

The supplementary expedition which will shortly be in the field is expected to gather much additional information on the birds of this region for incorporation in the final report of the Roosevelt Expedition.— W. S.

Todd on New Neotropical Birds.¹— In two recent papers Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd describes twenty-two new forms of neotropical birds. Eleven of these are from Colombia, seven from Bolivia, two from Argentina and one each from Venezuela and the Isle of Pines. The descriptions are very brief, but where size is used as a differential character measurements of the type specimens are always given.— W. S.

Forbush on The Domestic Cat.²— In 'Notes and News' of 'The Auk,' 1914, p. 145, attention was called to the seriousness of the cat problem and in the two years that have elapsed since then the destruction of wild birds, especially nestlings, by stray cats and uncontrolled pets has brought the question squarely before thousands of bird students, who have so carefully watched and protected broods of young in the nest, only to see them fall prey to the neighbor's pet cat. Mr. Forbush's timely 'bulletin' covers all phases of this subject—the history and characteristics of the cat; numbers of cats, food of cats, economic value and means of controlling the cat.

His evidence seems to show pretty conclusively that traps are a far better check on rats and mice than cats are. This reduces the excuses for keeping cats to the desire for a pet or companion, and for such purposes the public should compel the cat owners to have their pets licensed and kept strictly on their own property. This is insisted on in the case of dogs and the sooner it is done with cats the better. The constantly increasing army of bird lovers who will not tolerate roving cats will find a mine of information in Mr. Forbush's report which can be spread broadcast with profit.— W. S.

The Official List of Generic Names.³— Systematic Zoölogists will welcome any action that makes for uniformity and stability in nomenclature, and consequently will heartily endorse the attempt of the International Commission to establish an "official" list of genera. The plan is to invite advisory committees in various branches of zoölogy to submit lists of generic names which they agree are valid under the Code and which

¹ Preliminary Diagnoses of Apparently New South American Birds. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. XXVIII, pp. 79–82. April 13, 1915.

Preliminary Diagnoses of Seven Apparently New Neotropical Birds. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. XXVIII, pp. 169–170. November 29, 1915.

² The Domestic Cat. Bird Killer, Mouser and Destroyer of Wild Life. Means of Utilizing and Controlling It. By Edward Howe Forbush, State Ornithologist. Economic Biology — Bulletin No. 2. Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture, pp. 1–112. 1916.

³ Opinions Rendered by the International Commission on Zoölogical Nomenclature. Opinion 67. One Hundred and Two Birds Names Placed in the Official List of Generic Names. Smithson. Inst. Publ. 2409, pp. 177–182. April, 1916.