

species. The illustrations consist of photographs of specimens and groups in the Colorado Museum of Natural History. A good plan for showing the actual and relative size of the species consists of a photograph of a series of skins, one of each species, arranged side by side on a sheet of paper ruled with horizontal lines one inch apart. The pamphlet is well printed and forms an attractive and useful publication.— W. S.

Cassinia for 1917.¹— The Delaware Valley Club's annual publication appears as usual in April covering the proceedings of the year 1917. The leading article is a biographical sketch of Samuel Wright, one of the active members of the Club who died early in the year, by Witmer Stone, with portrait. Then follows an admirable review of the summer bird-life of Pocono Lake, Pa., by John D. Carter; one of those boreal 'islets' in the mountainous part of the state which for many years past has been a favorite resort for several members of the Club. The nest of the Golden-crowned Kinglet found by Mr. Carter in 1916 was one of the latest discoveries, the first actual nesting record of this species for the state. Samuel Scoville, Jr., writes of the influx of Evening Grosbeaks which marked the winter of 1916-1917 and brought this species within the Philadelphia district for the first time. The usual migration report based upon the schedules of fifty-one observers, and the abstract of proceedings complete the number.

The average attendance at the sixteen meetings held during the year was twenty-one, notwithstanding the fact that twenty-two of the members are in the national service.— W. S.

Bangs and Penard on a Collection of Surinam Birds.²— This paper is based on a collection of 2000 skins representing 301 species which was made for the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy under the direction of Mr. A. P. Penard, of Paramaribo, the greater part of the specimens being obtained in the immediate vicinity of the city.

There is a brief introduction in which the physical features of Surinam are described, the country being divided into three parallel zones, the alluvial lowlands, the savanna lands and the highlands stretching back to the Tumuchumac Mountains of Brazil. Much of the last area is unexplored and according to the authors the extreme difficulties to be overcome make it unlikely that any extensive work will be done there for some time to come.

Under many of the species there is a mere mention of the specimens contained in the collection while under others there is considerable dis-

¹ Cassinia: A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia. 1917 (issued April, 1918). pp. 1-74. Price 50 cents. Address care of The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.

² Notes on a Collection of Surinam Birds. By Outram Bangs and Thomas E. Penard. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Vol. LXII, No. 2. April, 1918. pp. 25-93.

cussion of relationships and nomenclature, and incidentally comment is made upon various species from other parts of South and Central America. Five new forms are described from Surinam and thirteen from other places — Panama, Mexico, St. Vincent, Trinidad, etc., while two new genera are erected; *Helicolestes* for *Falco hamatus*, and *Hypocnemoides* for *Hypocnemis melanopogon*. Thirteen names not in current use have been revived and recognized.

The paper is a valuable contribution to the ornithology of a region upon which comparatively little has been written in late years.— W. S.

Riley on a New Bullfinch from China.¹— A single specimen of a Bullfinch from Peking recently presented by Mr. Geo. D. Wilder to the U. S. National Museum proves to belong to an undescribed race allied to *Pyrrhula erythraca* from Sikhim but widely separated geographically. Mr. Riley names it in honor of its discoverer, *P. e. wilderi*.— W. S.

McGregor on New or Noteworthy Philippine Birds.²— This contribution consists of notes on twenty-two species of birds Philippine, including an additional record of the Monkey-eating Eagle, *Pithechophaga jeffreyi*, an account of a living specimen of *Leucotreron merrilli* with a colored plate. For this species the new subgeneric name *Neoleucotreron*, (p. 2) is proposed. The other notes deal mainly with terns, shore-birds and swifts.— W. S.

Gabrielson on the Birds of Clay and O'Brien Counties, Iowa.³— This list of 136 species is the result of a number of field trips during several years prior to 1912. It is not presented with any idea of its being complete but mainly because conditions in the last few years have so altered the region that any record becomes of great interest. Extensive draining, the author tells us has destroyed almost all the swamps and ponds, and he goes on to say: "Where in 1909 and 1910 cat tails and other aquatic vegetation, teeming with bird life, flourished, solid fields of corn now stand and the birds have vanished." Unfortunately this is not the only spot where such changes are going on and he who saves for posterity some record of the original faunal conditions deserves the highest commendation.— W. S.

Recent Papers on Bird Preservation.— The Annual Report of the State Ornithologist of Massachusetts⁴ is as usual full of interesting matter to the conservationist. We learn with regret of the depletion of the Heath

¹ A New Bullfinch from China. By J. H. Riley. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., Vol. 31, pp. 33-34. May 16, 1918.

² New or Noteworthy Philippine Birds, II. By Richard C. McGregor. Philippine Jour. of Science, D. Vol. XIII, No. 1, pp. 1-19. January, 1891.

³ A List of the Birds of Clay and O'Brien Counties, Iowa. By Ira N. Gabrielson. Proc. Iowa Acad. of Sciences, Vol. XXIV, 1917. pp. 259-272.

⁴ Tenth Annual Report of the State Ornithologist of Massachusetts. By E. H. Forbush. pp. 1-27. 1918.