

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, 1915

BY J. FLETCHER STREET, SEC.

January 7, 1915. The 25th Anniversary of the Club was duly celebrated at the Dinner held at the Roosevelt. The old officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows :—

President—Stewardson Brown,
Vice-President—Henry W. Fowler,
Secretary—J. Fletcher Street,
Treasurer—Samuel C. Palmer.

Ten visitors and sixty-five members present.

Dr. Spencer Trotter acted in the capacity of Toast Master. Short addresses were made by Dr. A. K. Fisher of Washington, D. C., Mr. J. H. Sage of Portland, Conn., Mr. C. F. Batchelder of Cambridge, Mass., Mr. John T. Nichols of New York, Dr. T. S. Palmer of Washington and Dr. Robt. T. Young of the University of North Dakota.

Dr. William E. Hughes responded to the toast, "The Oologist." Mr. Robt. T. Moore read from a rare volume of Club history, entitled "D. V. O. C. or How a Great Egg was Hatched." Dr. Witmer Stone made some pertinent remarks about the work of the Club and read original verses pertaining to the work and spirit of the organization.

January 21, 1915. Twenty-six members present.

Dr. Samuel C. Palmer addressed the Club upon the subject "Hos Zygotes Damnatos Trotteri." The processes of hybridization, as determined by Mendel's Law, were described with special reference to Lawrence's Warbler.

February 4, 1915. Seventeen members and one visitor present.

The following standing committees were appointed to serve during 1915.

On Publication—Messrs. Morris, Moore and Cope.

On Field Work—Messrs. Baily, Stuart and Street.

Mr. David Harrower addressed the Club upon the subject "Coast Mountain Notes." His remarks referred to the birds of the Coast Range Mountains of North-western California.

February 18, 1915. One visitor and fourteen members present.

Mr. Julian K. Potter made a communication entitled:—"Camden's Shore Bird Meadow." The communication was noteworthy by the fact of a great many shore birds having been recorded from a limited area close to the city of Camden. The rare White-rumped Sandpiper was first observed on May 19th, 1913. The Pectoral Sandpiper was listed only as a fall migrant.

Mr. Samuel Mason, Jr., spoke upon "A Plea for better Note Keeping," expressing several valuable suggestions along this line.

March 14, 1915. One visitor and sixteen members present.

Dr. Witmer Stone addressed the Club upon the subject, "Report on the Spring Migration of 1914." The necessity of recording the time of the bulk arrival of birds as well as the earliest arrivals was dwelt upon.

March 18, 1915. Twenty-two members present. Mr. George Spencer Morris addressed the meeting upon "The Valley of the Tacony." This being the vicinity of the speaker's home, the results of his observations of birds during the last thirty years were reviewed. Rough-winged and White-bellied Swallows were cited as formerly breeding in the district, but not at the present time. The Kentucky and Worm-eating Warblers were mentioned as comparatively recent additions to the region.

April 1, 1915. One visitor and seventeen members present.

Dr. Spencer Trotter gave an interesting talk entitled "Outlying Types of Certain Families of North American Passerines." The speaker's remarks pertained to the existing classification of passerines. The relations of certain groups and species were dwelt upon.

April 15, 1915. One visitor and twenty-five members present. President Brown addressed the Club upon the subject, "Some Impressions of Porto Rico and its Birds." Observations were made principally about the southwestern portion of the island. Grackles, mockingbirds and orioles were mentioned as characteristic birds of the low country. Finches and doves frequent the higher wooded districts.

May 6, 1915. One visitor and seventeen members present. Dr. Max M. Peet gave an interesting talk entitled "Birds of the Michigan Pine Barrens." The speaker made a comparison between the district and similar lands in New Jersey. The Kirtland Warbler was mentioned as the most abundant species of the district under observation.

Mr. Stewardson Brown gave a comparison of the flora of the Michigan and New Jersey Pine Barrens.

May 20, 1915. Nineteen members present. Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads addressed the Club upon the subject, "Some Remarkable Birds Observed in Guatemala." Mr. Rhoads described the bird-life of the dry country as comprising many species of parrots, cuckoos; also Roadrunners and Inca Doves, while in the wet country Macaws, Tinamous, Plumbeous Kites and Motmots were the common birds.

Mr. Poole, who accompanied Mr. Rhoads upon the trip, augmented Mr. Rhoads' remarks and described the call-notes and songs of several of the species observed.

The following were proposed for Associate Membership: Mr. Harry E. Parker, Southampton, Pa.; Mr. Edward Woolman, Haverford, Pa.; Mr. Wm. W. McCall, Jr., 4055 Chestnut St.; Mr. E. P. Irwin, Swarthmore, Pa.; Mr. Henry J. Fry, 224 W. Manheim St., Germantown.

October 7, 1915. Twenty-seven members present. The following resolution was adopted: "The members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club have heard with sincere sorrow of the death of their Associate, C. Few Seiss, and desire to place upon record their appreciation of the loss which they, both as an organization and individually, have sustained in his death."

Dr. William E. Hughes gave an interesting talk on "Italian Bird Notes." The talk was illustrated by a remarkable series of lantern slides from photographs taken in the Azores, Algiers, Pompeii, Paestum, Amalfi, Capri, and the hill-towns of Etruria.

October 21, 1915. Twenty-nine members present. Dr. Witmer Stone gave a most interesting account of his trip "To California and Return with the D. V. O. C. Glasses and a Vest Pocket Kodak." Going west, the Santa Fe route was taken, and the return trip was by the Canadian Pacific as far as Chicago. Many interesting places were visited, including the Yosemite Valley, Grand Canon, Vancouver and the Canadian Rockies. Characteristic birds of the points visited were described. The account was illustrated with lantern slides of great beauty and interest.

November 4, 1915. One visitor and twenty-two members. In the business session the following were elected to Associate membership: Edward Woolman, Haverford, Pa.; Henry J. Fry, 224 W. Manheim St., Germantown; Harry E. Parker, Southampton, Pa.; Wm. W. McCall, Jr., 4056 Chestnut St., Philadelphia; Everett P. Irwin, Swarthmore, Pa.

Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads addressed the Club upon the subject, "Snapshots and Field Notes from Guatemala." Mr. Rhoads read from his journal and that of Mr. Poole, who accompanied him. The bird-life of the country was described.

November 18th, 1915. Twenty-six members present.

The name of Mr. Richard Burdsall, Swarthmore, Pa. was proposed for Associate membership.

Mr. J. Fletcher Street described a spring field-trip under the subject: "Waylaying Boreal Birds in the Poconos." The speaker described a trip to the Pocono Lake in company with Messrs. Baily, Stuart, Hughes and Carter covering a period extending from June 11th to June 14th inclusive and on June 26th of the present year.

Thirty-four species of nesting birds were found including the Yellow-bellied and Alder Flycatchers, Canadian, Black-throated

Green, Black-throated Blue and Magnolia Warblers. The Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted and the Nashville Warbler was mentioned as a summer resident, although no nest was found.

Dr. Stone exhibited a beautiful series of lantern slides of the birds of California.

December 2nd, 1915. One visitor and twenty-three members present.

The annual meeting of the Ornithological Section of the Academy was held and the report of said section was read.

Under a general subject entitled "General Discussion upon recent Observations," Dr. Stone reviewed a paper of Dr. Watson relating to bird-flight.

December 16th, 1915. Eighteen members present.

Mr. David Harrower addressed the Club upon the subject: "Impressions of Central American Birds." Gatun on the Panama Canal was used as a base for several collecting trips. In Costa Rica the birds noted included motmots, parrots, macaws, honey creepers and certain species of Formicaridae. The most interesting jungles visited occurred between Guapiles and Greytown, Nicaragua.