

and should be of much interest to other bird students of the district, while it will also furnish a convenient comparative record for those interested in the general study of bird migration.—W. S.

Nomenclature of the Birds of Bavaria.—In 1916 appeared a list of the birds of Bavaria¹ by C. E. Hellmayr and A. Laubmann, published under the authority of the Ornithological Society of Bavaria. It comprises the list proper of 326 species and subspecies and a hypothetical list of 14 additional forms, together with a list of the genera with the type species and the method of their determination.

In the list the species are arranged systematically under the families with a reference to the original place of publication and the type locality. It is interesting in connection with our efforts toward uniformity in nomenclature to compare this list with that of British birds prepared in 1912 by Dr. Hartert and others (for comparison of this with the A. O. U. List and with the subsequent List of British Birds by the B. O. U. Committee. See 'The Auk' 1912, p. 407). We find that there appear to be only thirty cases where the lists differ either in generic or specific names and half of these are due to the lumping of genera in the British 'List' which are usually regarded as distinct, other differences are due to the unfortunate obscurity of the International Code as to whether one name precludes the use of another if it is spelled in a slightly different manner, i. e. the "one letter rule".

The general concordance of the two lists is certainly very encouraging and it would seem that a nomenclature could soon be drawn up for Europe and North America with a few concessions on either side, that would be universally acceptable.

One point in the Hellmayr-Laubmann List upon which the opinion of the present reviewer is referred to deserves further consideration, namely the fixing of the type of the genus *Colymbus* Linn. by Gray in 1855. In my remarks (Auk, 1913, p. 458) I did not realize that the edition of Linnaeus to which he referred was prior to the starting point of zoological nomenclature and we have no right to interpret "Linnaeus 1735" as "Linnaeus 1758." I am therefore of opinion that no type was legitimately selected for the genus until Baird, Brewer and Ridgway cited *C. cristatus* in the second volume of the 'Water Birds of North America' p. 425 in 1884. This reference is given by Hellmayr and Laubmann and is perfectly correct antedating the action of the A. O. U. Committee in 1886 which is given as the first selection of type in the A. O. U. 'Check-List.' The name *Colymbus* must therefore remain for the Grebes.—W. S.

¹ Nomenclator der Vogel Bayerns. von C. E. Hellmayr und A. Laubmann. Im Auftrage der Ornithologischen Gesellschaft in Bayern herausgegeben von C. E. Hellmayr. Munchen May 30, 1916. pp. 1-68. [In German.]