

sixth volume, which will contain the Herons and Rails and their allies. Contributions for this would be welcome at any time. Contributors will receive full credit for whatever material they send in and, if it is material that I can use, their names will be placed on the mailing list to receive the volumes when published.

Those who have seen the earlier volumes can understand what is wanted. Hoping for some generous cooperation I am

Very truly yours,

A. C. BENT,

Taunton, Mass.

NOTES AND NEWS

DR. MAXIMILIAN FÜRBRINGER, Professor of Anatomy at the University of Heidelberg, died at Heidelberg, Germany, March 6, 1920. He was born at Wittenberg, Germany, Jan. 30, 1846 and received his early education at the gymnasium at Gera. From 1865 to 1869 he studied natural history and from 1870 to 1873 pursued a course in medicine at Jena and Berlin. At an early age he devoted his attention to the subject of the anatomy of vertebrates and in 1879 was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Director of the Anatomical Institute at Amsterdam. In 1888 he became Professor of Anatomy at Jena and in 1901 succeeded to the same chair at Heidelberg, a position previously held by his former master Carl Gegenbaur. Here he remained until his death.

As an avian morphologist and student of the evolution of birds, Fürbringer had few peers and possibly no superior. His great work 'Untersuchungen zur Morphologie und Systematik der Vögel,' in two volumes, which appeared at Amsterdam in 1888 contains an outline classification of birds that was characterized by Prof. Alfred Newton as "unquestionably the most remarkable recent contribution to systematic ornithology." In recognition of this work he was elected a Corresponding Member of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1891 and in 1916 was made an Honorary Fellow. Among his other works may be mentioned a summary of existing knowledge of the anatomy of birds contributed to the Reports of the Second International Ornithological Congress in 1891 and a paper of some 150 pages to the 'Jenaische Zeitschrift für Naturwissenschaft' in 1902. These were followed in 1903 by a Biography of Carl Gegenbaur and in 1909 by a new edition of Gegenbaur's 'Anatomy of Man.' Unfortunately these great works in German are not accessible to most English and American ornithologists although brief notices of the 'Untersuchungen' appeared in the 'The Ibis' and in 'Nature' in 1888 and a review of his report to the International Ornithological Congress on avian anatomy was published in 'The Ibis' for 1903, p. 614.

—T. S. P.

HANS CHRISTIAN CORNELIUS MORTENSEN, the pioneer of modern bird banding activities, died at his home in Viborg, Denmark, June 7, 1921, following an apoplectic attack. Although never associated with the American Ornithologists' Union, the name of Herr Mortensen must always be cited when referring to the method of ornithological research that he inaugurated.

He was born at Jonstrup, Denmark, August 27, 1856, receiving his education there and at Copenhagen, where he was also engaged for several years as a teacher. He moved to Viborg in 1888 where he lived for the rest of his life, chiefly engaged with the duties of head master of the Cathedral School. Poor health forced him to retire from scholastic duties in 1919, and the short period of his life that then remained to him, was apparently devoted entirely to the study of birds.

According to his own account,¹ Herr Mortensen first attempted bird banding work in 1890 when he used zinc bands in marking a small number of Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*). This experiment was a failure and it was not until 1899 that he used aluminum bands, which in that year were attached to 165 Starlings. The success of this and his subsequent experiments was so great that bird banding as a method of original research, came rapidly into prominence in almost every European country.²

The work of Herr Mortensen has been continuous and his efforts were directed particularly to investigations of the migrations of Storks, Teals, Pintails, Starlings and some Raptores, principally Buzzards and Goshawks. Published reports of considerable importance, dealing with the first four species named, have appeared from his pen, mostly in the 'Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift.' According to a biographical account by Dr. O. Helms, that appeared in the above mentioned journal for September, 1921, Herr Mortensen's list of bird papers covers seventeen titles, almost all of which are based on information secured from over 6000 birds that were banded by him with the aid of a few assistants.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN.

ROY CHURCH WOODWORTH, an Associate of the Union for the past three years, and a successful man of affairs of Kansas City, Missouri, died suddenly of heart disease at his home on June 29, 1922. He was born in Middlebury, Indiana, September 30, 1877, and moved to Kansas City with his parents when he was ten years old. After passing through the public schools there, he attended the University of Michigan for six years where he graduated from both the academic and law departments and won many collegiate honors.

Unlike most modern business men Mr. Woodworth had a rare appreciation of the elusive harmonies and subtle beauties of nature, and spent

¹ 'Fra Fuglemaerkestationen i Viborg.' Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, 1912, pp. 98-127.

² cf. Auk, 1921, pp. 217-228. 'The History and Purposes of Bird Banding.' By Frederick C. Lincoln.

much of his spare time in the open places attending more particularly to bird song. His boundless and irrepressible delight in bird music, and his constant and diligent search for authentic information along this line had enabled him to make rapid progress in the study during the past few years, and had he been spared, would doubtless have led to his specializing in this department to some purpose. He was an enthusiastic member of a small group of intensive bird students all of whom can testify to his wholesome and stimulating traits of character, and to whom, as well as to his hosts of other friends, his death was a serious and irreparable loss.—HARRY HARRIS.

Mr. Howard H. Cleaves formerly curator of the Staten Island Institute of Sciences, later with the N. Y. State Conservation Commission and recently managing director of the Natural History Museum at San Diego, has now become secretary of the Wild Life League at Clarksburg, W. Va.

The A. O. U. is deeply indebted to Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin who has generously financed the publication of the papers by himself, Mr. Talbot and Mr. Lincoln, on various phases of bird banding which have appeared in 'The Auk' during the past few years. To Mr. Chas. L. Whittle we are similarly indebted in connection with the paper on the Arboretum Mockingbird.

As we go to press we are in receipt of the circular of the local committee relative to the Chicago meeting of the A. O. U., October 23-26, 1922. The scientific sessions will be held in the Field Museum of Natural History, where an exhibition of bird paintings and photographs will be arranged to which all are requested to contribute. There will be a field trip to the Indiana Sand Dunes on Friday, October 27, and the usual dinner on Wednesday evening. Headquarters will be at the Auditorium Hotel, Michigan Boulevard and Congress St.

The Committee have evidently planned a most enjoyable program and it remains for the members to make the meeting a notable one. Just as the eastern ornithologists have been responsible for the large attendances at meetings on the Atlantic coast and the Californians at those on the Pacific so the responsibility this year rests on our Members in the Mississippi Valley, everyone of whom should make an earnest effort to be present and take an active part in the program. With the cooperation of those from other districts the meeting should be the most representative that has been held.

