Comments of the Compilers

<u>Birmingham:</u>--Seen during the count period but not on the count day: Oldsquaw, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Herring Gull, Ring-Billed Gull, and Screech Owl. Twelve species were recorded in record high numbers.

<u>Bon</u> <u>Secour</u>:--The mid winter probably accounts for some unusual records such as the Cattle Egret, Least Bittern and Broadwinged Hawk.

<u>Jacksonville</u>:--Heavy fog until 9:30 A. M. followed by cloudy moderate weather hampered observations. The Yellowthroat was our first mid-winter record, and the Canvasback was late by one month for the area.

<u>Mobile:</u>--Seen during the count period but not on the count day: Common Goldeneye, Oldsquaw, Turkey Vulture, Black Bulture, Short-billed Dowitcher and Barred Owl.

MINUTES OF WINTER MEETING ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 25-26, 1967

ALABAMA BIRDLIFE

The regular winter meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society was held at the Liberty Motel in Scottsboro, Alabama, February 25-26, 1967, with 45 members and guests registered. Field trips were conducted Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning to the waterfowl refuges and management areas in Jackson County, particularly the Mud Creek Waterfowl Management Area and the North Sauty Waterfowl Refuge. Leading the trips were Mr. J. H. English, Conservation Department Area Biologist, Mr. T. W. Linville, Manager of the Conservation Department Refuges on Lake Guntersville, and Mr. James Robinson, Mr. James Keeler, and Mr. and Mrs. Gene West, members of the Society.

Saturday Night Program

The banquet and program were held Saturday night at the Liberty Restaurant. The President reported on the responses the Society had received to its resolution adopted last fall opposing encroachment on Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Thomas Z. Atkeson, Jr., Director of Wheeler Refuge, outlined various requests being made for the release of refuge lands and the effect such releases would have on the wildlife management and conservation programs being carried on there.

Mr. James Robinson, Vice-President, introduced Mr. English who gave a most interesting talk and showed slides of the programs being carried on at the refuges and game management areas. A question and answer period followed, including a discussion of stream channelization.

Compilation

Following the field trips on Sunday morning, a compilation was held at the Liberty Motel with Mr. James Robinson in charge. The members reported 68 species observed during the meeting. Adding two species of waterfowl observed in the Scottsboro area prior to the beginning of the meeting and two after the compilation would bring the total to 72. The most impressive observations were of the water birds, particularly the large numbers of Mallards, Black Ducks, Gadwalls, Hooded Mergansers and Snipe and the large flock of Canada Gees on the upper part of North Sauty Creek.

Meeting of the Executive Council

The Executive council met at 12:30 P. M., February 26, 1967, at the Liberty Restaurant with the following members present: Mr. Robert R. Reid, Jr., President; Mr. James C. Robinson, Vice-President; Mrs. Helen H. Kittinger, Secretary; Dr. Dan C. Holliman, Director and Editor of Newsletter; Mrs. Margaret Robinson, Mr. James Keeler and Mr. Bob Skinner, Directors.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with since they had been previously printed in ALABAMA BIRDLIFE, and the same as so printed were approved. The President announced the appointment of Dr. Julian L. Dusi,

Chairman, Dr. Dan C. Holliman and Mrs. Clara L. Caffey to the Nominating Committee. He also announced that an auditing committee would be appointed soon.

The President red the report from the Editor of ALABAMA BIRDLIFE. The last issue of 1966, composed of eight pages and of which 300 copies were printed, cost a total of \$101.52 - printing \$82.16, reprints of one article \$9.36 and postage \$10.00. The Editor reported that the free reprint policy was desirable to encourage authors to contribute articles and that it should be continued with the modification, however, that authors whose employers normally purchase reprints should be reasonably expected to do so.

The matter of the necessity of raising dues and the problem of stream channelization were discussed.

In the absence of Dr. Dusi, the President read the report of the Librarian. He reported that the Society's library was growing, the most recent additions being exchanges for THE SCISSORTAIL, a publication of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, THE RING, an international publication of the Laboratory of Ornithology at Warsaw, Poland devoted largely to bird banding, and EGRETTA, which is an Austrian journal.

Under old business, the matter of protection of beneficial hawks under the game laws of Alabama was discussed. It was noted that the best expert ornithological opinion in the state was that the buteos were protected species, but the laws should be made clearer to that effect. After discussion it was, upon motion duly made and seconded, resolved that the Society approve and support an amendment to the game laws of Alabama making it clear that all buteo hawks are protected species, that the Society cooperate with the State Department of Conservation in obtaining passage of such legislation and that the officers of the Society take all action deemed necessary or desirable to that end.

Plans for future meetings were discussed. There being no further no further business, the meeting was adjourned at $2:30\ P.\ M.$

Respectfully submitted,

Helen H. Kittinger, Secretary

ALABAMA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded May 17, 1952

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Editor, ALABAMA BIRDLIFE - Dr. Maurice F. Baker, Wildlife Research Unit, Auburn 36830

Editor, Newsletter - Dan C. Holliman, Birmingham Southern College,
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Directors:

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State-at-Large (Coordinator for North American Nest Record Program) - Dr. Julian L. Dusi, P. O. Box 742, Auburn 36830

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