

**Aquila.** Vol. XXVIII. 1921. [In German and Hungarian.]

Bird Life of the Great Bog-land of Pancsova (Hungary). By Eugen Nagy.—Photographs show nests of the Common Tern on the water lily leaves.

The Tongue of *Plegadis falcinellus*. By E. Greschik.

Dates of Bird Migration in Hungary; An account of the loss of three of the White Egret colonies existing in Hungary, in 1918, which are now part of the territory of Yugoslavia and Austria, and the effort to preserve the remaining one through the financial assistance of the Dutch Society for Bird Protection.

There are many local notes.

#### Ornithological Articles in Other Journals.<sup>1</sup>

**Beck, Rollo H.** Bird Collecting in Polynesia (Natural History, XXII, No. 6) and The Voyage of the 'France' (Ibid. XXIII, No. 1), a continuation of the same.

**Barrett, Charles.** Australia's Wonderful Wild Life. (Ibid. XXII, No. 6.)

**Shufeldt, R. W.** Wildfowl Lore. (American Forestry, January, 1923)—An account of the Ducks of North America.

**Ritchie, James.** The Grear Waxwing Invasion of 1921. (Scottish Naturalist, November–December, 1922) cont'd.

**Ritchie, James.** Biographical Sketch of William Evans (1851–1922) (Ibid.).

**Wayne, Arthur T.** Discovery of the Breeding Grounds of the White Ibis in South Carolina (Bull. of the Charleston Museum, XVII, No. 4, 1922).—An important discovery of a large breeding colony.

**Grinnell, J.** The Trend of Avian Population in California. (Science, December 15, 1922.)—A common sense discussion of the alleged decrease in bird life so widely spread today by conservation advocates and bird and game protective associations. Dr. Grinnell, judging by conditions in California, considers from an examination of the available reliable evidence that the number of species has not altered in 75 years but that a few species have decreased in number of individuals some almost to extinction. In certain areas where man's activities are most marked, vicinity of cities, etc., the number of species, and the number of individuals of many species, have decreased sometimes to as much as forty per cent but in other areas, as irrigated sections, the numbers of species and individuals have increased enormously, though a few species adapted to the primitive arid environment have disappeared when irrigation changed conditions.

Game birds and birds of prey seem to have generally decreased.

<sup>1</sup> Some of these journals are received in exchange, others are examined in the library of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. The editor is under obligations to Mr. J. A. G. Rehn for a list of ornithological articles contained in the accessions to the library from week to week.

Dr. Grinnell while he advocates stopping all killing of birds about parks, city suburbs and wild life preserves, thinks that legal protection with ninety per cent of our bird species is absolutely unnecessary and cites the case of Crows, Jays and Blackbirds, which are unprotected and yet hold their own with any of the protected species. He admits that he is sensitive because of the inveighing of certain well-meaning but uninformed people against the killing of birds for specimens. While we quite sympathize with Dr. Grinnell we are firmly convinced that whatever the "trend of avian population" the trend of avian legislation is against collecting and the popular backing is so strong that opposition seems almost futile. Dr. Grinnell perhaps knows that in certain eastern states the securing of a permit for collecting is impossible except for a representative of a large museum and only one representative at that!

**Trischitta, Antonino.** On the Birds Described by Rafinesque in his "Caratteri" (Atti Soc. Ital. Sci. Nat. Mus. Civ. Milan, October, 1922. LXI, Fasc. II.)—Three of Rafinesque's names are accepted *Silvia juncidis* for *S. cisticola* Temm.; *S. rhodogastra* for *S. conspicillata* Temm. and *S. turdeila* for *S. leucopogon* Temm. [In Italian.]

**Magnan, A.** The Characteristics of Birds in Relation to their Mode of Flight. (Ann. Sci. Nat. Zool., V, pp. 125-334, October, 1922.)—A lengthy discussion of this interesting subject. The author considers soaring flight dependent upon ascending and transverse currents of air. He treats at length the structure and shape of the wings, tail, body, etc., and the several methods of flight and the application of these facts to aviation. [In French.]

**Robinson, H. C. and Kloss, C. Boden.** Birds from the One Fathom Bank Lighthouse, Straits of Malacca. (Jour. Federated Malay States Mus., X, No. 4. December, 1922.)

A List of Birds Collected on Pulau Rumpia, Sembilan Islands (Ibid.).

List of Birds Collected in Pulau Jarak, Straits of Malacca (Ibid.).

Three New Oriental Birds (Ibid.). *Otus luciae siamensis* (p. 261), Peninsular Siam; *Cyornis anak* (p. 261), Peninsular Siam and *Kittacincla malabarica interposita* (262), Daban S. Annam.

**Robinson, H. C. and Kloss, C. Boden.** The Birds of South-west and Peninsular Siam. (Jour. Nat. Hist. Soc. of Siam, V, No. 1, pp. 1-87. December 21, 1921.)—126 species obtained but notes on many others are included in the discussion.

**Chisholm, A. H.** Bird Seeking in Queensland. (Queensland Naturalist, III, Nos. 4 and 5.)—Historical Account of the Ornithologists who have studied the Australian birds.

**Hermann, Adolph.** On the Breast Skeleton and Spinal Column of Birds. (Zeitschrift fur Anat. und Entwicklungsgeschichte, LXV, 4-6, pp. 328-481.) [In German.]

**Roberts, Austin.** Nomenclature of African Birds. (Annals of the Transvaal Museum, VIII, Part 4. October 30, 1922.)—This is one of the

most extreme of the proposals for genus splitting that has yet appeared. The whole list of South African birds is considered in a running text fairly bristling with new names, several appearing on nearly every page. Papers such as this will do more to check the mania for new genera than anything else as they demonstrate how impossible it is to inflict such a burden upon nomenclature.

The author, like most of the other advocates of the practice, fails entirely to grasp the point that we are trying to make our technical names perform two services (see p. 000).

**Musselman, T. E.** A History of the Birds of Illinois. (Jour. Ill. State Historical Society, April-July, 1921, pp. 1-73.)—Covers the early history of the country, the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon, a list of migration dates and an annotated list of species.

#### Publications on Bird Protection.

**Bird Notes and News.** X, No. 2, 3 and 4. 1922.—From this journal we learn that the serious destruction of sea birds from oil discharged from vessels is as bad as ever, and it is pointed out that even if oil is not discharged within the three mile limit it will drift in with the wind or tide. There is also a biographical sketch of Mr. W. Hudson and an account of the activities of the "watchers," who are employed each year to guard the rarest British birds, notably the Kite and the Chough, from collectors who would otherwise effect their total extermination.

**Eighteenth Annual Report of the National Association of Audubon Societies.** (Bird Lore, December, 1922.)—Interesting as usual with detailed reports of the field agents and of no less than 62 state or affiliated societies. A portrait of Louis Agassiz Fuertes forms a frontispiece.

**Report of the Chief of Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agriculture.** Among the many activities of the Survey we note that over 100 million acres of ground has now been treated with poison and the extermination of the Prairie Dog and other rodents practically accomplished in these areas. Damage has been done to shell fish by Ducks in Massachusetts but investigation shows that the scallop was the only kind and that the White-winged Scoter is the culprit, injury by other species being negligible. Patrolling the beds by the fishermen, who are at no expense for their upkeep, is suggested. Activities in bird banding, distributional and economic work are described, while steps are being taken to settle the dispute over the Malheur Lake Reservation in Oregon which has been threatened with destruction.

**Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society.** VI, No. 9. List of members and account of activities also a paper by L. R. Talbot on birds observed on an Atlantic Liner, among others a Montana Junco, though no information is given as to how this remarkable identification was made. We find ourselves unable to distinguish skins of this Junco from allied forms at the distance indicated.

**New Jersey Audubon Society Twelfth Annual Report.** Reports of the society's ineffectual effort to the placing of the Bobolink on the protected list.