

of crops and as carriers of cattle disease is emphasized, as well as the importance of conserving the Buteonine hawks as a natural check upon them when their chief enemy the Coyote disappears. The plea that has recently been advanced in Pennsylvania in defense of removing protection from these birds — i. e. that the farmer cannot distinguish one hawk from another and therefore does not know when he can kill a hawk, if some are protected and others not, is disposed of in the following words: "With so much at stake a farmer or sportsman is no more justified in advancing ignorance as an excuse than he is in proclaiming his inability to distinguish between crops and weeds . . . discrimination is a part of his business and as such should be studied." Eight colored figures of hawks from clever paintings mainly by F. C. Hennessey illustrate the paper.— W. S.

'Aves' in the Zoological Record.¹— Mr. W. L. Scater has again ably catalogued the ornithological literature of the world, for the year 1916. Titles to the number of 942 are listed and systematically catalogued, an increase of eight over 1915. We notice that the German ornithological journals were accessible in England for at least a part of 1916, while none have reached 'The Auk' or any of the American libraries, so far as we are aware, since the issues for July or August, 1915! Evidently the British ornithologists are not inclined to adopt Lord Walsingham's suggestion (cf. *Nature*, Sept. 5, 1918) that for the next twenty years at least scientific men shall by common consent ignore all papers published in the German language. Dr. W. J. Holland's reply to Lord Walsingham's proposition (*Science*, Nov. 8, 1918) should be read by all interested in this matter, and we think all fair-minded persons will agree with him that there are plenty of ways to secure justice against the Germans without disrupting the whole underlying framework of scientific nomenclature, which we have been at such pains to build up. Such arbitrary action is, as he says, only an attempt "to beat the Prussians by Prussianizing ourselves." We are therefore very glad to find the last installment of 'Aves' as complete as its predecessors with the contributions from the central powers included, no matter how strictly we may hold them accountable for the crimes of the war. The value of Mr. Scater's compilation to the working ornithologist we have emphasized on a former occasion and we can only endorse what was said then and again commend the Zoölogical Society for maintaining this record for us during the strenuous years that have just passed.— W. S.

Proceedings of the Linnæan Society of New York.²— Besides the usual numerous notes dealing mainly with the vicinity of New York City

¹ *Zoölogical Record*, Vol. LIII, 1916. *Aves*. By W. L. Scater, M. A., pp. 1-72. August, 1918. Printed for the Zoölogical Society of London, sold at their House in Regent's Park, London, N. W. Price six shillings.

² Abstract of the Proceedings of the Linnæan Society of New York for the year ending March 12, 1918, No. 30, 1917-1918. Issued September 18, 1918, pp. 1-38, one plate.

there are two special papers. The first, by John Treadwell Nichols, is entitled, 'Bird Notes from Florida' and comprises notes on twenty-six species observed while cruising between Miami and Sanibel Light, from March 28 to April 21, 1917. Besides Mr. Nichols' records of birds seen, there is a discussion of the spring migration including a record kept by Dr. and Mrs. G. Clyde Fisher at De Funiack Springs, northwest Florida, in the spring of 1909, and some observations on the habits of the Brown Pelican by Dr. Russell Coles.

The second paper is by Mr. Jay A. Weber on 'Bird Temperatures,' which includes records for one to three individuals, of sixty-five species of eastern North American birds. For Passerine species, which make up the bulk of the records, the temperatures ranges from 106.4 to 111.2. Mr. Weber declines to attempt to draw any deductions from his records, as he does not regard them as sufficiently complete. He also raises a possible question of accuracy in such records, since the live bird is in such a state of excitement at the time of taking the record that the temperature may, for that reason, be above the normal, while in the case of a recently killed bird the shock may have the same effect. The list is a valuable contribution to a somewhat neglected subject.—W. S.

Annual Report of the National Association of Audubon Societies.

—In these war years when many institutions and societies have been hard pressed to keep from a temporary cessation of their activities the National Association of Audubon Societies has been able to continue without any reduction in the scope or extent of its activities, which is greatly to the credit of the officers in charge of its work. Realizing at the outset the important part that bird protection could play, as a guard against crop destruction by noxious insects, the Society made its appeal to the public on these lines and met with immediate response. In the days of food conservation the practical value of the Society's work has appealed to the people as never before.

The need of constant watching of the actions of the State Legislatures in relation to bird protection has been specially illustrated during the past year. The Gulls breeding on the Maine coast islands were assailed as being detrimental to sheep grazing, and the Brown Pelican in the Gulf States was branded as a destroyer of fishes needed for food, while efforts were made to wrest from the Government title to the Klamath and Malheur Bird Reservations in order to convert them into ranching country. The Society has been instrumental in demonstrating that the Gulls were beneficial to the sheep grazers, and that the Pelicans fed almost entirely on species not used for food, and one of the agents is now working to secure legislation in Oregon to ensure the permanent preservation of the bird reservations. In spite of all the published scientific data, laws are con-

¹ 'Bird-Lore' November-December, 1918, pp. 453-560.