

**Inner Primaries of Woodpeckers.**

Editor of 'THE AUK:'

In my recent article on the "Inner Primaries of Nestling Woodpeckers," I stated (*Auk*, 1921, p. 532) that so far as I was informed no writer had yet remarked upon their peculiarities. As so often happens, I was not aware of a note published in the *Journal für Ornithologie*, 1916, pp. 155-156, by Dr. A. Heinroth, wherein the conditions in the young of *Jynx torquilla*, *Dryobates minor*, and *Dryocopus martius* are fully and accurately described. My attention has just been called to this previous publication by Dr. E. Stresemann.

As might be gathered from the opening sentence of my article, I still claim priority for my investigations, since they were begun in the Belgian Congo in 1911, and taken up again in the United States in 1915. But had I read Dr. Heinroth's excellent account of his discovery, I should not have failed to give him full credit.

It is of special interest to note that the young Wryneck resembles the Woodpeckers. With regard to the Indicatoridae, I have recently ascertained that in at least two species (*Indicator conirostris* and *Melichneutes robustus*) there is no reduction of the inner primaries in nestlings.

Very sincerely yours,

JAMES P. CHAPIN.

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**NOTES AND NEWS.**

THOMAS HOOPES JACKSON, an Associate of the Union since 1888, died at his home in West Chester, Pa., on February 27, 1922. He was born just north of the borough of West Chester on October 29, 1848, the son of Halliday and Caroline Hoopes Jackson, and one of a family of six children. He spent his entire life in West Chester, being connected with the West Chester Wheel Works, which he entered as a young man. He married in 1887, Miss Ella A. Scarlett, and had one son T. Harold Jackson, of Trenton, N. J. He was a member of the Society of Friends and took an active interest in the North High Street Meeting in West Chester.

From early youth Mr. Jackson was interested in nature and especially in birds, an interest doubtless derived from the practice of the Friends of cultivating the natural sciences, and also from the works and traditions of the many early ornithologists who lived in or near West Chester—Dr. Michener, Vincent Barnard, Josiah Hoopes, etc. Mr. Jackson's specialty was the collecting of eggs and he was known by correspondence to oölogists in every part of the country. His collection was an exceptionally fine one, as he endeavored to make it representative and instructive without

unnecessary duplication. Mere wealth of numbers meant nothing to him. He was however by no means only a collector of eggs but a local ornithologist of the highest attainments, and a bird photographer of ability. No one knew the birds of the vicinity of West Chester better than he, and he was always ready to place his knowledge at the disposal of any one who might be in a position to use it. His modesty and generosity indeed kept him from attaining the reputation to which his knowledge of birds entitled him.

His first paper was an account of the nesting of the Worm-eating Warbler published in the 'American Naturalist' for December 1869, the first accurate account of the nidification of this species. Dr. Brewer republished the note in the 'History of North American Birds' with additional information, obtained, he says, from "the same observing ornithologist."

Later papers were published in 'The Ornithologist and Oölogist,' 'The Oölogist,' 'Cassinia,' 'The Auk,' 'Bird-Lore,' etc. Unfortunately these were not as numerous as they might have been had he not always hesitated to publish for fear what he had to say might not be worth while.

Mr. Jackson was deeply interested in bird protection, not only in better legislation in his own State, but also in establishing reservations on Wallop's Island, Va., and at Orange Lake, Fla.

He was one of the original Corresponding Members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, and often attended the meetings at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia, while he was at the time of his death the president of the West Chester Bird Club, an organization in which he took the deepest interest.

Those who knew him best appreciated his delightful companionship, his strong friendship and his deep love of all nature.—W. S.

THE PLATE in the October 'Auk' representing a flight of the Passenger Pigeons from a painting, from memory, by Mr. Frank Bond, which was exhibited at the Washington meeting of the A. O. U. in 1920, has caused much comment.

A number of members of the Union state that as they remember the flights they were more in the form of long streams and not on a broad front as Mr. Bond remembers them in Iowa. As the matter is of considerable importance we present an extract from a letter from Mr. Wm. B. Mershon with which the comments of our other correspondents agree. He says: "How Pigeons may have flown out in Iowa, where there were no trees, I do not know, but they had no such flight as this picture depicts here in Michigan. They strung out and did not fly in company front. In their migrating flight where large quantities of them were passing, they would frequently fly in two or three layers taking different air strata, so that sometimes there would be as many as three deep, one above the other, separated by thirty or forty feet of air space. There was pretty nearly a steady stream, one flock overlapping the other. Each flock bunched

in a sort of head and then gradually got thinner and strung out into a few birds where it would be overlapped from either above or below or along side by another oncoming bunched-headed flock. When flying to their feeding grounds the flocks were smaller than when they were on migration."

A TOTAL of 66,793 canaries were imported into the United States during the past fiscal year under permits issued by the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture. The number of permits issued during the year authorizing the importation of foreign birds and animals increased more than 20 per cent. or from 453 to 560.

Altogether there were entered into the United States under permit a total of 182,052 birds during the year, the figures including 22,209 quail. In addition there were entered at San Francisco, chiefly as passengers' baggage without requirement of a permit, 875 parrots, 1,740 canaries, and 1,989 miscellaneous birds.

Rare birds imported included two Blue Birds of Paradise, four Count Raggi Birds of Paradise, twenty-one Satin-bower Birds, two New Guinea Mynahs and rare Toucans, Parrots and other species from South America.

AUTHORITY to collect migratory birds for scientific purposes was issued to 886 persons by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture during the past fiscal year. In addition, 160 persons were authorized to possess migratory birds for such purposes, and 48 were authorized to capture migratory water fowl to assist them in breeding wild fowl for domestication. The possession of migratory water fowl for propagation purposes was authorized also by the bureau in 2,139 instances.

Only a small percentage of the persons to whom permits to propagate wild fowl were issued are engaged in breeding the birds for food purposes, many of the birds being held merely for ornamentation or for use as decoys. Permits were issued by the bureau to 150 responsible persons authorizing them to trap, band, and release migratory birds in cooperation with the Government's efforts to obtain scientific data concerning distribution, breeding habits and times and kinds of migratory flight of the birds.

IN MAKING the announcement that the National Association of Audubon Societies had just received a cash contribution of \$200,000.00, T. Gilbert Pearson, President of the Association, states that this is the largest of numerous donations, which through the years have been received from the same source.

This friend began by making modest gifts to the work, and his interest has increased as time has gone by.

It is an interesting and encouraging fact that the best supporters of the National Association of Audubon Societies are those who have had opportunity longest to watch its activities. The present gift was made upon condition that the donor's name should remain anonymous. This

sum will be added to the permanent Endowment Fund now totalling \$675,000, and will enable the Association to enlarge its activities along the lines specified by the giver, which are as follows:—

1. For the education of the general public in the knowledge and value of useful, beautiful and interesting forms of wild life, especially birds.
2. For the actual protection and perpetuation of such forms of wild life on suitable breeding and other reservations.
3. For protecting and maintaining adequate protection for such forms of wild life in all parts of the Western Hemisphere.
4. Or for any one of these purposes.

The Society was already making arrangements to enlarge its bird and game reservation activities, especially in the southern states and to increase its educational work among children.

WE LEARN from 'Science' that the objects of the recently organized New England Bird Banding Association will be the organization of a regional association of bird banders, from an area possessing one or more migration highways, along which trapping stations could be established, and by intensive attack, to furnish fairly speedy answers to certain specific migration problems. This will demonstrate the scientific value of bird banding and furnish a stimulus to continue the work which it is expected will ultimately solve many ornithological riddles, aid in the solution of others and create new problems not now anticipated.

By having the members meet together as often as possible to discuss results, methods and future plans and to gather inspiration from their fellows after the manner of scientific societies generally, the combined knowledge of the Association will be used to advance the work.

An appeal will be made for the support of Audubon Societies all over the country on the ground that bird banding is a bird-protection movement, since to an important extent, it will be possible in the future to substitute an examination of a live bird for the study of a dead one.

The permanence of the movement will be assured so far as possible my means of institutional trapping stations operated by or in connection with Audubon Societies, Natural History Societies, Bird Clubs, Departments of Ornithology or Zoölogy at colleges and universities, Bird Sanctuaries, State and National Parks, etc., in addition to stations operated by individuals.

A convenient local depository of all bird-banding records made by members will be established in appropriate quarters where they may be studied by members of the Association and others, an exact copy being sent to the Biological Survey.

COMPLETE SETS of 'THE AUK.' Since attention has been called to the number of complete sets of 'The Auk' much interest has been aroused in building up sets and in securing volumes needed to fill gaps in imperfect sets in public and private libraries. During the past year several sets have

been on the market, some have changed hands, and in a few cases members have been able to obtain the volumes necessary to fill out their sets. Since the appearance of the last list ('Auk,' April 1921, p. 319), fifteen additional sets have been reported. Four of these are in public libraries, the others in private hands; nine are in the United States and six in foreign countries. These additions bring the total numbers of complete sets now known up to 190 of which only 77 are in public libraries. Recently the owners of 5 sets—J. A. Allen (2), John Lewis Childs, Chas. B. Cory, and W. H. Fox—have died and their sets may or may not be continued. One of the Allen sets is now in the possession of H. L. Ferguson, Greenwich, Conn., and the Childs set has been acquired by Charles J. Werner, New York City. Following are the additional sets reported during the past year:—

California

Scripps Biological Station, La Jolla      Tracy I. Storer, Berkeley  
Donald R. Dickey, Pasadena                      (one number missing)

Maine

H. H. Johnson, Pittsfield

New York

Charles J. Werner, New York City      R. S. Williams, N. Y. Botanical  
Garden

Ohio

S. Prentiss Baldwin, Cleveland

Illinois

Robert Ridgway, Olney.

Oklahoma

J. E. Hallinen, Cooperton (two numbers missing)

Canada

John S. Dexter, Saskatoon, Sask.      J. L. Keays, London, Ont.

France

Jean Delacour, Châtean de Clère, Seine Inferieure

Germany

K. Zool. Museum, Berlin                      Museum Zool. Statts Sammlung,  
Munich

Holland

Royal Museum Natural History, Leiden

T. S. PALMER.

A RECENT decision in the United States District Court for the northern District of Georgia definitely established the fact that Doves are migratory birds according to the Treaty between the United States and Great Britain and that their killing is therefore forbidden.

AT THE Annual General Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union held March 8, 1922, Dr. W. H. Osgood and Mr. W. DeWitt Miller were elected Foreign Members and Major Allan Brooks a Colonial Member.

The Godman-Salvin Medal was awarded to Dr. Wm. Eagle Clarke in recognition of his work on bird migration.

THE Annual Congress of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union was held in Sydney, Australia, October 6-20, 1921. A scheme for several classes of members somewhat like that in force in the A. O. U. was suggested. The present officers were reelected.

THE THIRD volume of Beebe's 'Monograph of the Pheasants' reached us as this issue was going to press and will be reviewed in July. It covers the Cheer, the Koklass Pheasants, the genus *Phasianus*, etc. The treatment is uniform with that of the preceding volumes.

AT THE ANNUAL dinner of the Wilderness Club of Philadelphia on March 25 the members and guests enjoyed the first exhibition in America of the motion pictures of African Wild Animals and birds taken on the expedition of the Crown Prince of Sweden. The exhibition was made possible through the generosity of Mr. Frank A. Tichenor, owner of the films and the enterprise of the President of the Club, Mr. Alfred M. Collins. Among those present were many of the leading big game hunters of America, as well as Dr. E. W. Nelson, President of the American Association of Mammalogists and Dr. Witmer Stone, President of the American Ornithologists' Union. All united in the opinion that these are the most marvellous motion pictures of African animals, yet taken. From the ornithologists' standpoint the flocks of Oxpeckers feeding on the backs of Zebras, Rhinos, Wart-hogs, etc., the melee of Griffon Vultures, Adjutant Storks and Eagles tearing up a dead Zebra, and the flocks of sand grouse were intensely interesting, illustrating the actions of these species, as though the observer was but a few feet away. The closeup views of the giraffes, zebras and a feeding leopard were even more remarkable.