

covering the development of the Jacana and Ani and elaborate studies of the development of the several parts of the bird's wing, from embryo to adult, in a number of species. There is also a study of a Grey-breasted Martin colony which occupied a box near the laboratory.

One must read the book to appreciate the amount of interesting and suggestive data that it contains. With such results in the first season we may confidently look for greater success in the future, and with the experience gained in 1916 Mr. Beebe should be able to plan definitely for the solution of certain problems when he makes his next visit to "Kalakoon House." The science of zoölogy and ornithology in particular is deeply indebted to the six members of the New York Zoölogical Society whose liberality made the establishment of this station possible, while hearty congratulations are due Mr. Beebe and his staff upon the manner in which they have availed themselves of the opportunities that were offered them.— W. S.

Catalogue of the Childs Library.¹—In this handsomely printed volume Mr. John Lewis Childs presents a catalogue of his well known library. Nearly one third is devoted to ornithological works, following which are the parts relating to various other branches of natural history. Mr. Childs' series of large illustrated folios is very complete, including the Shattuck copy of Audubon's 'Birds of America,' Elliot's monographs, Gould's 'Hummingbirds', etc. We notice one unique volume of especial interest, a series of original water colors of the commoner birds of Floral Park, by Alan Brooks and one additional plate depicting their eggs. A large number of separata are listed in the bound volumes of 'Ornithology'. The catalogue will be of especial interest to bibliographers and to those who wish to ascertain the extent of their own desiderata.— W. S.

Preliminary List of the Birds of Tennessee.²—This little pamphlet consists of a list of 270 species with a very brief mention of the character of their occurrence in west, middle and east Tennessee, in three parallel columns. According to the 'fore word' it is compiled to serve as a working basis for the collecting of data from which the Tennessee Ornithological Society expects, in due time, to prepare an authoritative list of the birds of the state. Only English names are used but these follow the nomenclature and order of the A. O. U. 'Check-List'. The list seems well calculated to serve its purpose and presumably the compiler has consulted most of the meagre literature dealing with the birds of Tennessee, but as he states that "the published material consists of a few local lists covering

¹ Catalogue of the North American Natural History Library of John Lewis Childs, Floral Park, New York. Published by John Lewis Childs, Floral Park, New York. 1917. Small 4to, pp. 1-150.

² Preliminary List of the Birds of Tennessee. Compiled by the Tennessee Ornithological Society. 1917. Issued by the Department of Fish and Game, W. D. Howser, State Warden. Nashville, Tenn. 8vo, pp. 1-28.

chiefly the mountainous section," lists covering neighboring States and publications of the U. S. Biological Survey, we cannot help but wonder whether he is familiar with the most important of all the Tennessee lists, that of Saml. N. Rhoads, published in the 'Proceedings of the Philadelphia Academy' for 1895, which furnishes data on no less than 215 species. There is also an interesting paper on Tennessee birds by Bradford Torrey in the 'Atlantic Monthly' for February, 1896.—W. S.

✓ **Birds of Carthage, Illinois.**¹—Carthage College has published a list of the birds of Hancock County, Ill., compiled by the members of the bird class under the direction of Prof. F. C. Gates. 155 species are listed with the dates on which they were seen. Appended is a list of specimens in the college museum.—W. S.

✓ **Swarth and Bryant on the White-fronted Geese of California.**²—The writers of this interesting contribution to our knowledge of the American geese were led to make an investigation of the White-fronted Geese of California by the statements of Mr. Geo. Neale and Judge F. W. Henshaw, to the effect that there were two forms of these birds, a large one and a small one. Subsequently specimens were presented by the same gentlemen to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoölogy at Berkeley, Cal., which fully substantiated their claim. A thorough examination of a large number of birds, as well as the literature of the subject, has led the authors to the following conclusions. The existence of two perfectly distinct races of White-fronted Geese in North America has been overlooked by all writers on the subject and the discrepancy in the size of certain individuals has caused doubt as to the validity of the race *gambeli* as distinct from *albifrons* of the Old World. As a matter of fact the former was based on the large American bird while the smaller form, which seems to be by far the commoner is nothing more than the true *albifrons* hitherto supposed to be restricted to the Old World except as a doubtful straggler to Greenland. The authors have done a good piece of work and the only fault that we have to find with their paper is the rather careless use of the word "species" when they mean subspecies. The term "form" seems to be the only word available where we are forced to discuss both species and subspecies at the same time. Possibly this ambiguity may have had something to do with the apparent perplexity of a reviewer in a recent issue of 'The Oölogist' who charges the authors with describing a new subspecies, a "crime" which they studiously avoided.—W. S.

¹ Bird Number. Carthage College Bulletin. Vol. III, No. 11. April, 1917. pp. 8.

² A Study of the Races of the White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) Occurring in California. By H. S. Swarth and Harold C. Bryant. Univ. of Cal. Publications in Zoölogy. Vol. 17, No. 11, pp. 209-222. October 19, 1917.