

'Check-List,' with the several local vernacular names and brief comments on the time of occurrence, relative abundance, habits and more important color marks. No less than 368 species and subspecies are listed in this pamphlet, an increase of forty-five over the list of Messrs. Beyer, Allison and Kopman, published in 'The Auk' (Vols. XXIII, XXIV and XXXII).

An introduction of eight pages considers the history of Louisiana bird life, migration and other general topics, while a number of small maps and half-tone text figures illustrate this interesting and welcome publication.—W. S.

**Murphy on the Natural History of the Mexican Portion of the Colorado Desert.**<sup>1</sup>—Mr. Murphy made two trips into this interesting region in March 1915, for the purpose of securing specimens of the Lower Californian Pronghorn and other desert animals for the museum of the Brooklyn Institute. In the present paper he presents some general information about the region, an exceedingly interesting and well illustrated narrative of his trips and an annotated list of the birds, as well as some account of the Pronghorn.

The list of birds comprises 134 species and includes besides those observed by Mr. Murphy, a number of others which were secured or observed by Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads on a trip through this country in 1905 (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1905, pp. 679-690). Mr. Murphy's excellent paper forms a valuable supplement to Dr. Grinnell's recent report on the fauna of the Lower Colorado Valley, farther north.—W. S.

**Batchelder on New Birds from Newfoundland.**<sup>2</sup>—An examination of a considerable series of Ovenbirds and Yellow Warblers taken during the breeding season in Newfoundland, has convinced Mr. Batchelder that they are separable subspecifically from individuals from the rest of eastern North America, and he therefore proposes for them the names, *Seiurus aurocapillus furvior* (p. 81) and *Dendroica aestiva amnicola* (p. 82) respectively. In a general way these new forms are darker in coloration than the 'typical' races.

The establishment of very slightly differentiated geographical races in the east will soon bring us face with some of the problems that have troubled our friends in California and other parts of the west, in the matter of sight identifications. The advent of a "Brown-headed Chickadee" in the eastern states a year ago, which could not be subspecifically identified without collecting the specimen, caused great speculation as to how observations on the bird should be recorded and as these Newfoundland Oven-

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<sup>1</sup>Natural History Observations from the Mexican Portion of the Colorado Desert. By Robert Cushman Murphy. Abstract Proc. Linnæan Soc. of New York, Nos. 24-25, 1917, pp. 43-101, plates I-VI.

<sup>2</sup>Two Undescribed Newfoundland Birds. By Charles Foster Batchelder. Proc. New England Zool. Club, VI, pp. 81-82. February 6, 1918.