

## ABSTRACTS OF PROCEEDINGS, 1942

*January 8, 1942.* Forty-six members and eight visitors present. The following officers and councilors were elected at this annual meeting:

John A. Gillespie, *President*  
Norman J. McDonald, *Vice-President*  
Edward S. Weyl, *Secretary*  
Henry T. Underdown, *Treasurer*  
Philip A. Livingston, *Editor*  
Julian K. Potter, *Councillor*  
Joseph M. Cadbury, *Councillor*

The retiring secretary, Mr. Norman J. McDonald, conducted an historical feature entitled "The Secretary Reads the Minutes" in which, with appropriate historical references, former secretaries read from newly-bound minutes the report they each had written of one meeting in the past. John A. Gillespie read minutes of a meeting in 1932, Julian K. Potter 1922, J. Fletcher Street 1912, William B. Evans 1902, and William A. Shryock 1897. Minutes of a meeting in 1891, written by the late George Spencer Morris, were read by William L. Baily, a founder of the Club.

*January 22, 1942.* Thirty-nine members and six visitors present. Mr. Leroy Wilcox, of the Linnaean Society, talked on "Banding Plovers and Ospreys on Long Island, N. Y.," illustrated by kodachrome slides. Intensive work on these two species produced a wealth of information, interestingly presented by a methodical and energetic ornithologist, from his own immediate neighborhood near Speonk, Long Island.

*February 5, 1942.* An ornithological bus trip in Mexico, through Aldamas, Monterey, and Ciudad Victoria to Tamazunchale was the subject of an address by Mr. Robert J. Newman entitled "To the Temple of the Toad God." With the aid of Academy skins, Newman illustrated the many species he found in a short trip below the Rio Grande.

*February 19, 1942.* Thirty-seven members and nine visitors present. Reports continue to be received on the encroachment of war efforts on birding territory and the activities of police and armed forces in restraining binocular and camera-bearing members in the field. "Highlights of Bird Study" was the refreshing vehicle Mr. Samuel Scoville, Jr., used to regale his audience with another group of experiences from a busy life of nature adventures. This fascinating talk illustrated anew the unique ability of Mr. Scoville to pass on to his hearers his own deep appreciation of life in the open and of birds in particular.

*March 5, 1942.* Forty members and two visitors present. Concerted effort is being made by various members to record birds found dead on outer

beaches of our Jersey coast. On "Bird Populations" Mr. Julian K. Potter brought to the members his own views on this important feature of ornithology. The history of bird estimating from Audubon's counting of passenger pigeons in 1813 by area method down to intensive work of late Charles Urner and his "stop every 2/10 mile" method was rapidly sketched. Potter then went on to his own work, starting with his contribution to Chapman's original count, a census of birds of Harleigh Cemetery, June 15, 1914, and continuing up to recent breeding bird census of the marsh at Fortescue and the estimate of 10,000 willets on the Delaware shore of New Jersey from Cohansey to Maurice River.

*March 19, 1942.* Thirty-four members and four visitors present. The experiences of three recent visits to the Grand Manan area were expressed in "Fun in Fundy's Fogs and Bogs" by Mr. Philip A. Livingston. Kodachrome slides corroborated the well-organized presentation by the speaker of the beauty of the area and the wealth of bird life on Grand Manan and nearby islands and ledges.

*April 2, 1942.* Thirty-four members and seven visitors present. From the viewpoint of an artist, just one of his many activities, Mr. J. Fletcher Street read a very interesting and thoroughly informative paper on the subject of "Color," ranging from scientific theory of color to colors in nature and concluding with a discussion of the differences between bird portraitists and bird artists.

*April 16, 1942.* Twenty-nine members and three visitors present. Mr. Herbert S. Cutler addressed the club on the subject "Exhibition and Evaluation of Ornithological Equipment" in which he displayed a very complete array of the ornithologists' very modern equipment, all contributed by members for the occasion. Evaluation was made of the various items in an extremely worth-while talk of practical benefit.

*May 7, 1942.* Forty members and five visitors present. Informal meetings of the Club once each month during the summer were arranged for. Dr. Cornelius Weygandt in "Consider the Swan" brought to the Club an essay of high literary and human quality on the bird in decoration, literature, music, folklore, symbolism, the news, and in flesh and feathers.

*May 21, 1942.* Thirty-eight members and two visitors present. A report on the annual spring roundup, with all time low of 157 species seen, due to war restrictions, was made by Mr. Joseph M. Cadbury.

*June 25, 1942.* Twenty-three members present. Informal meeting.

*July 30, 1942.* Thirty members and two visitors present. Informal meeting.

*August 27, 1942.* Twenty-four members present. Informal meeting.

*September 17, 1942.* Twenty-eight members present. Informal meeting.

The procedure at these meetings resolved itself simply into an opportunity for each member in turn to offer anything of interest. Questions and subsequent discussions at the meetings and the attendance itself all attested

to the success of and demonstrated the necessity for these informal summer meetings.

*October 1, 1942.* Twenty-nine members and four visitors present. Mr. James A. G. Rehn, a warden, instructed the members as to what they should do in the event of an air raid alert during a meeting in the Academy. Dr. Ernest A. Choate was elected Editor to fill vacancy created by resignation of Mr. Philip A. Livingston. "Summer Activities of Members," a report by various members, was the subject of the meeting.

*October 22, 1942.* Thirty-three members and two visitors present. Mr. Robert J. Newman continued in "Brownsville and the Black-Jack" his observations of birds seen on a southern trip, this time telling of Texan species. Maps and an elaborate trip chart showing the 191 species seen on the trip (among them the Whooping Crane) added to the interest in the presentation which was further illustrated by references to skins from the Academy collection many of which had been obtained in the areas under observation by Newman.

*November 5, 1942.* Twenty-two members and one visitor present. Mr. C. Chandler Ross was elected to fill the unexpired term of Councilor a vacancy caused by election of Dr. Ernest A. Choate to the office of Editor.

"California Condors and California Color" was the subject of the evening's presentation by Mr. B. Bartram Cadbury. Kodachrome slides illustrated this report on an automobile trip in 1940 to California and return, in which not only were birds commented on, but effect of altitude on bird life and confusing problems of subspecies in the west were discussed.

*November 19, 1942.* Thirty-four members and two visitors present. Mr. Richard F. Miller presented "Notes on Breeding Birds of Philadelphia" from his experiences of long years with the birds of our city. Mr. Miller went over each of the ninety species known to breed within the limits and the one-hundred twenty species shown in breeding records for the city of two centuries and detailed the exhaustive data he had accumulated on each during almost constant activity in the field. Kodachrome slides by Mr. Robert J. Newman of Miller's collection of eggs of Philadelphia's breeding birds were displayed.

*December 3, 1942.* Thirty-three members and two visitors present. In the second of his comprehensive talks on bird families of the world, Charles H. Rogers, the Club's correspondent at Princeton, N. J., spoke on "Woodpeckers and Their Relatives; A Study in Classification and Adaptation."

*December 17, 1942.* Thirty-six members and six visitors present. In a superb film "Color Film of Back Yard Birds" John Dornan showed the common birds about us but with a richness of detail and evidences of patience, ingenuity, and skill in the making of the film that impressed all.