

Other articles are 'A Study of the Solitary Vireo,' by Cornelius Weygandt (pp. 10-15); 'Summer Birds of Western Pike County, Pennsylvania,' by Richard C. Harlow (pp. 16-25); 'The Concordville Robin and Grackle Roost,' by Samuel C. Palmer (pp. 26-29); 'A June Trip to Pocono Lake, Monroe County, Pennsylvania,' by John D. Carter (pp. 30-34); 'Winter Bird Life in the Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania,' by William L. Baily (pp. 35-39); 'Report of the Spring Migration of 1906,' compiled by Witmer Stone (pp. 40, 57), arranged in tabular form, and followed by several pages of notes on species not included in the tabular matter. An 'Abstract of Proceedings' (pp. 58-64), a bibliography, 'Bird Club Notes,' and list of officers and members complete this very interesting number. The Club held sixteen meetings during the year, with an average attendance of twenty-four, and a maximum attendance of forty. Few ornithological clubs, if any, in this country can present an equal record of activity and sustained interest in its chosen field as is here reported in 'Cassinia.'—J. A. A.

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### NOTES AND NEWS.

AUGUST KOCH, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died suddenly at Mohawk, Florida, Feb. 15, 1907, where he was spending the winter. Mr. Koch was born in Stuttgart, Germany, in 1837, and came to this country with his parents in 1850. His home was at Williamsport, Pa., where he had resided for many years. "As a boy," says 'Forest and Stream' (of March 8, 1907, p. 336), "he was very fond of natural history, and before leaving Stuttgart he had taken lessons in taxidermy from the curator of the Stuttgart Museum. He was an ardent collector of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and insects up to the time of his death, and was in correspondence with biologists in various parts of America and Europe. A close student of nature, combining manual dexterity with an artistic temperament, the natural history specimens which he mounted were life-like to a degree seldom seen in public collections. He leaves probably the largest, and certainly the finest collection of its kind in Pennsylvania.

"Mr. Koch was an ardent sportsman, a splendid wing shot and a man who had worked out his own code of ethics long before game laws were regarded as of much importance or enforced at all. . . . On the morning of Feb. 15 he was apparently in excellent health, and during the forenoon took a stroll through the woods with his gun. At noon he returned, put away his gun and started to walk across the yard when he was stricken

with cerebral hemorrhage and died instantly. Mr. Koch will be mourned by a wide circle of friends."

Many specimens of rare birds collected by him have found their way to various museums, private and public. He appears to have published little, but it is worth while to call attention to his note, (*Auk*, XVI, 1889, p. 277) on the capture of the Black Seaside Finch (*Ammodramus nigrescens*) near Indianola, Florida, in 1899,—its second record since its original discovery by Mr. Maynard in 1872.

WE REGRET to record that 'The Warbler,' edited and published by Mr. J. L. Childs, Floral Park, N. Y., has been discontinued at the end of the second volume, owing to lack of subscriptions. It contained original matter of scientific value, and was worthy of a better fate. The closing number contains a plate of the nest and eggs of the Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Caligena clemenciae*), and a catalogue (pp. 66-106) of Mr. Childs's ornithological collection, giving all of the species and subspecies of the A. O. U. Check-List, nearly all of which are represented by mounted specimens or by sets of eggs and often by nests. The number and character of the specimens and place and date of collection are indicated by numerals and abbreviations. The rarest species as well as the commoner ones are well represented. The number unrepresented is surprisingly few, showing it to be one of the most complete private collections of mounted North American birds, with their nests and eggs, extant.

ANOTHER popular bird magazine, 'American Ornithology,' published by Charles K. Reed, Worcester, Mass., has also, we regret to say, been forced to suspend publication through insufficient support. Its six volumes are notable for the many excellent half-tone illustrations from nature of birds and their nests and eggs, for its many effective colored plates of North American birds, and much original matter of permanent value.

PROVISION has been made for a Section of Ornithology at the Seventh International Zoological Congress, to be held at Boston, August 19 to 25 of the present year. Efforts are being made to induce as many foreign ornithologists as possible to attend the Congress, and it is to be hoped that a large representation of the A. O. U. will be present at the meeting. At this date it is impossible to present any detailed program, but an address will be delivered by a prominent visiting ornithologist, and numerous papers will be presented. All fellows and members of the American Ornithologists' Union are earnestly requested to aid in making the meetings of the Ornithological Section a success, both by their attendance and by presenting papers. Requests for information regarding participation in the Congress, fees, etc., should be addressed to Prof. G. H. Parker, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Cambridge, Mass.; while details of the Ornithological program may be obtained from Mr. Witmer Stone,

Organization Secretary of the Ornithological Section, Academy of Natural Sciences, Logan Square, Philadelphia.

'THE CONDOR' (IX, p. 29) reports that the California Academy of Science's expedition to the Galapagos Archipelago, which left San Francisco June 23, 1905, returned December 1, 1906, after an absence of seventeen months. The leader of the expedition, Mr. R. H. Beck, regards the collections obtained as by far the most extensive ever made at these much-explored islands. Nearly every branch of natural history is represented, and we await with interest the results of the elaboration of this extensive material by specialists.

THE sixth annual session of the Australian Ornithologists' Union was held at Hobart, Tasmania, Nov. 22 and 23, 1906, after which a visit was made to Launceston, from which point excursions were made and field work conducted during the following eight days. It was voted to hold the next annual meeting in New South Wales. The presidential address, by Colonel C. S. Ryan, had for its subject 'The Protection of Native Birds,' and is given in full in 'The Emu' for January, 1907. It contains a review of legislation in America for bird protections, and concludes with various suggestions for better protection of birds in Australia, and especially urges the introduction of bird study in schools, he believing that "to educate people to love birds is better for their protection than many acts of legislation." He advocates a gun tax, a license fee for collectors, and a small bird for farmers and fruit growers, and others who are practically benefitted by birds, and a heavy tax on game vendors and on all who trade in wild birds or their feathers; these tax returns to be used for the payment of 'rangers' or wardens for the protection of State reserves.