

is described from Victoria (p. 50) and in the list of races "Victoria" in inadvertently given as the author of the name!

On April 6, 1925, there was also published the first part of a 'Bibliography of Australian Birds' of which another part will follow. This like the 'Check List' is uniform with the large work and is regarded as a part of it. The introduction consists of biographical sketches with portraits of Charles Daviès Sherborn and Charles Wallace Richmond two of the leading figures in ornithological bibliography to whom the author has been under continued obligations.

The bibliography itself, covering the letters A-N, is wonderfully full of historical and biographical data, exact dates of publication etc. etc., and constitutes one of the most important portions of this work from the standpoint of the general ornithologist, as many of the publications listed and described deal with birds of other parts of the world beside Australia. So valuable to the systematic worker will this 'Bibliography' prove that it is to be hoped that, in the interest of science, arrangements will be made by which it may be obtained separately. In any event, we are under a debt of gratitude to Mr. Mathews for working out all the information which it contains and publishing it.—W. S.

**Balsac on the Ornithology of the Northern Sahara.**—M. H. Heim de Balsac, who has been publishing in the 'Revue Francaise de Ornithologie' an account of his expedition into the northern portion of the Sahara, has now issued the several installments in book form, rearranged and repaged, forming a very valuable contribution to our knowledge of the birds of north Africa. His route lay from Sfax through Maknassy and Gafsa to Tozeur, in Tunis, and from Ghardaia north to Algiers, in Algeria. The annotations are full with measurements of important specimens and French vernaculars for each species, while the introduction contains many observations on the fauna and flora of the region.—W. S.

**Townsend's 'Sand Dunes and Salt Marshes.'**—Dr. Charles Wendell Townsend has published a new edition of his 'Sand Dunes and Salt Marshes,'<sup>1</sup> a series of delightful sketches of the natural history of the Massachusetts coast already reviewed in 'The Auk' for 1913 (p. 593).

The present volume seems to differ in no respect from the original except in the use of heavier text paper and the addition of a short introduction by Ralph Hoffman. Dr. Townsend has delighted many nature lovers with his writings and the present attractive edition of this earlier work will be welcome to those who possess his later publications.—W. S.

**Skinner's 'Birds of the Yellowstone National Park.'**—This admirable work<sup>2</sup> published as one of the Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletins of

<sup>1</sup> Sand Dunes and Salt Marshes. By Charles Wendell Townsend. L. C. Page & Company, 53 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. Large 12 mo illustrated with numerous half-tones from photographs. \$3.50.

<sup>2</sup> The Birds of Yellowstone National Park. By Milton P. Skinner. Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin of the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station, Syracuse, N. Y. Volume 3, No. 1. February, 1925, pp. 1-192. Price \$1.00.

the Roosevelt Experiment Station is unique in several respects. There is no lengthy annotated list, but a series of chapters describing the bird life of various sections of the Park, as one takes a typical trip through it, from Gardiner to Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone Lake and the Grand Canyon followed by sketches of the bird life of the various characteristic environments'—the forests, open country, brooks and rivers etc., with special consideration of the Mallards, the White Pelicans and the Trumpeter Swans of the Yellowstone. Finally there is a key for field identification and a nominal list of the birds of the Park, with English and technical names, a bibliography and two maps.

There are many half-tone illustrations from photographs by the author and others and four colored plates from paintings by E. J. Sawyer, representing groups of birds of the forests; Yellowstone Lake; open country and wooded streams. These are similar in character to those furnished by the same artist for earlier bulletins and are equally well done.

With regard to the Trumpeter Swans we learn that Mr. Skinner has seen them on eight occasions during the years 1915-1921 from one to five individuals on each occasion. Of the Pelicans, he writes that about 700 are present for an average of ninety-six days each season, the date of arrival varying from April 28 to May 23, while that of departure ranges from September 5 to 7. The winter home of these Pelicans is not definitely known and the bird banders have here an interesting opportunity!

Mr. Skinner is to be congratulated upon an admirable piece of work especially well adapted to the needs of visitors to the Park who should make sure to obtain a copy of the report while it is at the same time an excellent work of reference for the ornithologist engaged on faunal work or on the life history of individual species.—W. S.

**Aves in the Zoological Record.**—Mr. W. L. Sclater has again performed the arduous task of compiling the list of ornithological papers and new species for the 'Zoological Record' for 1923. This publication is absolutely essential to the working ornithologist who must know what has been published each year and what new species have been described or his work will be likely to prove useless and confusing duplication.

It is therefore a very serious matter for all zoologists when the Zoological Record is threatened, as it now is, with suspension owing to the inability of the Zoological Society of London to longer meet the increasing expense of its publication. Recently other institutions and individuals have in some measure come to its assistance but it is absolutely necessary that this support be continued in greater measure. It would seem that there are many members of the A. O. U. who could well afford to purchase the 'Aves' section. The publication<sup>1</sup> would amply repay them in giving a

<sup>1</sup> Aves. Zoological Record. Vol. LX, 1923. By W. L. Sclater, M. A. Printed for the Zoological Society of London. Sold at their House in Regent's Park, London, N. W., 8., pp. 1-75. Price, 7 shillings and 6 pence. December, 1924.