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SOME RECORDS OF BANDED WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS

By JULIAN L. DUSI

The White-throated Sparrow, *Zonotrichia albicollis*, is one of our common winter residents. We enjoy its plaintive song and independent attitude; so we are quite happy to hear the first arrivals of early fall and sadly acknowledge that they have all gone in the late spring. Since these little birds inhabit our backyards, it is interesting and easy to include them in our birdbanding programs, so that we may learn more about them. This paper is a report of the results from banding White-throated Sparrows at a banding station at Auburn, Alabama, from December, 1950, to the present season (Fall, 1954 to Spring, 1955).

White-throated Sparrows are primarily ground-feeding birds. This makes them an easily trapped species. The writer used several types of ground traps: clover leaf and Potter-type traps of four and single-cell designs. A large four-celled Potter-type trap proved the most satisfactory of those used. The cells were 15 inches in each dimension with doors five inches square. This trap was easily accessible to the birds and they did not hesitate to enter it, as they did the other traps with smaller doors and chambers. The traps were baited with cracked grain, bread, oatmeal, or nut kernels. In addition to the traps a mist net was used, but it did not prove as efficient as the traps.

No trapping schedule was adhered to. The traps were set when they could be tended and left unset at other times.

When the birds were caught they were banded with a Fish and Wildlife Service numbered band and also a colored band, with a specific color used for each banding season. In that way they could be specifically identified when caught again and could be visually identified as birds from this station, banded during a given season, when they were observed on the area. Each fall when the migrants arrived, few bands would be evident among them all. By late spring, practically all of the birds visiting the banding station would be banded, thus the effort applied to catching unbanded birds could be regulated so that a nearly complete catch resulted.

The results of this banding program are quite interesting. The banding of the birds at this one station only, in Auburn, showed that the birds did not range far from the station. Every time birds were observed at any distance from the station, they were checked for color bands. Birds with color bands were never seen any farther away than on the lots adjacent to the station. Outside of this area many unbanded birds could be seen, while on the station area practically all of the birds would be marked.

During the four past seasons for banding White-throated Sparrows, 73 birds were banded. Of these seven or 9.6 per cent have returned to the station one or more times during subsequent banding seasons and were retaken. The band numbers of the returning birds, the dates they were banded, and the return dates are listed in that order following:

20-136303—banded Dec. 17, 1950; returned April 6, 1953, Nov. 11, 1953, and Mar. 13, 1955.

20-136310—banded Jan. 26, 1951; returned Dec. 6, 1953, and Mar. 5, 1955.

20-136315—banded Jan. 27, 1951; returned Jan. 30, 1955.

20-136324—banded Feb. 1, 1951; returned Jan. 2, 1952.

20-136353—banded April 5, 1953; returned Nov. 30, 1953.

20-136359—banded April 29, 1953; returned Oct. 29, 1953, and Feb. 9, 1955.

20-136369—banded Nov. 6, 1953; returned Jan. 30, 1955.

From these records a number of interesting facts and inferences about the birds can be concluded. Birds, numbers 20-136303, 20-136310 and 20-136315, were banded during the 1950-51 season and were most recently retrapped in 1955. If they were hatched the breeding season before they were banded, they would be at least four and a half years old when last trapped. That is rather old for a small migratory bird! It would also mean that these birds had made at least six migrations southward and four trips northward. If they nested in the northern edge of the United States, that would be a total migration distance of at least 7,000 miles. On the six migrations southward it would mean that they had managed each time to locate the small area of land on which the banding station is located. That was very precise navigation.

Numbers 20-136324 and 20-136353 did not return to the trap during the 1954-55 season. This may indicate several things: that they simply were not trapped this season; that they went to some other area; or that they became a part of the high mortality rate, which is probably the reason so few birds ever return to a banding station.

Bird number 20-136359, banded on April 5, 1953, has returned each year since. Number 20-136369, banded Nov. 6, 1953, returned the following season, the current one.

Banded birds were often caught more than once each season; some of them became frequent visitors. The variable trapping program prevented them from being nuisances because the traps did not provide a constant source of food for them.

One interesting aspect of the banding program conducted was, that no birds banded by another bird bander have ever been taken at the writer's station at Auburn. Since it has been the only banding station in Auburn and probably the only one in at least a 30-mile radius, there was little chance of catching birds banded elsewhere.

Aside from the data obtained, this banding program afforded the writer a much better acquaintance with the behavior, plumages and morphology of the White-throated Sparrow and provided much enjoyable recreation.

Department of Zoology-Entomology
Alabama Polytechnic Institute
Auburn, Alabama

WHITE PELICAN RECORDS FROM WHEELER RESERVOIR

By THOMAS Z. ATKESON

White pelicans nest in northwestern United States and western Canada. They migrate diagonally across the continent and winter in Florida and along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Larger than their brown cousins, these white, black-winged-tipped birds have an overall length of nearly six feet and a wing spread of nine feet. In migration they make irregular stops in the Tennessee Valley of Northern Alabama. This is no recent development since Howell in his "Birds of Alabama" cites records from Leighton and Guntersville. However, the impoundment of the T.V.A. reservoirs and the establishment of the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge have undoubtedly caused these big fellows to stop more often.

Examination of the records show that the birds were recorded on Wheeler reservoir in 1941, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1951, and 1953. Numbers have varied from single individuals to flocks of at least 21 birds. Occurrences have been most frequent in the fall and early winter, with the earliest recorded on October 10 and the latest on January 9. Spring records have begun on May 9 and continued through June 1.

The pelicans have shown a definite preference for wide, open expanses of shallow backwater. Sight records have come most frequently from around the mouths of Round Island Creek and Beulah Bay, an open stretch of shallow water dotted with small, mud-flat islands, now part of the Swan Creek Public Hunting Area. On Wheeler Refuge records have been confined to the western end, usually from Garth Slough and from the Flint Creek embayment. The unique appearance of these birds has made collecting

unnecessary. They have been seen by all Wheeler Refuge personnel, past and present, by TVA employees, State Conservation officers, by the wildlife artist, David C. Hulse, Game Management Agent Leo Martin, and by numerous local people. While all these records are for Wheeler Reservoir, the birds probably occur on Wilson and Guntersville reservoirs as well, although no records are available.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge
Decatur, Alabama

GROUND DOVE RECORDS FROM THE TENNESSEE VALLEY

By THOMAS Z. ATKESON

The little Ground Dove, *Columbigallina passerina passerina*, diminutive relative of the Mourning Dove, is a typical bird of the coastal plains of the deep south. In Alabama, these small doves are usually limited to the lower third of the State, from the Black Belt southward, but sometimes they get an itching foot, or wing, and a case of wanderlust.

In the Tennessee River Valley, where the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintains the big Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, near Decatur, refuge employees keep a constant check on avian visitors. They have found the sparrow-sized Ground Dove a fairly frequent one. For example, they are recorded for 1942, 1947, 1950, 1951, 1953, and 1954. There were two records for 1950, two for 1954, and a single record for each of the other years. The accuracy of these records should not be questioned. They were made by L. S. Givens, former Wheeler Refuge manager and now assistant supervisor of refuges, refuge employees H. H. Grammer and E. A. Byford, and by wildlife artist David C. Hulse. In the course of the southwide Mourning Dove study, Hulse trapped and banded one of the little doves in 1950. He found another dead near Priceville in 1954. A study skin of the latter is now in the refuge collection.

There is only a single spring record, a bird seen on May 5, 1953. All other records are for fall and early winter. There is one in September, three in October, two in December, and one in January. The earliest was September 23 and the latest January 17. A single record was from Madison County; all others were from Morgan County. While these birds often form small flocks, all Tennessee Valley records were of single individuals or pairs.

Among some bird species the young move northward after growing their full flight feathers. This may help to explain the fact that the bulk of the northern Alabama Ground Dove records are for fall and early winter months. There is no evidence that they ever breed in the Tennessee Valley.

Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge
Decatur, Alabama

TENNESSEE BLUEBIRD RECOVERED IN ALABAMA

Bluebird No. 21-199205, banded as a nestling in Warner Parks, Nashville, Tennessee, on August 10, 1953, was found dead about December 10, 1954, at the home of Mrs. Rogers Blalock, Route 1, Blount Springs, Blount County, Alabama. Blount Springs is about 160 miles south of Nashville.

Although I have banded over 5,500 Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) in the past twenty-three years (August, 1931, to August, 1954), this is the first report of one of this species found outside of the state and farther than ten miles from the place of banding.

Mrs. Blalock writes that she grows gourds which the Bluebirds utilize for nesting.—Amelia R. Laskey, 1521 Graybar Lane, Nashville 12, Tennessee.

CHRISTMAS COUNT, MOBILE, ALABAMA

Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama, December 29, 1954. Horned Grebe, Piedbill Grebe, Brown Pelican, White Pelican, Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, American Egret, Snowy Heron, La. Heron, American Bittern, Mallard, Black Duck, Mottled Duck, Gadwall, Baldpate, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Redhead, Canvas back, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Eagle, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Clapper Rail, Florida Gallinule, Coot, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover, Wilson Snipe, Least Sandpiper, Red-backed Sandpiper, Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Laughing Gull, Forster's Tern, Royal Tern, Caspian Tern, Mourning Dove, King Fisher, Flicker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Titmouse, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Hermit Thrush, Bluebird, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Pipit, Shrike,

Starling, Orange-crowned Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow Throat, English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-wing Blackbird, Boat-tailed Grackle, Purple Grackle, Cardinal, Goldfinch, Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Field Sparrow. Total species, 91.—J. L. Dorn, S. J., Jesuit High School, 4133 Banks Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

CHRISTMAS CENSUS, DECEMBER 27, 1954

Weather: fair to cloudy; wind about 5 to 10 mi. per hr. Miles traveled by car, 10; foot, 2; by one person. Farm of Mr. Hardie Nelson; radius about 2 miles along country road and to Highway 9, 7 miles north of Goodwater, corner of Clay, Coosa, and Tallapoosa Counties. I was in this vicinity for 10 days with about the same observations. One of special significance was the wintering Least Flycatcher. Heard every day was his "che-beck" and was observed every day close up and with binoculars. He did not wag his tail. He had an eye ring, faint wing bars, light under parts. I think it is safe to call it the Least Flycatcher, primarily on the call "che-beck," though normally they do not winter here. Turkey Vultures, 21; Black Vultures, 5; Sharpshinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 3; Red-shouldered Hawk, 2; Sparrow Hawk, 1; Mourning Dove, 2; Flicker, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Red-headed Woodpecker, 1; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 4; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Least Flycatcher, 2; Blue Jay, 4; American Crow, 20; Carolina Chickadee, 7; Tufted Titmouse, 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2; Carolina Wren, 2; Mockingbird, 3; Brown Thrasher, 3; Robin, 4; Bluebird, 14; American Pipit, 16; Cedar Waxwing, 11; Loggerhead Shrike, 10; Starling, 8; Myrtle Warbler, 3; English Sparrow, 5; Meadowlark, 21; Cardinal, 12; Goldfinch, 10; Towhee, 10; Savannah Sparrow, 8; Junco, 38; Chipping Sparrow, 6; Field Sparrow, 8; White-throated Sparrow, 20; Song Sparrow, 3. Total species, 39; individuals, 293.—Blanche E. Dean, 1503 Ridge Road, Homewood, Birmingham, Alabama.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, DECATUR, ALABAMA, 1954

Decatur, Alabama (Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, 7½ mile radius centering on a point in middle of Tennessee River just off Sively Slough, South shore Decatur to Garth Slough, North shore Whitesides to Blackwell Slough; sloughs managed for water-

fowl 32%, woodland borders and brushy areas 32%, lakes, rivers and ponds 10%, short grass 7%, tall grass and farmland 7%, residential 6%, hardwoods 4%, pine plantations 2%).—December 31, 5:50 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. Complete overcast, 10 minutes rain; temp. 29° to 49°; wind SE, 6 m.p.h. Ground bare, water open, Tennessee River level very high after 6 inches of rain on December 29 and 30. Fifteen observers in 4 parties. Total party-hours 24¼ (11 on foot, 13¼ by car), total party-miles, 134 (9 on foot, 125 by car). Piedbilled Grebe, 29; Double-crested Cormorant, 2; Great Blue Heron, 90; Canada Goose, 9,022; Snow Goose, 15; Blue Goose, 188; Mallard, 16,000; Black Duck, 1,457; Gadwall, 113; Am. Widgeon, 1,462; Pintail, 342; Green-winged Teal, 309; Blue-winged Teal, 35 (flock); Shoveller, 72; Ring-necked Duck, 176; Canvas-back, 67; Lesser Scaup, 2; Am. Golden-eye, 1; Buffle-head, 6; Ruddy Duck, 2; Hooded Merganser, 167; Unidentified ducks, 1,000; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 1; Red-tailed Hawk, 32; Red-shouldered Hawk, 4; Marsh Hawk, 10; Sparrow Hawk, 3; Bob-white, 36 (4 coveys); Am. Coot, 28; Killdeer, 106; Wilson's Snipe, 2; Greater Yellow-legs, 1 (M. P.); Least Sandpiper, 8; Herring Gull, 15; Ring-billed Gull, 74; Mourning Dove, 114; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 7; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 10; Pileated Woodpecker, 2; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 11; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 3; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 4; Eastern Phoebe, 2; Horned Lark, 52; Blue Jay, 108; Am. Crow, 75,000+ big roost estimated on several nights during previous week as 75 to 100 thousand by F&WS; Carolina Chickadee, 57; Tufted titmouse, 6; House Wren, 1; Winter Wren, 1; Bewick's Wren, 1; Carolina Wren, 46; Mockingbird, 79; Brown Thrasher, 7; Am. Robin, 297; Hermit Thrush, 5; Eastern Bluebird, 9; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 10; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 3; Water Pipit, 26; Cedar Waxwing, 156; Loggerhead Shrike, 23; Common Starling, 310; Myrtle Warbler, 4; House Sparrow, 605 (400 flock); Eastern Meadowlark, 304; Red-winged Blackbird, 1,178; Rusty Blackbird, 81; Purple Grackle, 50; Brown-headed Cowbird, 519; Cardinal, 168; Purple Finch, 17; Am. Goldfinch, 65; Eastern Towhee, 41; Savannah Sparrow, 84; Vesper Sparrow, 30; Slate-colored Junco, 98; Field Sparrow, 223; White-crowned Sparrow, 43; White-throated Sparrow, 187; Fox Sparrow, 9; Swamp Sparrow, 59; Song Sparrow, 254; Lapland Longspur, 35. Total, 85 species, about 111,284 individuals. Seen Dec. 20, Common Loon, 1; Dec. 24, Am. Egret, 1; Bald Eagle, 2; Dec. 30, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture and Wood Duck. Thomas Z. Atkeson, William J. Calvert, Palmer Calvert, Donnie Calvert, Malcolm E. Harden, Jr., Robert Helle, Thomas A. Imhof (compiler), John Owen, Merl Parker (refuge manager), Paul Robinson, Idalene F. Snead, Grace Snead, Alfred Walker, Durward O. Wright, Harriet Wright (Alabama Ornithological Society and Fish and Wildlife Service).

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA, 1954

Birmingham, Alabama (7½ mile radius centering in New Merkle, mostly South and East of the City, East Lake to Oak Mt. and Elmwood Cemetery to Lake Purdy and all intervening areas, 19th Annual Count; oak-pine woodland 31%, woodland borders 23%, short grass areas 22%, tall grass including cultivated fields 8%, lakes 7%, suburban areas 5%, bottomland hardwoods 4%).—December 26, 6:00 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Clear; temp. 37° to 60°; wind NE, 4 m.p.h., ground bare, water open, during past month no snow but temperature several times down in the low twenties; water levels very low; year's rainfall deficiency 12.85 inches. Seventeen observers in 5 parties. Total party-hours, 48¼ (36¼ on foot, 11½ by car), total party-miles, 169 (39 on foot, 130 by car). Pied-billed Grebe, 20; Great Blue Heron, 3; Mallard, 22; Redhead, 1; Ring-necked Duck, 34; Canvas-back, 13; Lesser Scaup, 4; Turkey Vulture, 2; Cooper's Hawk, 4; Red-tailed Hawk, 8; Red-shouldered Hawk, 6; Sparrow Hawk, 4; Bob-white, 48; Am. Coot, 100; Killdeer, 169; Wilson's Snipe, 11; Mourning Dove, 106; Barred Owl, 1; Belted Kingfisher, 13; Yellow-shafted Flicker, 51; Pileated Woodpecker, 10; Red-bellied Woodpecker, 17; Red-headed Woodpecker, 12; Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 6; Hairy Woodpecker, 3; Downy Woodpecker, 21; Red-cockaded Woodpecker, 4; Eastern Phoebe, 5; Blue Jay, 107; Am. Crow, 68; Carolina Chickadee, 111; Tufted Titmouse, 50; White-breasted Nuthatch, 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4; Brown-headed Nuthatch, 7; Brown Creeper, 1; House Wren, 2; Winter Wren, 7; Bewick's Wren, 3; Carolina Wren, 61; Mockingbird, 131; Brown Thrasher, 17; Am. Robin, 51; Hermit Thrush, 14; Eastern Bluebird, 53; Golden-crowned Kinglet, 52; Ruby-crowned Kinglet, 33; Water Pipit, 150; Cedar Waxwing, 134; Loggerhead Shrike, 20; Common Starling, 700; Myrtle Warbler, 9; Pine Warbler, 10; House Sparrow, 225+; Eastern Meadowlark, 349; Red-winged Blackbird, 347; Rusty Blackbird, 144; Purple Grackle, 616; Brown-headed Cowbird, 118; Unidentified Blackbirds, 155; Cardinal, 235; Purple Finch, 11; Pine Siskin, 1; Am. Goldfinch, 495; Eastern Towhee, 152; Savannah Sparrow, 25; Vesper Sparrow, 8; Pine-woods Sparrow, 1 (MFP); Slate-colored Junco, 291; Chipping Sparrow, 22; Field Sparrow, 185; White-crowned Sparrow, 22; White-throated Sparrow, 493; Fox Sparrow, 14; Swamp Sparrow, 66; Song Sparrow, 183. Total, 75 species; about 6,664 individuals. Lane Park roost of 30,000 Blackbirds broken up one week ago. Waterfowl poor. Seen recently, Dec. 19, Am. Widgeon, 1; Dec. 20, Black Vulture, 2; Turkey, 9; Dec. 24, Screech Owl, 2; Horned Owl, 1; Dec. 30 and Jan. 3, Ring-billed Gull, 1; Jan. 1, Peregrine Falcon, 1.—Lee Brewer, Blanche H. Chapman, F. Bozeman Daniel, Sara Davis, Mildred Ferris, Virginia Hamilton,

Malcolm Harden, Jr., Thomas A. Imhof (compiler), Robert Martin, Morton H. Perry, M. F. Prather, J. Fisher Rothermel, Idalene F. Snead, J. Bolling Sullivan III, Alfred Walker, Adele West, Eugene M. West (Birmingham Audubon Society and guests).

A BIRD LIST FROM DeSOTO STATE PARK

At the annual meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society, DeSoto State Park, DeKalb County, Alabama, May 6-8, 1955, those who attended contributed to a composite bird list. Weather was warm and clear. The number of individuals is omitted because of much duplication; however, the few species that were outstandingly abundant will be indicated as such. Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Black-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Wood Peewee, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Robin, Wood Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Veery, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonitry Warbler, Swainson's Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler (abundant), Chestnut-sided Warbler; Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler (abundant), Palm Warbler, Oven-bird, Louisiana Water-thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded Warbler, Canada Warbler, Redstart (abundant), English Sparrow, Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager (abundant), Summer Tanager (abundant), Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Pine Siskin, Goldfinch, Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bachman's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Total species, 108—Julian L. Dusi, Auburn, Ala.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1955

The Alabama Ornithological Society held its annual meeting at DeSoto State Park, May 6 to 8, 1955. It was held in conjunction with the Alabama Wildflower Festival.

The Wildflower Festival held its meeting the first evening in the auditorium of the Ft. Payne School. Dr. James Wilkes of Jacksonville State Teachers College organized and conducted the festival.

The Ornithological Society and Wildflower Festival groups carried on extensive field trips through DeSoto Park on the second day and third morning. A bird list was compiled and appears among the field notes of this issue.

The second evening a program meeting was led by the A. O. S. President, James Keeler. During this program Dr. O. L. Austin, Jr., discussed some of the problems of an ornithological society; Dr. Julian L. Dusi talked on publication problems; and Mr. Gordon L. Hight explained how the Georgia Ornithological Society had solved some of its problems. Mr. George M. Kyle talked with the group and showed them an excellent film on the Bobwhite Quail of Missouri.

The Annual Business Meeting was held at 11 a. m. the last day. President Keeler led the initial portion of the meeting until Dr. O. L. Austin, Jr., the newly elected President, replaced him. Among items of business, the revision of the constitution was important. It appears in this issue as revised. The Treasurer's report was given and is also printed in this issue. The list of officers as elected is recorded inside the front cover of this issue.

Many of those present expressed their satisfaction at the success of the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT, 1954-1955

Income

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Brought Forward | \$317.60 |
| Dues collected | 148.00 |
| Cards sold | 172.00 |
| Fall registration—A.O.S. | 7.75 |
| Copies of Alabama Birdlife sold to University of Ala. | 3.50 |
| Total | \$649.02 |

Expenses

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Post Publishing Co. | \$106.57 |
| Julian Dusi, Typing and postage | 3.80 |
| Cards for sale | 123.80 |
| Mrs. Blanche Dean, Film, postage, tips | 5.26 |
| Hagerty Office Supplies | 2.41 |
| Post Publishing Co. | 143.48 |
| Julian Dusi, Typing and postage | 2.83 |
| Hagerty Office Supplies | 1.29 |
| Clustie McTyeire, Postage and supplies | 4.48 |
| Mrs. Blanche Dean, Postage, typing, etc. | 67.46 |
| Total | \$461.35 |
| Income | \$649.02 |
| Expenses | 461.35 |
| Balance, May 6, 1955 | \$187.64 |

CLUSTIE McTYEIRE, Treasurer.

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name

This organization shall be called the Alabama Ornithological Society.

Article II. Objectives

1. To foster a greater knowledge of the birds of Alabama through observation, education and publication.
2. To be a potent voice in conservation of all of Alabama's natural resources, but especially birds.

Article III. Membership

Sec. 1. The membership shall consist of elected Active, Honorary, Life, Sustaining and Student Members.

- a. Active Member—Any person with a sincere interest in bird life.
- b. Honorary Member—Any person of eminence in ornithology.
- c. Life Member—Any Active member desiring to pay his dues for the rest of his life in one sum.
- d. Sustaining Member—Any Active member wishing to contribute financially to the work of the society.
- e. Student Member—Any High School of College Undergraduate Student with a sincere interest in bird life.

Sec. 2. Election of Members—Prospective members are nominated by any member and become members upon approval of the Membership Committee. Honorary Members may only be elected upon recommendation of the Council by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

Sec. 3. Privileges of membership—The Privileges of membership are the same for all members except that Student Members are not eligible to vote or hold office.

Article IV. Officers

Sec. 1. Elected Officers—The Elected Officers shall be the President, Vice-President and Treasurer. They shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting and shall serve for a period of one year **from the time elected**.

Sec. 2. Appointed Officers—The President shall appoint two Directors, a Secretary, a Librarian and an Editor, each of whom shall serve until a successor is chosen.

Sec. 3. The Executive Council—The Executive Council shall consist of the Elected and Appointed Officers and the Immediate Past President. They shall act as an advisory body to the President. Consistent with time and distance they shall manage as much as possible of the business and property of the Society between meetings.

Sec. 4. **Nomination and Election**—A slate of Officers shall be presented to the membership by the Vice-President at the Annual Meeting. Any member with voting privileges may nominate from the floor. Candidates for each office shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present.

Sec. 5. **Vacancies**—A vacancy in any office shall be filled by appointment by the President for the unexpired term of office. The Vice-President becomes President if that office is vacated.

Sec. 6. **The President**—

1. The President shall manage the affairs of the Society and shall preside at its meetings.

2. He is responsible for the agenda for all meetings.

3. He is Chairman of the Executive Council.

4. He shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided for.

Sec. 7. The Vice-President shall act for the President in his absence. He shall also serve as Chairman of the Membership and Nominating Committees.

Sec. 8. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, attend to official correspondence, prepare notices of meetings, and keep records of attendance.

Sec. 9. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial matters of the society, including, at least, collecting and receiving dues and other funds and the paying of bills approved by the President. At the Annual Meeting he shall present to the Society a financial statement as of the first of the month of Annual Meeting, of all receipts and expenditures. Upon its audit by a committee this shall be filed with the Secretary.

Sec. 10. The Directors shall act as advisory members of the Executive Council.

Sec. 11. The Editor shall gather and edit material for the official society publication and arrange for its printing and distribution to the membership.

Sec. 12. The Librarian shall gather and preserve all scientific material of the Society either as field records, publications, bird skins or other property. He shall, within his judgment, assist members to make proper use for research purposes of whatever material is in his care.

Article V. Meeting and Quorum

Sec. 1. **Time of Meetings**—The Society shall hold at least one meeting a year, preferably in spring, to be known as the Annual Meeting. A second meeting in fall is recommended. Other special meetings may be called by the President at his discretion.

Sec. 2. **Quorum**—No quorum is necessary to conduct business at any meetings, Regular, Council or otherwise, provided two weeks' notice of time and place is given the membership.

Article VI. Amendments to the Constitution

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at any regular meeting, provided that thirty days' written notice of the proposed change be given each voting member.

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY PROPOSED NEW BY-LAWS

Article I. Dues

All dues are payable at the Annual Meeting, for the new year starting on July 1.

1. Active Members—\$2.00.

2. Honorary Members—Exempt from Dues.

3. Life Members—\$50.00 for life. This may be paid within a 2-year period.

4. Sustaining Members—\$5.00.

5. Student Members—\$1.00.

Article II. Official Publication

The name of the Official Publication of the Alabama Ornithological Society shall be "Alabama Birdlife." It shall be published as a quarterly and shall be sent to each member of the Society. All members shall be encouraged to contribute worthwhile field notes and should feel free to call on more experienced members in their part of the state for help in proper presentation.

Article III. Order of Business at Meetings

As nearly as possible, the business at each meeting shall be conducted in the following order:

1. Report of the Secretary, including the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and correspondence.

2. Reports of other Officers in the order listed in Article IV of the Constitution. This includes reports in their capacities as committee chairmen.

3. Reports of other committees.

4. Old business.

5. New business.

6. Elections.

7. Field notes of interesting observations by members.

8. Program.

Every effort should be made by the chairman and members who have the floor to make the business meetings as short as possible to allow as much time as possible for the members to enjoy the program and the social and field aspects of the meeting to the fullest.

Article IV. Local Groups

Sec. 1. Local Groups may be formed by 5 or more members who reside in any one county.

Sec. 2. These groups shall be autonomous regarding their local constitution and officers except that the local treasurer shall be responsible for the collection and submission of state dues to the state Treasurer.

Sec. 3. Any existing organization containing 5 or more members of the Alabama Ornithological Society may affiliate with said Society. Approval of the membership of the local organization and of the AOS Executive Council is required.

Sec. 4. Advantages of organizing into local groups—

a. Develop and maintain local interest in birds.

b. AOS officers are available with information and assistance on methods of organizing field trips and programs for meetings of local groups.

Sec. 5. Objectives of such local groups should be—

a. Teach birds to beginners and advanced alike.

b. Keep a county list.

c. Maintain interest in birds during the interval between statewide meetings.

d. Reconnoiter local places for statewide meetings and field trips.

e. Act as hosts on such occasions.

Article V. Amendments to By-Laws

These By-Laws may be amended upon the majority approval of the Voting Members present at any meeting of the Society.
Amended May 8, 1955.

MEMBERSHIP LIST OF THE ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, MAY, 1955

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Mrs. Juanita Ennis AllenLivingston, Ala.
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ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded May 17, 1952

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Vice-President: Dr. G. E. Nelson, Biology Dept., Alabama College, Montevallo, Alabama.

Secretary: Mrs. D. O. Wright, Rt. 13, Box 194D, Birmingham, Alabama.

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