLEN CUNNINGHAM, Mayor of Omaha.

Welcome by MR. EUGENE KINGMAN, Director of The Joslyn Memorial Art Museum.

Response on behalf of The American Ornithologists' Union.

Roll call of Fellows and Members, Report of the Business Meetings, Announcements of the Result of Elections and the Brewster Memorial Award.

Announcements from the Local Committee on Arrangements.

The Mysterious Lyre-tailed Honey-Guide. JAMES P. CHAPIN, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

Fledgling Feeding by Parasitic Cuckoos. HERBERT FRIEDMANN, United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Seasonal Changes in Coloration in Adult California Gulls. CHARLES H. ROGERS, Princeton Museum of Zoology, Princeton, New Jersey.

*Notes on the Penguin of the Snares Island, New Zealand. ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

A Plea for the Pencil. MARGARET M. NICE, Chicago, Illinois.

*The American Assemblage of Passerine Birds. W. J. BEECHER, Chicago Natural History Museum.

*The Song of the Gambel's Sparrow. ANNE H. WING, College Station, Texas.

Survival in Birds Banded at the Hastings Reservation. JEAN M. LINSDALE, Hastings Natural History Reservation, Monterey, California.

*Banding Data and Population Indices. JOSEPH J. HICKEY, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The Bird-Banding Program of the Fish and Wildlife Service. SETH H. LOW, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland.

The Distribution and Migration Program of the Fish and Wildlife Service.
CHANDLER S. ROBBINS, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

- Concepts of Hybridization and Intergradation in Wild Populations of Birds. ALDEN H. MILLER, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley.
- *The Seventy-five Percent Rule for Subspecies. DEAN AMADON, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.
 - *Character Gradients in the Yellowthroats (*Geothlypis*) of Western North America. WILLIAM H. BEHLE, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.
 - *Convergence in the American Orioles. W. J. BEECHER, Chicago Natural History Museum.
 - *Species Formation in the Mexican Red-Eyed Towhees, Avian Genus *Pipilo*. CHARLES G. SIBLEY, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence.
 - **Raising a Sandhill Crane. LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, Battle Creek, Michigan.
 - *The Nesting of the Dipper in the Gothic Region of Colorado. HARRY W. HANN, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
 - *Routes of Migration of Shore Birds in the Pacific Coast Area. ROLLIN H. BAKER, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence.
 - *Territorial Behavior in the Red-winged Blackbird. JAMES R. BEER, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

SYMPOSIUM

Recent Studies on the Problems of Bird Migration

ALBERT WOLFSON, Presider

- The Annual Stimulus for Migration. DONALD S. FARNER, The State College of Washington, Pullman.
- Energy Resources and Migration. S. CHARLES KENDEIGH, University of Illinois, Champaign.
- Experiments in Bird Navigation. RAYMOND J. HOCK, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.
- The Origin and Evolution of Migration. ALBERT WOLFSON, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

- Another Specimen of the Cincinnati Warbler. GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- *Bird Populations and Farm Ponds in North Central Oklahoma. F. M. BAUMGARTNER, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Stillwater.
 - *The Relative Abundance of the Birds of Knox County, Tennessee, as Determined Through a Roadside Census. JOSEPH C. HOWELL, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
 - The Forthcoming Pacific Science Congress. GRACE E. BARSTOW MURPHY, Crystal Brook, New York.
 - *The Bermuda Cahow Still Lives. FRED T. HALL, Rochester, New York.
 - *Patterns of Shifting Ranges among Some Birds in Minnesota. DWAIN WILLARD WARNER, Minnesota Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

An Ornithological Reconnaissance of the Eastern Canadian Arctic. ALLEN J. DUVALL, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland.

*Ecological Distribution of Birds in the Teslin Area, Yukon Territory. LEONARD WING, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, College Station.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

*The Trumpeter Swans of the Grand Prairie Area of Northern Alberta. DUANE FEATHERSTONAUGH, Duaneburg, New York.

**Birds of the Coasts and Llanos of Colombia. LAWRENCE I. GRINNELL, Ithaca, New York.

**Nuptial Performances of the Western Grebe. DICK BIRD, Regina, Saskatchewan.

*The Bristle-thighed Curlew and Other Birds of the Alaskan Tundra. ARTHUR A. ALLEN, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

**Birds of the Alaskan Tundra. HENRY C. KYLLINGSTAD, Mountain Village, Alaska.

**Birds of the Colorado High Country. ALFRED M. BAILEY, Denver Museum of Natural History.

EXHIBITION AND SPECIAL EXHIBITS

The Second Omaha Biennial Invitational Exhibition of Contemporary Bird Drawings and Paintings was held in the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum in connection with the meeting. There were over one hundred pen and ink drawings, watercolors, and oils, representing the work of 46 bird artists in the United States and Canada.

Also held in the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum in connection with the meeting were two special exhibits, one by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service showing banding traps and materials, and another by Mr. Fred J. Pierce of Winthrop, Iowa, displaying a fine collection of books, rare and current.

SOCIAL EVENTS

A complimentary dinner for the Fellows was given by the Local Committee on Monday evening at the Hotel Fontenelle.

Over five hundred persons attended the informal reception given Tuesday evening at the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum by the Board of Trustees of the Museum and The Nebraska Ornithologists' Union in honor of The American Ornithologists' Union and guests. This occasion marked the official opening of the bird artists' exhibition.

On Wednesday evening 165 members and their guests enjoyed the Annual Dinner in the Ball Room of the Hotel Fontenelle. Entertainment was furnished by the Union Pacific Quartet and a group of Indians, dressed in native costume, from the Omaha Tribe. "The Auklet" which is "an occasional journal for ornithologists" made its appearance with 44 pages, and several illustrations drawn by Milton Myers.

With Alexander Sprunt, Jr., as Master of Ceremonies, about 75 members and guests gathered on Thursday evening in the Embassy Room of the Hotel Fontenelle for informal entertainment. There were talks on a variety of subjects and a showing of excellent motion pictures by William Ferguson.

FIELD EXCURSION

Starting at 8:00 a. m. on Friday, 32 members and guests took a trip by bus to Fontenelle Forest which is the largest unbroken native forest in Nebraska. Due to the season, very few birds were observed. The party returned for a luncheon at the Livestock Exchange in Omaha. Several members, instead of making the field excursion, visited the Nebraska State Museum at Lincoln.

RESOLUTIONS

At the public session on Thursday morning, the Resolutions Committee consisting of Dr. James P. Chapin, Mr. James L. Peters, and Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne gave the following report:

Whereas, The American Ornithologists' Union is about to conclude its Sixty-sixth Annual Meeting in the City of Omaha, be it

Resolved, that we express the deep gratitude of the Union to The Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, the Omaha Audubon Society, and the Fontenelle Forest Association for their warm support of our meeting and for the kind hospitality they have extended to us; and be it

Resolved, that we extend our sincere thanks to the Trustees of the Joslyn Memorial Art Museum, and its Director, Mr. Eugene Kingman, for providing such an excellent meeting place; and be it

Resolved, that we voice our appreciation to Dr. R. Allyn Moser, Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements, and all the members of his Committee, to wit, Mrs. Jane M. Moser, Mrs. Mary L. Perkins, Mrs. Jane B. Swenk, Mrs. Bertha C. Minardi, and Messrs. Charles C. Ayers, David Damon, William Ferguson, Adrian C. Fox, Harold Gifford, Earl W. Glandon, Sigsby S. Sears, and Bruce F. Stiles for their excellent work in planning and carrying through so successfully all the arrangements for the first Omaha meeting of The American Ornithologists' Union.