

- Journal für Ornithologie.**<sup>1</sup> 71, Part 4. October, 1923. [In German.]  
 On the Floristic-Faunistic Associations of South China with especial consideration of the Avifauna. By R. Mell.  
 Remarks on Some Persian Birds III. By N. Sarudny and M. Harms.  
 The Acquirement of Crests by Canary-birds. By H. Duncker.  
 On the Drawing of *Leguatia gigantea* of Francis Barlow. By E. Stresemann.  
 On the Influence of Climatic Factors on the Pigmentation of Bird Feathers. By K. Görnitz.  
 Mutation Studies. By E. Stresemann.  
 On Some Accipiter species. By E. Stresemann who also describes *Baza lophotes melli* (p. 525) Tso-gok-wahn, China.

#### Ornithological Articles in Other Journals.

- Bailey, Vernon.** Maximilian's Travels in the Interior of North America, 1832 to 1834 (Natural History, XXIII, No. 4).—Some account of his bird collection now in the American Museum.  
**Cahn, Alvin R.** Louisiana Herons and Reddish Egrets at Home. (Natural History, XXIII, No. 5).—A visit to Green Island off the Texas coast; beautifully illustrated.  
**Lloyd, Hoyes.** The Birds of Ottawa, 1923 (continued in October). (Canadian Field Naturalist, September, 1923).  
**Munro, J. A.** A Preliminary Report on the Relationship of Various Ducks and Gulls to the Propagation of Sock-eye Salmon. (Ibid.)—At Henderson Lake, B. C., Mergansers, Barrow's Golden-eyes, Glaucous-winged and Short-billed Gulls were feeding on Salmon spawn to an extent damaging to fishing industries.  
**Pearse, Theed.** Banding Glaucous-winged Gulls. (Ibid.) October 1923.—With other notes on a colony in British Columbia.  
**Saunders, W. E.** The Mockingbird in Ontario. (Ibid.)  
**Stoddard, H. L.** July Bird Notes from Bonaventure Island, Quebec. (Ibid.)  
**Stewart, Walter.** The Rook in Lanarkshire (Scottish Naturalist, September-October, 1923).—With a map of Rookeries.  
**Evans, William.** The Eider Duck (*Somateria mollissima*) in the "Forth Area." (Ibid.)  
**Brooks, Alan.** The Destruction of Waterfowl in the West. (American Forestry, October, 1923).—Photographs showing the effect of the "duck malady."  
**Shufeldt, R. W.** Grouse and Quail Exhibition in the Bird Hall of the United States National Museum. (Ibid.)  
**Miles, Lee.** Federal Aid for Our Wild Fowl. (Ibid, November, 1923.)—A clear explanation and plea for the Public Shooting Ground-Game Refuge Bill.

<sup>1</sup> R. Frielander & Sohn, Berlin N. W. 6, Karlstr. 11, Germany.

**Shrosbree, George.** A Collecting Expedition to Bonaventure Island, Quebec. (Yearbook, Milwaukee Public Museum, 1922.)—A beautifully illustrated account of an expedition by the author and H. L. Stoddard.

**McAllister, M. H.** The Band-tailed Pigeon in Yosemite. (California Fish and Game, July, 1923.)

**Peterson, A. M.** Getting Acquainted With Birds and Their Nests. (Our Dumb Animals, October, 1923.)

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## CORRESPONDENCE

### Fisher on 'Scientific Collecting.'

Editor of 'THE AUK':

The ornithologists of the country and the fish, game and conservation commissioners are alike indebted to Dr. A. K. Fisher of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey for his 'Statement Regarding Scientific Collecting,' which appeared in the July issue of the 'Bulletin of the American Game Protective and Propagation Association.' This statement has gone far to clear up many misunderstandings, and should encourage every commissioner throughout the United States to take a liberal attitude in the encouragement of scientific research.

Dr. Fisher is correct in every particular when he states that no program of conservation will be of value or enduring unless it is founded on scientific research. We who are actively in the work have seen this time and time again. It stands to reason that unless we know the habits of a given species, the diseases to which it is susceptible, the mating periods, the proper environment for both breeding grounds and rearing grounds, together with some check on the increase or decrease, we cannot intelligently proceed.

Very few of the states have highly trained biologists in active connection with the work. Very few have the same facilities for study and observation as are supplied by the ornithologists of the country. Certainly there is no other source of information as complete as that offered by the Bureau of Biological Survey, the great museums of the country, and such organizations as the American Ornithologists' Union, the Nuttall Ornithological Club, etc.

If there is any criticism of the activities of the ornithologists up to the present time, it should be along the lines that they have failed through their organizations to be of as much practical assistance to the commissioners throughout the country as they might be were their activities given more publicity, and were a part of their researches directed along certain practical lines in conformity with a program laid out to cover a period of years.

It is a well known fact, for example, that the Ruffed Grouse go through a cycle which ranges from a period of great scarcity to one of reasonable abundance. The real cause of this is today unknown. You can obtain