

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, 1927

January 6, 1927. Annual Meeting (37th Anniversary).
Forty-six members and two visitors present.

Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

President—George H. Stuart, 3rd.

Vice-President—John D. Carter.

Treasurer—Henry T. Underdown.

Secretary—Julian K. Potter.

“Impressions of the Club and its Personnel at three periods of its history.” Dr. Stone spoke of the formation and early activities of the Club and the members of that period. Mr. Street referred to the mid-history of the organization. Mr. Potter to the recent history. An exhibition of lantern slides followed.

January 20, 1927. Thirty-five members and three visitors present. Mr. Roberts spoke about a nesting Maryland Yellowthroat which he had studied at Tobyanna, Pa.

Mr. Alexander Leighton gave an exhibition of moving pictures. Reels of the sea birds of the islands off the southern coast of Ireland, young Barn Owls, and Club field trips to Brigantine and Taunton Lakes were shown.

February 3, 1927. Twenty-eight members and three visitors present. Mr. Carter addressed the club on “More Hunting.” His remarks pertained to nests found during the season of 1926. Nests of the Rough-winged Swallow and Bank Swallow were exhibited. The former was shown to be composed largely of grass stems, the later mostly of feathers.

February 17, 1927. Twenty-six members and six visitors were present. Motion made and carried that Dr. Stone communicate with the New Jersey Game Commission voicing the disapproval of the Club with regard to “Crow shoots.”

Mr. Livingston spoke on "Thrusland Notes" giving an interesting account of the birds found about Mt. Marcy, New York during July and August 1926. The Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Veery, Olive-backed Thrush and Bicknell's Thrush were all heard singing.

March 3, 1927. Twenty members and two visitors present. The following were elected to Associate membership: Raymond J. Middleton, Richard Bender, John H. Foster, Mahlon L. Savage, W. Barker Keighton, Elmer H. O'Neil.

Mr. Rehn addressed the club on "Arizona Once More," his remarks covered bird observations made on an entomological trip to various points in southern Arizona. Lantern slides depicting the many interesting types of country were shown.

March 17, 1927. Thirty-one members and two visitors present. Mr. Robinson gave a communication entitled "The Ranch in The Desert" describing a trip to the ranch of Blinkie Morgan in the Colorado Desert, Southern California, January 1926. A series of fine colored slides was shown.

April 17, 1927. Twenty-two members present. Mr. Eliot Underdown spoke on the subject "Bird Notes from Maine" giving a detailed account of bird observations made on the Maine coast during summer vacations in the past four years. Great numbers of Hawks were killed during the September migration at Bailey Island. American Crossbill and Hudsonian Curlew were interesting birds found on the Island.

April 21, 1927. Nineteen members and three visitors were present. The meeting was devoted to a discussion "What do we Know About the Woodcock." Dr. Stone read a paper on the Woodcock which he had prepared from his observations on the bird at Cape May. A number of interesting habits were touched upon such as—methods of feeding—difference in flight between the adults and birds of the year—the massed migration at certain times at Cape May Point. Mr. Walker Hand contributed many of the facts set forth in the paper. No one present had seen the Woodcock carry its young. Some doubts were expressed as to whether the bird really did this or not.

May 5, 1927. Twenty-six members and six visitors present. Mr. John T. Emlen, Jr. gave an account of "A Summer with English Birds" describing the field marks and distinguishing characters of many English birds observed during the trip to England and Scotland, summer of 1926.

May 19, 1927. Twenty-four members and one visitor present. Members discussed "May Bird Observations." It was generally agreed by those present that the migration as a whole was somewhat late. Mr. Baily reported 82 species from Haverford May 15. Mr. J. Emlen, Jr. reported twenty warblers at Germantown, Pa. May 12. Mr. Pumyea reported seventy-five species at Mt. Holly, N. J. May 15. Mr. Potter reported 83 species at Camden, N. J., May 15.

October 6, 1927. Thirty-six members and two visitors present. Mr. Carter spoke on the subject "Hits and Misses of 1927" giving a detailed and interesting account of his successful and unsuccessful nest hunting expeditions of the year. The most important find was the nest and eggs of the Prairie Horned Lark, at Stroudsburg, Pa. March 30.

October 20, 1927. Twenty-eight members and four visitors present. Dr. Stone spoke of the great loss ornithology had suffered through the untimely death of Louis Agassiz Fuytes. The following minute was placed on record:

The Delaware Valley Ornithological Club desires to place on record its deep sense of loss in the death of Louis Agassiz Fuytes, delightful associate, ornithologist of note, and master of bird portraiture.

Mr. Samuel Scoville, Jr. gave an account of a trip to Okefenokee Swamp, January 1927. The Sandhill Crane, Water Turkey and Pileated Woodpecker were observed. An unsuccessful search for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker was made.

November 3, 1927. Twenty-two members and four visitors present. Mr. Bond gave an account of a collecting trip taken to the Lesser Antilles and the island of Trinidad during the winter of 1926-27 and spring of 1927. Some of the birds collected were rare and little known. A new form of the Golden Warbler was collected on the Island of St. Lucia. Trinidad

birds, Mr. Bond stated, resembled very closely those of South America.

November 17, 1927. Eleven members and two visitors present. Subject under discussion "Fall Bird Notes." Several members commented on the marked abundance of White-throated Sparrows, Juncos, Fox Sparrows and Winter Wrens, this Fall. In a number of instances the Winter Wrens had been heard singing. Mr. Middleton gave a short account of the fall migration of the birds about his home, Jeffersonville, Pa. The dates of many birds arriving from the north were given. As the notes were made daily the dates were accurate and valuable.

December 1, 1927. Thirty-four members and six visitors present. The A. O. U. meeting held in Washington was discussed by members who attended. Messrs. Stone, Street, Erskine, Underdown, Bond and Baily commented on the different activities of the meeting.

December 15, 1927. Twenty-four members and four visitors present. Mr. John T. Emlen, Jr. spoke on "Bird Notes from Haiti" giving an interesting and detailed description of the birds observed on the island during the spring of 1927. A side trip by airplane was made to Gonave Island. A very good photograph of Flamingos was taken by using binoculars as telephoto lenses. Mr. Stewart T. Danforth accompanied Mr. Emlen and aided very materially in making the expedition a success.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, 1928

January 5, 1928. Annual Meeting (38th Anniversary). Forty-three members and three visitors present. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows:

President—John D. Carter.

Vice-President—Dr. Samuel C. Palmer.

Treasurer—Henry T. Underdown.

Secretary—Julian K. Potter.

Lantern slides and movies of recent trips were shown by several members. Dr. Stone exhibited two copper plates from the drawings of Alexander Wilson. One the Blue Jay, Goldfinch and Baltimore Oriole, the other the White-breasted Nuthatch, Robin and Wood Thrush. He also read extracts from "Impressions of Tropical Bird Life," by Louis Agassiz Fuertes.

January 19, 1928. Twenty-two members and five visitors present. Mr. J. Fletcher Street read a paper on "The Ornithology of Thoreau." This was an excellent account of Henry D. Thoreau's great love for nature.

Thoreau's descriptions of the Loon, "Stake Driver," Great Blue Heron, Wild Pigeon and "Hen Hawk" were charming.

February 2, 1928. Twenty-seven members and three visitors were present. Dr. Witmer Stone spoke on "Some Field Experiences" and "Observations on the Classification of Birds." Mention was made of a trip taken to Currituck Sound during the week of December 10, 1927. About a thousand whistling Swan were observed. Dr. Stone stated that the classification of birds at the present time depended almost entirely on the anatomical structure of the birds since the bills and feet upon which earlier systems were based are now known to be greatly modified by habit and environment.

February 16, 1928. Twenty-nine members and three visitors were present. Mr. James Gillin gave an account of a "Six

Weeks Trip to Alberta." His remarks pertained to the birds and nests found in southern Alberta in May and June 1926. Ducks, shore birds and Raptores were the principal birds seen. Motion pictures of a number of the birds were shown.

March 1, 1928. Twenty-seven members and six visitors were present. Mr. Wharton Huber spoke on "A Summer With The Waders Of The Bear River Marshes, Utah." Giving an instructive account of the various shore birds frequenting the extensive marshes about the mouth of the Bear River. Observations covered a period from June until September 1927. The Avocet at the beginning of the migration period was extremely abundant. A flock believed to contain a million birds was seen. The communication was illustrated with lantern views.

March 15, 1928. Twenty-eight members and four visitors present. Mr. Edward Woolman spoke on "Bird Notes In Europe and England," describing birds observed during the summer and fall of 1927 in parts of France and Switzerland, Holland, and England. The "Alpendohle" was seen at several places in the Swiss Alps. A specimen of this bird was purchased from a taxidermist in Lucerne and presented to the Academy.

April 5, 1928. Twenty-one members and one visitor present. The Club heard with deep regret of the death of Associate member Mr. Henry M. Canby, March 7, 1928. The following minute was adopted:

The members of the D. V. O. C. have learned with deep sorrow of the death of their fellow member Henry M. Canby on March 9, 1928 and desire to place on record the high esteem in which they held him both as a friend and associate.

Mr. Livingston described the birds seen by himself and Mr. Weyl at different points in the Adirondack Mts., N. Y. Mr. Livingston considered the Philadelphia Vireo the most unusual find as a breeding bird. It is not mentioned as such in Eaton's "Birds of New York State." Accurate notes on the bird's haunts, habits, color, and song left no doubt as to its identity.

April 19, 1928. Twenty-six members and two visitors present. Mr. James A. G. Rehn addressed the club on the subject "Costa Rica Again" giving a detailed and instructive account of the birds noted on an entomological expedition to portions of central Costa Rica. Some specimens of the birds seen were on exhibition and numerous slides were shown.

May 3, 1928. Twenty-six members and two visitors present. Members indulged in "A Symposium on April Birds." Reports from various members indicated that many species of spring migrants were present though few in number. The bulk arrival having been retarded no doubt by the cold days of late April. Dr. Stone read a paper "Ornithological Literature" which he had delivered at a testimonial dinner given in honor of Edward Howe Forbush in Boston at the time of his retirement as State Ornithologist of Massachusetts.

May 17, 1928. Thirty-two members and seven visitors present. "May Ornithological Adventures" were discussed by members. Mr. Gillespie gave a detailed account of a strange bird that had frequented a field near his home at Glenolden, Pa. during the early part of May. All attempts to identify the bird or have it identified by his ornithological friends failed. As a last resort the bird was shot and brought to the Academy where it was identified as a Colandra Lark by Dr. Stone. The bird was an unusual mimic and mocked a number of our native birds to perfection. It showed no evidence of having been caged. Interesting bird records were contributed by several other members.

October 4, 1928. Forty-three members and two visitors present. Mr. deSchauensee spoke on "Bird Collecting in Siam" giving a very interesting account of a collecting trip to this far off country during several months of 1928. Three hundred and seventy-five specimens of birds were collected including one hundred and forty species—one new to science. Also two hundred and fifty live birds and animals were secured.

October 18, 1928. Twenty-three members and eight visitors present. Mr. James Bond gave an account of "Bird life in the

Republic of Haiti" describing the many interesting birds noted during several months sojourn on the island in 1928. Eighty species of birds were collected including four new to the Academy collections. Probably the most noteworthy bird found was a small Goatsucker (*Microsiphonorhis*). Previously known to science from one specimen. Mr. Bond secured a number.

November 1, 1928. Twenty-six members and two visitors present. The following were elected Associate Members: George L. Harrison, Jr., William C. Doak, Horace Drever, G. Ruland Rebmann, Jr., Allison H. Price, Edward H. Parry, David A. Carter.

The President appointed Philip A. Livingston editor of CASSINIA. Motion was made and carried that the Club dues beginning 1929 be raised for Active members three dollars per annum, Associate members two dollars.

In the Scientific Session, Mr. Anthony Robinson gave an illustrated address on a trip to Charleston, S. C. A side trip to the Santee swamp fifty miles from the city was taken under leadership of Mr. Herbert R. Sass. The Pileated Woodpecker, Snowy Egret and Wayne's Warbler were seen.

November 15, 1928. Twenty-eight members and two visitors present. Mr. Raymond J. Middleton spoke on "Fall Migration and Banding Notes from Jeffersonville, Pa." giving a detailed and interesting account of migration records and banding activities at Jeffersonville during the fall of 1928. Daily arrival and departure dates were given. Ten hundred and eighty-four birds were handled during the month of October. Noteworthy birds banded were—Hooded Warbler, Winter Wren, Bob-white and White-crowned Sparrow.

Mr. Pumyea described a trip taken to the Audubon bird sanctuary at Oyster Bay, N. Y.

Mr. Potter remarked briefly on some unusual shore birds seen at Brigantine, N. J., September 9, 1928.

December 6, 1928. Thirty-six members and four visitors present. Messrs. Stone, Erskine, Street, Scoville, Livingston, Henry Underdown and Eliot Underdown gave brief descrip-

tions of the various activities of the A. O. U. Meeting held recently at Charleston, S. C. Mr. Robinson followed with some A. O. U. movies. Messrs. George Stuart, 3rd and J. Fletcher Street were elected "Members" of the Union at the Charleston meeting.

December 20, 1928. Twenty-five members and two visitors were present. Mr. Eliot Underdown gave a short sketch of the life and work of the venerable ornithologist C. F. Goodhue of Webster, New Hampshire whom he had met during his vacation in July 1928. Mr. Goodhue is not only an ornithologist of repute, having a local collection of some three hundred species of birds but is also well versed in other branches of natural history. He has also prepared material for a book on the birds of New Hampshire.

Attendance at meetings has been as follows:

1927. Sixteen meetings, attendance thirteen to forty-eight, average twenty-nine. Seventy-eight members attended at least one meeting and twenty-five made communications.

1928. Sixteen meetings, attendance twenty-two to forty-seven, average thirty-two. Eighty-six members attended at least one meeting and twenty-nine made communications.

At the forty-fifth stated meeting of the A. O. U. at Washington, D. C., November 14-17, 1927, the Club was represented by Messrs. Stone, Street, Baily, Erskine, Bond, Huber, Robinson, H. Underdown, Woolman, and McCann.

At the forty-sixth stated meeting of the A. O. U. at Charleston, S. C., November 19-22, 1928, the Club was represented by Messrs. Stone, Street, Scoville, Erskine, H. and E. Underdown, Robinson, Livingston, Baird, and A. H. Leighton.