

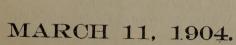


# SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

1:1903

# OF THE AUDUBON SOCIETY

# OF NORTH CAROLINA X X



#### OFFICERS.

President—DR. R. H. LEWIS, Raleigh. Vice-President—HON. J. Y. JOYNER, Raleigh. Secretary—T. GILBERT PEARSON, Greensboro. Treasurer—R. N. WILSON, Guilford College. MRS. W. C. A. HAMMEL, Greensboro, Sec'y Junior Department.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

P. D. GOLD, JR., Greensboro. F. A. SONDLEY, Asheville. HON. S. L. PATTERSON, Raleigh.

#### OFFICERS OF BRANCH SOCIETIES.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY BRANCH : Prof. J. A. Bivins, *President*, Charlotte. Walter Brem, *Vice-President*, Charlotte. F. H. Andrews, *Secretary and Treasurer*, Charlotte.

CURRITUCK COUNTY BRANCH:

Hon. S. M. Beasley, President, Poplar Branch.

D. W. Lindsay, Vice-President, Poplar Branch.

D. W. Woodhouse, Secretary and Treasurer. Poplar Branch.

DURHAM COUNTY BRANCH :

James H. Southgate, *President*, Durham. Arthur Lyon, *Vice-President*, Durham. J. C. Troy, *Secretary and Treasurer*, Durham.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BRANCH : F. A. Sondley, *President*, Asheville. Fred Rutledge, *Vice-President*, Asheville. Dr. H. H. Briggs, *Secretary and Treasurer*, Asheville.

WAKE COUNTY BRANCH :

Dr. A. W. Knox, President, Raleigh.

Dr. R. H. Lewis, Vice-President, Raleigh.

Col. Fred Olds, Secretary and Treasurer, Raleigh.

**CRAVEN COUNTY BRANCH:** 

G. A. Nicholl, *President*, New Bern. Wm. T. Hill, *Vice-President*, New Bern. Geo. P. Waters, *Secretary and Treasurer*, New Bern.

BEAUFORT COUNTY BRANCH :

John B. Sparrow, *President*, Washington. Thomas H. Clark, *Vice-President*, Washington. W. D. Grimes, *Secretary and Treasurer*, Washington.

## To the Members of The Audubon Society of North Carolina:

Soon after the passage of the "Act to Incorporate the Audubon Society of North Carolina" by the General Assembly, at Raleigh, which occurred on March 6th, 1903, the incorporators held a meeting and elected officers and an executive committee of five members who should have charge of directing the affairs of the Society. The Executive Committee, composed of P. D. Gold, Jr., of Guilford Co., Henry E. Knox, Ir., of Mecklenburg Co., Dr. C. P. Ambler, of Buncombe Co., Hon. S. M. Beasley, of Currituck Co., and Prof. J. I. Foust, of Guilford Co., subsequently elected the Secretary of the Society as their executive officer to execute the work along the lines of activity as directed by that body. The committee has since held frequent meetings for the consideration of important matters and for receiving reports and giving instructions to the Secretary. The following is offered as the report of the Executive Committee of the work of the Audubon Society during the first year of its incorporation.

## GENERAL PLAN OF WORK.

The general plan of work which the Executive Committee has pursued is as follows: (1) To acquaint people more thoroughly with the game laws; (2) To distribute literature bearing on the value of birds and game to man and the reasons for game protection, and (3) To maintain as strong a force of State game wardens as possible to inforce the game laws.

# EDUCATIONAL WORK.

Your committee believes that a large amount of the violation of the game laws of the State is due to ignorance of the law on the part of the offenders. It has, therefore, been our first endeavor to place in operation a systematic plan for acquainting the people of the State more thoroughly with the bird and game laws as they exist. With this in view, 4,700 copies of the Act incorporating the Audubon Society have been distributed. Warning notices setting forth the general State laws have been printed on large sheets of linen and two thousand copies have been tacked up in conspicuous places throughout the State. A resume of the State and county laws likewise have been prepared and printed on linen and distributed throughout the counties for which they were prepared as follows :

In Cherokee County 300	Edgecombe County	
Forsyth County 500	Davidson County 500	
Chatham County 500	Guilford County 500	
Duplin County	Warren County 500	
Randolph County 1,000	Granville County 500	
Gates County	Dare County	
Bertie County	Buncombe County 500	
In all 8,700 linen posters have been distributed.		

It is a generally recognized fact that one of the best ways of stimulating people's appreciation of the value of birds is to help them become acquainted with the facts regarding their economic value. The Society from its inception has been distributing literature on the subject of bird protection. This has been accomplished by sending copies to each of the members of the Society, to the members of the legislature, to the newspapers and by having the wardens distribute them from house to house on their trips about the country. In addition to this large numbers are sent through the mail in response to requests from the people throughout the State who have seen notices that such literature is for distribution. During the past year literature has been distributed as follows :

The First Annual Report of the Audubon Society		
Leaflet No. 3, (The Passing of the Sea Birds)		
Leaflet No. 4, (Objects and Plans)		
Leaflet No. 5, (Protect the Insect-Eating Birds)		
And the following leaflets published by the National Com-		
mittee of Audubon Societies which were purchased by our		
Society and distributed in North Carolina :		

Educational Leaflet No. 1, "The Bullbat,"	,160
Educational Leaflet No. 2, "The Mourning Dove,"	,025
Educational Leaflet No. 3, "Meadow Lark,"	,206
Educational Leaflet No. 4, "The Robin,"	,150
Educational Leaflet No. 5, "The Flicker,"	,216
Educational Leaflet No. 6, "The Wild Pigeon,"	700
Educational Leaflet No. 7, "The Snowy Hereon,"	623
"Save the Birds,"	500
"Ornithology in the Schools,"	1,564
"Civic Value of Birds,"	625

This in addition to the copies of the new State game law and the linen warning notices above mentioned make a total of 76,069 copies of printed information, which has been distributed in the State during the past twelve months. The office work connected with the preparation and distribution of literature is necessarily considerable, but we feel that the interest shown in the literature distributed is well worth the cost involved.

## LIBRARIES FOR RURAL TEACHERS.

It is very important that the children of the commonwealth be taught to have an appreciative interest in the wild birds, but in order that they may have such instruction it is first necessary that the teachers of these children have good opportunity for instruction. With a view of stimulating interest on the part of the teachers for the subject of nature study, and bird study in particular, fifty libraries of bird and nature study books have been purchased and have been offered to the county superintendents of the State on the following conditions:

Each superintendent is to contribute from his county fund or from some other source five dollars toward the purchase of the books; the library is to be placed in the office of the county superintendent who is to lend the books to those teachers interested in the subject. The books are to be the property of the teachers of the county and are to be cared for by the superintendent. In addition to this the Audubon Society will send its educational leaflets free to each teacher in these counties which make application for libraries. These books have been selected with much care, and the committee thinks it well to name them and give the price of each in order that any members who may contemplate purchasing a nature study library with special reference to bird study may thus have the benefit of the committee's investigation of the books of this character:

"Everyday Birds," by Bradford Torrey	\$1.00
"Squirrels and Other Fur Bearers," by John Burroughs	
"Bird Neighbors," by Neltje Blauchan	2.00
"How to Attract the Birds," by Neltje Blauchan	
"First Book of Birds," by Olive Thorne Miller	1.00
"Stories of Bird Life," by T. Gilbert Pearson	
"Eye Spy," by William Hamilton Gibson	
"Familiar Trees," by F. S. Matthews	
"Wild Animals I Have Known," by Ernest T. Seaton	
"Fowls of the Air," by W. J. Long	
"Bird Lore," (Official organ for all the American Audubon Societies)	
for one vear	1.00

It is hoped that additions may be made to these libraries from time to time either by the county authorities or by the Audubon Society, and the Executive Committee entertains the hope that the Society may be able to assist in adding to the equipment of the rural school libraries which have already been established by the corporation of the State and local authorities.

## GAME WARDEN SERVICE.

In every State in the Union where a serious effort is being made to protect the birds and preserve the game there is now employed a more or less elaborate system of officers who are known as game wardens. Of these officers, which in North Carolina are officially entitled "Bird and game wardens," there are now 29 in the field. These officies are filled by appointment by the Governor upon the recommendation of the Audubon Society and the Society remunerates them for their services. In the selection of communities to be supplied with wardens the following facts have been borne in mind: first, the apparent urgent need for such an officer, and second, the income of the Society in that section either from membership fees or from the sale of hunters' licenses. The wardens when appointed and commissioned are State officers and have equal authority in every portion of the State. They work under the directions of the Audubon Society and are responsible to it for their conduct while in office.

Early in the year the Executive Committee empowered the Secretary to represent it in the selection of proper localities in which to place wardens; the choosing of persons to serve as wardens, and the deciding of what compensation these officers should receive for their services. This the Secretary has endeavored to do the best of his knowledge with the limited time and means at his command. Some of the wardens have been paid nominal salaries with fees for special services rendered. Others have been sent from place to place for the purpose of distributing literature and copies of the law or else for the investigation of complaints which have been made to the Secretary's Office regarding the violations of the game laws. This latter class of men are paid in either one of two ways; namely, two dollars per day and expenses or a fixed salary at fifty dollars per month and expenses. Many of the wardens have proven to be most valuable and efficient servants of the State.

## BULLBAT SHOOTING.

One of the most valuable birds in North Carolina is the night hawk or bullbat. For many years it has been a custom in sections of the State to shoot these birds in immense numbers during the latter part of summer merely for the practice of shooting; the dead birds in many instances never being placed to any use. These birds are of immense value because of the great number of harmful insects which they consume, and no one so far as we are aware has ever attempted to point out any possible injury which man sustains through their activities. They are now protected by law. This was not generally known in the State the past summer, and the Executive Committee took much pains to see that information to the effect that it is unlawful to kill them should be distributed throughout the State. In many communities where the shooting of these birds had been going on for some days it immediately stopped upon the arrival of a warden who informed the gunners that their conduct was illegal, and the shooting of the birds was not subsequently resumed. In two instances it was found necessary to make arrests for the persistent shooting of these birds, and in both cases the defendants were fined one dollar for each bird killed in addition to the costs of the court.

There seems to be a tendency on the part of many people of the State to hunt game before the season opens. Much attention was given to that matter last fall, and many people accustomed to engage in this illegal hunting were stopped after being once warned. Action however was taken in several cases and nineteen convictions were secured of persons who violated the law regarding the hunting of game in the closed season.

## FIRE LIGHTING.

Along the coast one of the great industries of the people is the hunting of ducks and geese for market. Some idea of the tremendous importance which this industry is to the people of our eastern section may be gathered from the statement of Hon. S. M. Beasley, published in the Charlotte Observer, to the effect that five thousand dollars a week paid to the gunners of Currituck county during the five months' gunning season is a reasonable estimate. One of the methods which has long been employed in killing these birds is to place a

light with a reflector on the prow of a boat which is pushed about on the shallow portions of the sound at night where the ducks are sleeping. The birds being bewildered by the light will allow the boat to approach very close before taking wing. Thus the hunters are able to secure a large number by a single discharge. This "fire lighting" has the additional effect of making the survivers very wild and in driving them from the neighborhood. It also takes an unfair advantage of the birds in an unsportsmanlike manner by slaughtering them by the wholesale. So well have the evils of this method of hunting been understood by the people of the coast that for many years it has been unlawful to hunt in this way. As there have been no State officers to enforce the game laws, however, this law like many other laws for the protection of the birds and game had been neglected until many men were in the habit of "fire lighting," often without any pretence of avoiding detection. The wardens along the coast received explicit directions to stop this "fire lighting" at all hazards. Two men were arrested in Currituck county for violating the law by leaving the wharf before sunrise. They were fined twenty dollars each and costs. The outcome of these cases as well as the determined position of the game wardens and the influence of the Currituck Branch of the Audubon Society resulted in almost totally stopping "fire lighting" in Currituck Sound the past winter. In a similar mainer without any arrests being made the "fire lighting "Was largely diminished game confiscated was as foliin Dare and Hyde counties.

teen ruffled grouse and 1754 pa. -no2 ayants and 1754 pa. -no2 ayants and 1754 pa. -no2 ayants and 20 by the part of the second of the seco will have the effect of largely stopping this class of violations of the law. The best people all seem in favor of suppressing this method of hunting, and it appears that only a few pot hunters or adventurous young men who wish for some unusual excitement now take the chances of encountering a game warden by going "fire lighting."

## ILLEGAL SHIPPING OF GAME.

One of the greatest evils pertaining to game protection is the shipping of partridges, (quail) out of the State to northern markets. For many years there has been a law against this traffic, but so remunerative is the business and so tempting is the field that although the State of North Carolina has now placed wardens in the field to stop it, many men have persisted in continuing to ship birds. To detect these shippers in the act and to procure sufficient evidence against them for conviction, has been a problem at which the Secretary and the wardens have been constantly working. The law gives the game warden the power to open and examine with a search warrant any package in possession of a common carrier which he has reason to believe contains game shipped in violation of the law, and in case such is found to confiscate it and sell the same at auction.

Twenty-two shipments of birds and game have thus been seized and the contents disposed of at public auction. The game confiscated was as follows: Two wild turkeys, seventeen ruffled grouse and 1,754 partridges. In three cases the defendants have been tried and convicted in the criminal courts, and there are several cases yet to be tried which will come up in the courts during the next few weeks.

## NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS.

The number of convictions for violating the bird and game laws of the State together with a statement of the character of the offenses is here given:

For killing game during the closed season	)
For shipping game out of the State	3
For killing insect-eating birds	2
For killing song birds	2
For killing sea gulls	L
For offering non-game birds for sale	1
For hunting on the property of another without consent of owner	3
	-
Total 31	

The fines collected from the violations of the game laws all go to the school fund.

While many of the wardens have done most excellent service, we should like to speak in this connection of two whose success has been especially gratifying. For the work of Warden N. F. Jennett, of Buxton, who has in such an efficient and faithful manner patrolled the coast region for fifty miles on either side of Cape Hatteras in all kinds of weather and exposed to the many dangers which lurk for the sea-faring man about Cape Hatteras, and who has overcome immense difficulties and at the same time has been so successful in extending to the sea birds absolute protection from the millinery feather hunters, the Executive Committee feels especially pleased. The phenomenal success of Warden W. I. Weatherly, of Greensboro, in the detection of shipments of partridges, grouse and wild turkeys which were designed for points outside of the State has won for him a reputation as a detective and keen-scented game warden far beyond the borders of North Carolina. In order to avoid his vigilance shippers have resorted to many methods of concealing the true contents of their packages. It will be interesting to know in this connection that Warden Weatherly has found shipments of birds concealed in the center of crates of eggs, in the middle of barrels of rabbits, inside of dressed geese and turkeys, in boxes marked "persimmons," and in the bottom of butter firkins, separated from the butter above by a modern partition. He made one seizure of two hundred and forty-one

birds which were being shipped to Washington, D. C., in a trunk checked through as baggage. Warden Weatherly's services have been of a very positive character and far reaching in their influence. He has made twenty-one out of the twenty-two seizures which have been made in the State.

### LIST OF WARDENS.

Your Committee believes that the most efficient service which the wardens as a whole have been to the State is that they have constituted a preventative force which has done much to acquaint the people of the State regarding the true status of the game laws, and the stopping in a quiet way of many persons who through ignorance or carelessness were inclined to violate the laws. The following list of twentynine officers have received the Governor's commission, taken the oath of office, and now represent the State's interest in the form of "bird and game wardens":

N. F. Jennett, W. J. Weeks, Josephus Williams, Jr., J. W. Mason, Ino. R. Upchurch, Jno. W. McElroy, W. J. Weatherly, W. L. Parrish, C. C. Jordan, Fred. M. Dunstan, W. F. Thomason, Chas. M. Griffith, J. E. Garrison, J. A. Dark, S. S. Ballance, E. B. Gallop, N. H. Caroon, Jno. W. Bowden, A. L. Usher, Alex. C. Kelly, Isaac W. O'Neal,

Buxton, Southport, Morehead City, Atlantic, Raleigh. Asheville, Greensboro, High Point, New Bern. Windsor. Lexington, Thomasville, Charlotte, Siler City, Waterlily, Poplar Branch, Jarvisburg, Knott's Island, Rose Hill, Carthage, Ocracoke,

Dare county. Brunswick county. Carteret county. Carteret county. Wake county. Buncombe county. Guilford county. Guilford county. Craven county. Bertie county. Davidson county. Davidson county. Mecklenburg county. Chatham county. Currituck county. Currituck county. Currituck county. Currituck county. Duplin county. Moore county. Hyde county.

G. H. Faucette,	Bullock,	Granville county.
William Thorp,	Satterwhite,	Granville county.
T. J. Finch,	Wheatmore,	Randolph county.
R. H. Parish,	Reidsville,	Rockingham county.
W. C. Ellington,	Warrenton,	Warren county.
W. M. Riddick,	Gates P. O.,	Gates county.
R. H. Raper,	Elizabeth City,	Pasquotank county.
E. W. Gilliam,	Halifax,	Hallifax county.

## PROTECTION OF THE SEA BIRDS.

At once upon the passage of the law which may be said to have created the Audubon Society as the bird and game commission of North Carolina, the Executive Committee concerned itself with taking measures for the protection of the sea birds.

Our extensive coast line, with its large, shallow sounds and sandy beaches, forms a natural feeding ground for countless numbers of winged tenants of the sea. Fifteen years ago these waters teamed in summer with gulls and terns, beautiful longwinged flyers, that came out of the South upon the approach of spring to lay their eggs and rear their young upon our shores. The birds feed in part upon small fish but in the main they are the scavangers of the sea and gather from the waves much animal matter which otherwise would be thrown upon the beaches to putrify in the sun. Often fishermen, lost in the fog, would eagerly watch for the birds to give evidence of the direction of the land as they winged their way homeward from the deep with food for their young. They were of much practical value also in indicating to fishermen the presence of the fish, as they would often gather about the spots in the ocean where the great schools of fish were swimming in order to feast upon the fragments which floated to the surface from the jaws of the feeding hosts.

Like all sea fowl, these birds gathered in communities to breed, and placed their beautiful spotted eggs in simple nests either on the sand or more rarely in clusters of fallen grass in the salt marshes. Full ten thousand gathered each year on Shackelford's Bank, between Beaufort and Cape Lookout. They nested among the dunes at Fort Macon and on the sandy beaches about Southport. At Lockwood's Folly there was a large colony, and countless thousands reared their young on the islands about Ocracoke, Hatteras and Oregon Inlets. All this was changed, however, when the demand for the heads and wings of these birds for the millinery trade became great; and plume hunters began to visit the coast for the purpose of killing the birds. The method of gathering their plumes was a most cruel one. Upon locating a colony of breeding birds, the hunters would at once begin their work of destruction. The parents loath to leave their eggs and clamoring young would circle, screaming, through the air regardless of the repeated discharges of the guns which thinned their ranks. After killing all the birds which could be skinned and packed away before they would spoil, the hunters would retire to their boat or camp, on the beach, only to return the next day to carry on the slaughter. It did not take many days to destroy a colony of several thousand birds. The young in all of these cases were left in the nests to die of starvation.

From figures which have been gathered from various sources, it is a conservative estimate to say that fully five hundred thousand birds have been killed on the North Carolina coast during the breeding season and their feathers shipped to New York millinery houses. So persistently had this work been carried on each summer that when the Audubon Society began its endeavors to protect the few remaining breeding places, it was found that only a remnant of the great flocks was left upon our coast. The only gull which has been known to breed in North Carolina is the black-headed or laughing gull. It is not known whether any of these birds laid their eggs in the State last year, although they were seen in small numbers by the wardens while patrolling the coast. The sea birds which are now known to breed on our beaches are the black skimmer or "storm gull," Wilson's tern, Forster's tern, the Royal tern, and possibly the least tern. The last named species is the one which has suffered most from the destructive effect of the plume hunter. So rare has it become that during the eight trips which the Secretary has taken along the North Carolina coast in summer during the past five years, only six specimens have come under his observations. Five of these were seen near Southport, in New Hanover County, in June, 1903. A colony of about eighty black skimmers reared their young on the beach five miles north of Southport the past summer, and the colony was carefully watched and protected by W. J. Weeks, game warden at Southport.

On "Whalebone" beach, in Carteret County, over three hundred eggs of the black skimmer and Wilson's tern were counted at one time by Warden J. W. Mason, of Atlantic. Unfortunately just as these eggs were hatching, a tidal wave swept over the island and the eggs and young were totally destroyed. Apparently the old birds then went to Royal Shoal Island, in Pamlico Sound, a few miles from Ocracoke. where a number of birds were already breeding. This island is in the territory patrolled by Warden N. F. Jennett, of Bux-This warden also had the care of the terns and skimton mers which nested on Egg Lump, Davis' Lump and Leggett Lump, small islands of sand and shell which rear their backs but a few feet above the water and are situated in Pamlico Sound between Cape Hatteras and Ocracoke. It is believed that none of these birds were killed during the past summer for millinery purposes, and the only loss sustained aside from those above mentioned was the taking of a few eggs by passing fishermen.

The reports of the wardens show that in all about two thousand young terns and skimmers are known to have been reared the past summer. If properly protected, there seems to be little reason why our coast should not again be populated with sea birds in their former numbers although the remnant is so small today.

During the winter season numbers of American herring gulls which have reared their young in the protected colonies along the coast of Maine and elsewhere at the North are found frequenting our beaches. In order to protect these it is necessary that the vigilance of the wardens should not be relaxed the year round.

The Society was able last summer to pay for the services of the three wardens above mentioned through the generosity of Mr. William Dutcher, of New York City, Chairman of the National Committee of Audubon Societies, who contributed liberally to the work from the Thayer fund and for several months paid the wardens for their services.

## A LAUNCH NEEDED.

In this connection, we wish to call the attention of the ' Society to the vital need of supplying the warden at Cape Hatteras with a naptha launch, in order that he may move more rapidly from place to place and in other ways facilitate his operations. The past winter this officer has not been able to be on duty more than three-fifths of the days, owing to the inclement weather when it was impossible for one to be abroad in a sail boat, and even during the summer there are days of storm and of calm when a vessel is badly needed that is not dependent upon the wind for locomotion. Such a vessel as is needed will cost \$800. Two hundred and thirty-five dollars of this amount have already been collected; and if members of the Society feel like making contributions to the work of protecting the sea birds of North Carolina, the money can be used to splendid advantage just at this time in assisting to procure a substantial vessel.

#### JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held in October

last the Junior Department of the Audubon Society was created and Mrs. W. A. C. Hammel was elected Secretary. The fees of the "regular" members and the "junior" members go toward the work of this department. It is the plan of the Executive Committee that local secretaries be appointed throughout the State wherever suitable persons who are interested in the propaganda of the principles of bird study and bird protection may be found. It will be the duty of a local secretary to organize a junior branch of the Audubon Society in his or her community and to collect the membership fees and distribute literature which may be sent from the Secretary's Office, and to hold meetings from time to time with such members of the local branch as may be interested in doing work in bird study. It is the purpose of the Secretary of the Junior Department to furnish libraries of bird books for the use of these local secretaries and their bird classes. Half the membership fees collected by the local branch will be retained for its uses and purposes. The other half will be sent to the Secretary of the Junior Department who will furnish to the local secretaries for each member not only the literature but the mockingbird Audubon buttons. The Executive Committee would urge upon all members of the Society who have friends who might care to join the Junior Department of the Audubon Society and contribute twenty-five cents a year to its work that they interest themselves in aiding to increase the membership and thus help push the work of bird study among the children and young people of the State.

## BRANCH SOCIETIES.

It is believed that much good has resulted from the formation of county branch societies from the fact that a local society in a county, forming a strong working nucleous, has a most desirable influence in the surrounding country. Seven regularly organized branch societies have been formed. The location of these together with their officers are as follows: Buncombe County Branch:

Mr. F. A. Sondley, President, Asheville.

Mr. Fred. Rutledge, Vice-President, Asheville.

H. H. Briggs, Secretary and Treasurer, Asheville.

Wake County Branch:

Dr. A. W. Knox, President, Raleigh.

Dr. R. H. Lewis, Vice-President, Raleigh.

Col. Fred Olds, Secretary and Treasurer, Raleigh.

Craven County Branch:

Mr. G. A. Nicholl, President, New Bern.

Wm. T. Hill, Vice-President, New Bern.

Mr. Geo. B. Waters, Secretary and Treasurer, New Bern.

Beaufort County Branch:

Mr. John B. Sparrow, President, Washington.

Mr. Thomas H. Clark, Vice-President, Washington.

Mr. W. D. Grimes, Secretary and Treasurer, Washington.

Mecklenburg County Branch:

Prof. J. A. Bivins, President, Charlotte.

Mr. Walter Brem, Vice-President, Charlotte.

Mr. F. H. Andrews, Secretary and Treasurer, Charlotte.

Durham County Branch:

Mr. Jas. H. Southgate, President.

Mr. Arthur Lyon, Vice-President.

Mr. J. C. Troy, Secretary and Treasurer.

Currituck County Branch :

Hon. S. M. Beasley, President, Poplar Branch.

Mr. D. W. Lindsay, Vice-President, Poplar Branch.

Mr. D. W. Woodhouse, Secretary and Treasurer, Poplar Branch.

The relation of the branch society to the State organization may thus be briefly stated. The local society must consist of not less than fifteen sustaining members. The local treasurer collects the annual fees of \$500 each and forwards the same to the treasurer of the State society. Two-thirds of these fees, together with two-thirds of the money arising in the county from the sale of hunters' licenses where the branch society is located is returned to the local organization for its uses and purposes. The local organization selects the game warden who is to operate in that county and pays him for his services. Although this officer reports directly to the county organization and works under its direction, he is at the same time subject to the orders of the State Executive Committee and may be sent to any part of the State for special duty. There are a number of communities in the State where the membership is quite large and where county organizations will probably be effected in the near future. The work of the Branch Societies for the past year has materially aided the State organization in its efforts. Especially is this true in the case of the Buncombe County Branch which is the largest and one of the strongest in the State and which has done good work in creating sentiment for bird and game protection at Asheville and in the surrounding country.

## THE OUTLOOK.

The Executive Committee feels that the Audubon Society has reason to feel much encouraged by the warm reception with which the work of the Society has been received throughout the State. It is believed that with the experience of the past year the work of game protection can be much extended and the effectiveness of the warden system much increased the coming year.

We wish to thank the members of the Society and many people of the State who have aided the Committee in so many ways in the discharge of its duties.

### MEMBERSHIP.

During the past year the Secretary has given much time and attention to the subject of increasing the membership of the Audubon Society. This the Executive Committee has regarded as very important as it is desirable to enlist the services and interest of as many people in North Carolina as possible who are interested in bird and game protection, and in addition to this the membership fees have been of immense importance as a source of revenue.

The Society has four kinds of membership. First, life mem-

bers. Any one can become a life member by the payment of ten dollars into the treasury at one time. Second, sustaining members, who pay five dollars annually. Third, regular members, initiation fee for which is twenty-five cents with the same amount for annual dues. Fourth, junior members, persons under fifteen years of age who pay ten cents annually. At the present time the Society enrolls a membership of 1,218 of which thirty-one are life members, 341 are sustaining members, 380 are regular members, and 466 are junior members.

## LIFE MEMBERS.

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