

logical mutations so far known have turned out to be of wholly secondary nature, even though they changed completely the appearance of the species (e. g., *Rhipidura fuliginosa*). What we preserve in our museums, the skin and feathers, cannot be the most essential part of the bird even for the systematic worker.

ERWIN STRESEMANN.

Zoological Museum, Berlin.

NOTES AND NEWS.

LIEUT. COL. HENRY HAVERSHAM GODWIN-AUSTEN, a Corresponding Fellow of the Union since 1884, and an Extraordinary Member of the British Ornithologists' Union, died at his home in Godalming, Surrey, England, Dec. 2, 1923, in the 90th year of his age. He was born at Teigsmouth, England, July 6, 1834, the eldest son of Robert A. C. Godwin-Austen, F. R. S., a distinguished geologist, and Maria, daughter of General Godwin, C. B.

His education was received at the Royal Military College at Sandhurst and upon his graduation he entered upon a military career which lasted 26 years. In 1851 he was gazetted with H. M. 24th Regiment of Foot, now the South Wales Borderers, and the next year went to India which became the scene of his principal work. He served in the Second Burmese War, was appointed topographical assistant on the Trigonometrical Survey of India, and joined the Kashmir Survey party in 1857. He surveyed a section in Kashmir, discovered the glacier which was named in his honor and determined the position and altitude of the great snow peak known as Mount Godwin-Austen, the second highest mountain in the world. In 1862 he surveyed Ladak, in 1863-64 served with the last mission to Bhutan, mapped the country between Darjeeling and Punakha, and in 1877 retired from active service.

Col. Godwin-Austen was best known as an explorer, geographer and conchologist. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1880, served as president of Section E (Geography) of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1883, as president of the Malacological Society of Great Britain and Ireland in 1908-09, and in 1910 was awarded the Founders Medal of the Royal Geographic Society for his work in exploration.

Between 1870 and 1878 he published, chiefly in the 'Journal' of the Asiatic Society of Bengal and the 'Proceedings' of the Zoological Society of London, a series of valuable papers on the birds of the regions he had explored and in 1893 disposed of his collection of some 3500 bird skins to the British Museum. During his later years he devoted his attentions chiefly to conchology and contributed the volume on the Testacellidæ and Zonitidæ to the 'Fauna of British India.'

Col. Godwin Austen was married twice (1) in 1861 to Pauline Georgiana Chichele-Plowden, who died in 1871, and (2) in 1881 to Jessie Robinson who died in 1913. His portrait and a more extended account of his life may be found in 'The Ibis' for April, 1924, pp. 360-362.—T. S. P.

WE LEARN that a memorial committee has been organized in Quebec for the purpose of erecting a memorial to the late Napoleon Comeau at Godbout where he spent his life. Comeau's family has entrusted all of his ornithological records and manuscripts to the care of the Provencher Society where they will be available for consultation.

THROUGH the cooperation of the game commissioners of Texas and Minnesota an attempt is being made to introduce the Wild Turkey into the latter State, and a small flock is now being cared for on the state game farm at Mound, Minn.

FROM 'BIRD NOTES AND NEWS' we learn that the Act of Parliament forbidding the pollution of waters by oil from vessels is being rigidly enforced by the Admiralty and that oil separators have been devised in Liverpool which can be attached to ships and which preclude the necessity of pumping oily water into the sea. In spite of this however, considerable destruction of bird life by oil continues. Mr. H. M. Cleminson, General Manager of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom presented an important paper on the subject at the meeting of the National Coast Antipollution League of America at the meeting at Atlantic City, N. J., last autumn.

THE ATTEMPT of the New Jersey Audubon Society to have the Bobolink placed on the protected list continues to meet with failure through the treachery of members of the Legislature and the political maneuvering which prevented a vote being taken when the bill was sure of passage. The April 'Bulletin' of the Society should be read by all bird lovers in the State as it shows just where the legislators stood on the matter.

THE SECOND number of 'Our Vanishing Game' published by the Permanent Wild Life Protection Fund and edited by William T. Hornady and Dr. W. Reid Blair, illustrates the terrible inroads that are being made on our game, "within the law," and with four million and a half licensed hunters in the United States in 1922 it is hard to see how the game species are to be preserved unless bag limits are very materially decreased.

THE SECOND Edition of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union Check-List has been drawn up in mimeograph form for comment and suggestions and the list will be published in the near future. The Committee in charge consists of Dr. A. J. Leach, A. J. Campbell and W. B. Alexander.

PRINCE N. TAKA-TSUKASA, President of the Ornithological Society of Japan, has recently been making a brief tour of the United States and examining the leading ornithological collections. The prince is especially interested in the Psittacidae.

INFORMATION about birds has been broadcasted from various Radio stations throughout the United States. One address on Spring Birds was given by Dr. Dayton Stoner from the University of Iowa Station and has also been published in the University 'Service Bulletin' for March, 1924.

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Baird Ornithological Club was held on March 26, 1924, at the Cosmos Club. Officers for the year ensuing were elected as follows; President, Dr. A. K. Fisher; Vice-President, Dr. Alexander Wetmore; Secretary, Bradshaw H. Swales; Members of the Council, Drs. W. C. Richmond and T. S. Palmer. At the meeting held February 26, 1924, Mr. H. W. Henshaw was elected an Honorary Member. The Club enjoyed a prosperous year with exceptionally well attended meetings.

THE TEN lectures entitled "An Introduction to the Study of Birds," delivered by Dr. Glover M. Allen, Secretary of the Boston Society of Natural History, under the auspices of the New England Bird Banding Association, are to be brought out in book form under the title of 'Birds and Their Attributes' by the Marshall Jones Company. A portion of the material formed the basis of a reading course offered by the 'Boston Transcript.' The book will be illustrated by at least 32 pictures made from plates furnished or used for reproduction on the screen by Dr. Allen.

IN VIEW of the success of former exhibitions of such a nature the Local Committee plans to hold an exhibition of bird paintings and drawings in connection with the coming meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union at Pittsburgh, Pa., in November next, to show the best of the work being produced by contemporary bird artists. The exhibition will in general be along the same lines as at the Chicago meeting of 1922. It has been thought best, however, to limit the pieces from a single contributor to six. These may be framed or unframed, and either oil, water color, crayon, pastel, or charcoal. Pictures should be sent early in the fall, so as to give the Committee ample time to prepare the exhibition. All pictures will be exhibited under glass and to the best advantage possible.

The exhibition will probably last several weeks, and it is therefore requested that all pictures be loaned for a longer time than the A. O. U. meeting proper. In sending pictures contributors should give their full name, and a memorandum of the label for each picture submitted. Transportation charges for exhibits sent will be defrayed by the Committee when desired. Communications on the subject should be addressed to the chairman of the sub-committee, Mr. George M. Sutton, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.

THE MEETING of the Union in Pittsburgh, which will be held November 11-13, 1924, with business sessions of the Council, Fellows and Members on November 10, will be the first to be held in that city. The opportunity will be offered to many members residing in western Pennsylvania and New York as well as in Ohio and other parts of the Middle West of attending a gathering of the A. O. U. near home, while members coming from more distant points will be able to study the splendid ornithological collections of the Carnegie Museum which many of them have never seen. It is none too soon for all members to make arrangements which will permit of their making the trip in November. The larger the attendance, the more successful the meeting and the greater the impetus given to ornithological research and bird study. Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd, Chairman of the committee of arrangements, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, or Dr. T. S. Palmer, Secretary of the A. O. U., 1939 Biltmore St., Washington, D. C. will furnish any desired information, relative to the meeting.