

Mr. Bliss has tabulated and arranged much of these data and combined them into a harmonious whole.

Under summer resident species, are given a general statement of the character of occurrence and abundance; the earliest and latest record for several localities; character and location of the nest; number of eggs and average date; other nesting dates and notes on abnormal plumages, unusual occurrences, etc. Under transients are given the earliest and latest dates for both spring and fall migration, while all records are given for species which are rare or irregular. For the sake of brevity the most frequent authorities quoted for records are indicated by their initials or their last name alone, and a list of full names and initials is given at the end. This plan appeals to us as the best we have seen for bringing into convenient shape a vast amount of records. This part of the work is intended primarily for the ornithologist or student who desires to obtain facts or figures on the occurrence of any given species in Connecticut and very fittingly it is followed by a good bibliography. For the farmer, or student of live wild birds there is provided an admirable treatise on Economic Ornithology prepared entirely by Dr. Bishop and based upon his own observations and the best reports of government and state economic ornithologists. The idea of separating these two subjects as distinct parts of the report is novel and there is much to be said in its favor. The nomenclature and classification follow the A. O. U. Check-List.

The report is by no means only a list of the birds of Connecticut. Ornithologists interested in almost any special line of research will find in it matter of importance, well worth seeking for — historical accounts of the Wild Pigeon, and the early abundance of the Red-headed Woodpecker, valuable data on the parasitism of the Cowbird, as well as cases of Cuckoos' eggs in nests of other species and Barred Owl's eggs in nests of the Red-shouldered Hawk! The autumnal flights of Flickers and the former excessive shooting of these birds by gunners are described while albinos and abnormal plumages or eggs are noted under many species.

The report is in all respects a thoroughly up to date and well prepared state list and a contribution to ornithological literature of which the authors may well feel proud.— W. S.

Tyler on Some Birds of the Fresno District California.¹— In this, the ninth publication of the Cooper Ornithological Club in the series known as 'Pacific Coast Avifauna', Mr. Tyler presents an account of the present day conditions of bird life in the vicinity of Fresno in the San Joaquin Valley.

So rapidly has this region been settled and conditions changed that a paper such as the one before us is most welcome, especially to those far re-

¹ Some birds of the Fresno District, California, By John G. Tyler. Cooper Ornithological Club, Pacific Coast Avifauna Number 9, Hollywood, California, Published by the Club, October 1, 1913. Roy. 8vo. pp. 1-114.

moved from California who are not acquainted with the changing conditions; while so diversified is the wild life in different parts of this great state that local ornithological reports such as this are perhaps equally welcome to the resident bird students.

Mr. Tyler does not attempt a summary of previously published papers dealing with the birds of the Fresno region, but presents simply the results of his personal experience of more than ten years, with quotations from friends upon whose observations he can place reliance. One hundred and sixty-one species are included, while fifty others previously reported as occurring were omitted because the records could not be satisfactorily proven. The paper is far from the all too frequent dry, annotated list. Besides a statement on the relative abundance and the general character of occurrence of each species, there are extended observations on their habits, food and nests which make entertaining reading and form a valuable contribution to the life histories of California birds.

It is sad to read of the rapid decrease in the water birds that formerly thronged the valley and unfortunately the immediate cause is one that neither the Audubon Societies nor legislation can check. "The large grain and stock ranches" says the author, "are being subdivided, reclamation work is steadily reducing the swamp-covered areas, vineyards and orchards are springing up everywhere with a consequent great increase in population. Even the tule ponds that remain are often unsuitable for a nesting place on account of the custom of using them as foraging grounds for bands of hogs." A careful perusal of Mr. Tyler's interesting pages however shows that there is still an abundance of bird-life to interest the ornithologist in the vicinity of Fresno and with the energetic campaign now being waged on behalf of the wild life of California let us hope that some of the species now most seriously threatened may still be preserved.— W. S.

Grinnell and Swarth on the Birds and Mammals of the San Jacinto Area of Southern California.¹— This important report is based mainly upon field work conducted by the Museum of Vertebrate Zoölogy of the University of California in the year 1908, which resulted in the accession of 1099 mammals, 1533 birds and 437 reptiles. The authors describe in detail the various localities where collections were made, and discuss the life zones and faunas; annotated lists of 169 birds and 63 mammals are then presented while the paper ends with considerations of, (1) the "Boreal Fauna of San Jacinto Peak compared with that of Other Mountains of Southern California;" and (2) the "Sonoran Biota of the San Diegan District Compared with that of the Adjacent Desert."

¹ An Account of the Birds and Mammals of the San Jacinto Area of Southern California, with Remarks upon the Behavior of Geographic Races on the Margins of their Habitats. By J. Grinnell and H. S. Swarth. University of California, Publications in Zoology, Vol. 10, No. 10, pp. 197-406, pls. 6-10, 3 text figs. Oct. 31, 1913.