

correct, the blue is not dependant on *surface* structure as can be learned from the article on 'Blue Feathers' in the present issue of 'The Auk'.

In the list of birds which have been exterminated the use of "America" instead of North America or the United States is somewhat misleading as some of the species said to be extinct "in America" are still plentiful in Middle or South America. The term is, as we know, often used synonymously with the United States but not in scientific works or in distributional discussion. In this connection too we might suggest that the Scarlet Ibis said to be "found in the Gulf States; now exterminated in America" had never more than one definite record for North America—three birds seen by Audubon flying overhead in Louisiana. The Roseate Spoonbill, moreover, we hope is not quite extinct, while we notice that the Dickcissel has been exterminated in some states under that name and in others as the Black-throated Bunting, thus figuring twice in the list of species on the road to extinction. These are however, but casual slips in compilation and do not affect the value of Mr. Hartley's excellent volume.—W. S.

**White's 'Check-List of the Birds of New Hampshire.'**<sup>1</sup>—This is another of those convenient little pocket lists for the recording of observations of which quite a number are appearing today. The names, technical and vernacular, are printed on the outer edge of the left-hand page with several narrow blank pages inserted, the paper being wide ruled ledger with each species occupying one line. The total number of species is 292, eight of them being additions to Dr. Glover M. Allen's list, namely: *Gavia pacifica*, *Pelecanus occidentalis*, *Mareca penelope*, *Nyctanassa violacea*, *Numenius borealis*, *Sturnus vulgaris*, *Spiza americana* and *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*, for the inclusion of which references are given. The author very wisely is content with the nomenclature of the A. O. U. 'Check-List' and attempts no innovations; The simplicity of the arrangement should appeal to everyone who uses it, while the good quality of the paper insures permanency to the records. We note with interest the inclusion of the English Sparrow, but at the end of the list instead of in its proper place. The Sparrow as we have always contended is in exactly the same category as the Sterling and if one is included in our daily lists so should the other.—W. S.

**Chisholm's 'Mateship with Birds.'**<sup>2</sup>—Popular bird study is going on apace in Australia even though it may have been later in getting started

<sup>1</sup> Check-List of the Birds of New Hampshire (F. B. White, Concord, N. H., October 1922.) pp. 1-120.

<sup>2</sup> Mateship with Birds. By Alec H. Chisholm, Past President Queensland Gould League of Bird Lovers, Past President Queensland Naturalists' Club, State Hon. Secretary Royal Australian Ornithologists' Union, Co-Editor Queensland Naturalist, etc. With an Introduction C. J. Dennis ("The Sentimental Bloke,") Illustrated with Photographs from Life by the Author and Others. Whitcombe & Tombs Limited. 189 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. [Also London.]

than in the English speaking countries of the Northern Hemisphere, and this well written book is a delightful picture of the great outdoors adapted especially to bird lovers in that far away land.

Americans who delight in the writings of Burroughs or Bradford Torrey will enjoy making the acquaintance of the Australian birds under Mr. Chisholm's guidance. They will however be startled to find the first touches of spring coming in August instead of in February and March, which are the midsummer months; and to find Robins and Thrushes that are utterly different from the birds that we know by those names, along with Diamond-birds, Whip-birds, Honey-birds and others totally unknown in American ornithology. The wider circulation of books such as this will do more to spread a knowledge and interest in general ornithology and create a desire to know something about the birds of other countries than can be accomplished in any other way, therefore we urge all who desire to broaden their knowledge to read Mr. Chisholm's little volume. It will be of interest to American readers too to find that he refers to several American species in the course of his accounts, as the Bluebird, Bobolink, Hummingbird etc., and has references to several of our best known popular writers. How many Americans we wonder, can speak as intelligently of bird life or bird students in Australia! Interesting too is his account of the inauguration of Bird Day in the schools of South America "backed by a recommendation from the United States" and the subsequent development of interest in bird conservation among the Australian children.

The author is an expert in bird photography and the book is illustrated by numerous excellent half-tones from photographs.

There are five chapters on the "Pageant of Spring" and six biographical sketches of characteristic Australian birds. An introduction by C. J. Dennis includes some painful evidence that the cat question is as vital in Australia as in the United States and the writer says: "A book upon 'Mateship with Cats' would earn my hearty disapproval."

We strongly commend Mr. Chisholm's book to American bird lovers and after reading it, on their next visit to the museum, the exhibit of Australian birds, which meant almost nothing to them before, will take on a real interest.—W. S.

**Bretscher on Bird Migration in Central Europe.**<sup>1</sup>—This important contribution to the study of bird migration is based upon an astonishing series of records covering arrival dates of many species for from twenty-five to thirty years or more. The period of the migration is divided into ten-day periods and the number of first arrival records which fall in each period, are given.

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<sup>1</sup> Der Vögelzug in Mitteleuropa Mit 16 Karten und villen Tabellen. von K. Bretscher. Innsbruck. Druck der Wagner'schen Universitäts-Buchdruckerei. 1920, pp. 1-162.