

Now Dr. Lowe,<sup>1</sup> with fresh material, brought from Cameroon on Mr. Bates' latest visit to England, confirms his suspicions and shows conclusively that *Smithornis* is a Broadbill. He also suggests that Rothschild's unique *Pseudocalyptomena graueri* from the bamboo forests north of Lake Tanganyika may also "actually be a Broadbill instead of merely reminiscent of one." Incidentally Dr. Lowe calls attention to the long white-based feathers which overlie the *pteryla spinalis* in *Smithornis* and which are exactly like those found in Oriental *Eurylaemidae* and says "it seems evident that colour pattern in this, as in so many other examples which could be quoted, has a deep seated origin, pointing to similar chromosomal factors and phylogenetic affinities." This is a point which the reviewer has long claimed.—W. S.

**Mitchell on the Birds of Saskatchewan.**—The Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture has reprinted the account of the birds<sup>2</sup> of the province by H. Hedley Mitchell which appeared as a special number of the 'Canadian Field Naturalist.' It consists of a brief historical and topographical introduction and an annotated list. Six half-tones and a colored faunal map illustrate this excellent publication which will serve to spread interest in the ornithology of the province. The author has added in manuscript three species reported since the publication of the list: Knot, Hudsonian Curlew and Crested Flycatcher.—W. S.

**Hatt on Land Vertebrate Communities of Western Leelanau County, Mich.**—This paper<sup>3</sup> consists of lists of species of vertebrates characteristic of twenty-five different habitats. The value of such minute ecological classification is open to question as it is difficult to correlate the habitats with those of another region, even close by, and many of the associations are self evident. However Mr. Hatt's work is well and carefully done and the criticism is directed to this type of investigation, not to his application of it. An annotated list of the mammals follows which will be of distinct value in working out the more general distribution of the species.—W. S.

**Collinge on the Food and Feeding Habits of the Blackbird.**<sup>4</sup>—Dr. W. E. Collinge in another of his useful papers on the economics of British birds treats the Blackbird, that homologue of our Robin, and it proves

<sup>1</sup> On the Presence of Broadbills (*Eurylaemidae*) in Africa. By Percy R. Lowe. Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1924, pp. 279-291. March 31, 1924.

<sup>2</sup> Catalogue of the Birds of Saskatchewan. By H. Hedley Mitchell. Govt. of the Prov. of Saskatchewan, Dept. of Agriculture. Regina, May, 1924. Reprinted from the 'Canadian Field Naturalist,' Vol. XXXVIII, No. 6. Special number, May, 1924, pp. 101-118.

<sup>3</sup> The Land Vertebrate Communities of Western Leelanau County, Michigan, with an annotated list of the Mammals of the County. By Robert Torrens Hatt. Reprinted from the 'Papers of the Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters,' Vol. III, 1923, pp. 369-402, pls. XXIV-XXVI.

<sup>4</sup> Journ. Ministry Agr., 31, No. 2, May, 1924, reprint 5 pp.