

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The thirty-second annual meeting of the Western Bird-Banding Association was held at the ranch of Mr and Mrs. W. Hatton, Calera Canyon, Salinas, California, May 18-19, 1957.

The first session was called to order by President E.A. Stoner at 7:30 p.m. Saturday May 18. Mr. Stoner welcomed the members and guests and announced the program. Due to the inclemency of the weather said program would have to be flexible-doing the outdoor parts when possible.

Among the members introduced were Mr and Mrs. John McBride Robertson, charter members from Pomona, California. Mr. Robertson told of his early association with the W.B.B.A. and of a recent Arizona field trip.

As mist netting was to be the purpose of the meeting, Vice-president Kirsher brought his nets for examination by the members. President Stoner then read the new California Fish and Game Dept. "Rules and Regulations FOR USE AND POSSESSION OF BIRD NETS FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES" Lively discussion followed with objections to the excessive charge of \$10.00 for the mist net license. Application blanks were passed around for examination.

Dr. Robert P. Parsons, a Carmel, Calif. member, gave a short paper on "Diet of Golden-crowned Sparrows"

Mrs Otis H. Smith, Larkspur, Calif. reported on her twenty-five years of banding, highlighting her work with Golden-crown Sparrows. She is using head photography of the birds for plumage study sequences.

Dr. John Davis, Hastings Reservation, Carmel Valley, presented some English color bands recently acquired and gave members the benefit of his experience with them; they may be obtained from Mr. A.C. Hughes, 1 High St. Hampton Hill, Middlesex, England.

An intermission was called so that members could do some night "birding". Glowworms were collected by some. When the group returned to the ranch house President Stoner showed his excellent series of slides from a recent Arizona trip.

Meeting adjourned.

The second session with guided Field Trips and the first mist net demonstration at strategic spots, occurred from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Sunday. Due to the showery weather the netting demonstrations had to be given when and where possible. Dr. L.R. MeWaldt of San Jose State, used his nets and technique giving many members opportunity to help and observe the operations. Mrs Hatton, Laidlaw Williams, Emily Smith helped with the field trips. Young owls in one of Mrs. Hattons barns were banded, as were the birds caught in the nets.

At 10:45 the members returned to the ranch house for the business meeting and election of officers.

President Stoner called the meeting to order and the minutes of the 1956 annual meeting were read and approved.

Business Manager's Frank Boynton's Report was read. Twenty-three new members had been added in 1957. A new chapter-Pacific-International- was formed in June, 1956. The Association's finances are in good order.

A letter from past-president McClure now in Japan, told of a Japanese Conservation Society being formed. He invited contributions as an Asso. or individually. Miss Emily Smith, 19651 Glen Una Drive, Los Gatos, Calif was appointed to accept funds from members to be forwarded to Dr. McClure.

Correspondence from Mr. Webb was read telling of the K.P.F.A. radio program on which Mr Webb is working in conservation; he suggests a banding script be worked up by the northern banders. As Dr Mewaldt is thoroughly familiar with the sciences programs of K.P.F.A., President Stoner appointed him to look into the feasibility of this suggestion.

A letter from Editor Rydzewski of "THE RING" asked that a co-editor from the W.B.B.A. area be appointed to submit material. Mr. Laidlaw

Williams of Carmel, California, was so appointed. Editor Kirsher reported on the law for the protection of Hawks and Owls being lobbied through the Legislature by Mr. Ed. Pickett.

The Council presented the following slate of officers for the 1957-58 period.

President-----Mr. Howard Cogswell, Mills College, Oakland, Calif  
 Vice-presidents---Mr. W. Kirsher, Sacramento; Dr. T.R. MeWaldt, San Jose; Mr T.E. Balch, Glen; Mrs A.M. Smith, Larkspur  
 Mr. W.G. Webb, La Canada.

Secretary-----Mrs Enid K. Austin, Oakland, California.

Business Mgr &

Treasurer-----Mr. Francis H. Boynton, Pasadena, California.

Dr. Parsons moved that the nominations be closed and the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate as presented. It was seconded and passed.

The Non-elective members of the Council are:

Mr. F.G. Crawford, Altadena, California; Mrs N.E. Ayer, Pomona,  
 Dr. Elliot McClure, Tokyo, Japan; Mr Paul Steele, Sacramento, Calif  
 Mr. Emerson A. Stoner, Benicia, California.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:30 p.m. to reconvene at 2p.m.

During the lunch hour Dr. MeWaldt set up a mist net near the house so that he could take advantage of the now clear weather and the members could continue to see the net in operation.

The third session was called to order at 2 p.m. Mr. Stoner resumed the chair as President Cogswell could not take office until July 1, 1957 and requested that Mr Stoner finish the official duties of the annual meeting.

Mr Stoner asked for a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Hatton for their gracious hospitality and to the Committees who had helped with the annual meeting arrangements. He assured the Association that he had enjoyed his presidency and thanked all those who had given him help during his term of office.

The first paper of the afternoon was "The Use of Japanese Mist Nets in Bird-Banding" by Don R. Bleitz. As Mr. Bleitz was unable to be present the paper was read by Dr. MeWaldt and the slides projected by Howard Cogswell. This was a repetition of Mr. Bleitz's paper from the recent Cooper Ornithological Society Annual Meeting. During the reading of the paper the members made frequent visits to the mist nets outside.

The second paper was "Case Histories in the Head Plumage Change of a few Golden-crowned Sparrows" by Howard Cogswell. (illustrated) Mr. Cogswell is using the photographic method used by other W.B.B.A. banders. He regretted that his file of evidence was still incomplete but hoped to report further next year.

Mr Kirsher expressed the thanks of the association to Mr. Stoner for his long service as President.

The meeting was adjourned.

Enid K. Austin, Secretary