

the companionship of Major Allan Brooks who collected independently.

The country explored forms the outermost portion of the Yukon region and being a hundred miles from salt water is "interior" in the character of its avifauna, with no coastal forms present. It is Hudsonian in the valleys and Arctic Alpine on the mountain tops with only a slight infiltration of Canadian forms.

In addition to the valuable annotated list of the species and a good bibliography, several distributional maps and a number of half-tones of scenery, there are important discussions of several groups or species. The *Dendragapus* forms are referred to two species as already suggested in these columns by Major Brooks, while the three White-crowned Sparrows are regarded as species and the author shows that the breeding range of *Z. nuttallii* is quite remote from those of the other two while the latter overlap. Upwards of 600 specimens on the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology fail to show any evidence of intergradation.

In discussing the Ptarmigan *Lagopus lagopus albus* is recognized for the Atlin and Hudson Bay race, *ungavus* for the Ungava bird and *alexandrae* for the Baranoff Island form, while a new form is proposed from Alaska, *alaskensis* (p. 87), type from the Kowak River delta. There is an account of the remarkable new species of Sparrow, *Spizella taverneri*, discovered in this region by Messrs. Brooks and Swarth and already described elsewhere, and also of the nesting of the Golden-crowned Sparrow with a colored plate of the egg, young and nesting site.

We congratulate Mr. Swarth on another good paper.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Hartert.**—Dr. Hartert has recently published two papers on the birds of the Bismark Archipelago east of New Guinea. One of these<sup>1</sup> deals with New Britain the largest of the group, the ornithology of which was supposed to be pretty well known, although it appears that almost all of the collecting in the past was done on the northernmost part of the island. In 1925 in the interests of the Tring Museum, A. F. Eichorn visited the Talasea district in the western section and made a collection there, mainly in the mountains which attain an altitude of from 1200 to 3400 feet, and Dr. Hartert here presents the results of his study of the material. He lists 78 species of which *Micropsitta pusio stresemanni* (p. 130) is described as new while incidentally *Rhipidura dahli antonii* (p. 141), from New Ireland, *Myzomela cineracea rooki* (p. 42) and *Philemon novaeguineae umboi* (p. 143), both from Rook Island, are named. Mr. Eichorn's most notable discoveries have already been described by Lord Rothschild and Dr. Hartert namely *Accipiter luteoschistaceus* and *Turdus talasea*.

Dr. Hartert's second paper<sup>2</sup> deals with another collection made by

<sup>1</sup> On the Birds of the District of Talasea in New Britain. By Ernest Hartert. *Novitates Zoologicae*. XXXIII, pp. 122-145, October, 1926.

<sup>2</sup> On the Birds of the French Islands north of New Britain. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zoologicae*, XXXIII. pp. 171-178. October, 1926.

Eichorn on Witu and Unia Islands two of the French Islands, north of New Britain, where he secured 41 species. Those named as new are *Gallinula olivacea nigrifrons* (p. 172) and *Ptilinopus solomonensis meyeri* (p. 173).

In another paper<sup>1</sup> Dr. Hartert describes in his usual interesting style a second journey to Marocco, to Rabat and thence to Tedders, in search of additional information on the Francolin, *F. bicalcaratus ayasha* and the Guinea Fowl, *Numida sabyi*.

The annotated list of species obtained or observed numbers 110 of which *Parus major lynesii* (p. 287) is described as new from Azrou., while after further study of the question Dr. Hartert decides that the various African Guinea Fowls of the genus *Numida* had best be regarded as subspecies of one species.—W. S.

**Devincenzi's 'Birds of Uruguay.'**—The first part of a descriptive catalogue of the birds of Uruguay by Garibaldi J. Devincenzi,<sup>2</sup> Director of the Museum of Montevideo, has recently appeared. The work is well prepared and printed and the author seems to be quite up to date in his method and his nomenclature. Under each species is the original reference as well as reference to Azara and to records of the occurrence of the species in Uruguay. There are good descriptions of the various plumages, measurements and accounts of habits and of the nest and eggs, and in addition keys for the families, genera and species. The work is entirely in Spanish and should be of the greatest importance in developing an interest in ornithology in Uruguay.

The author does not seem to be acquainted with all of the publications on the birds of his country, however, as we find no mention of the account by the late Walter B. Barrows of the 'Birds of the Lower Uruguay,' which appeared in the last volume of the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' (1883) and the first volume of 'The Auk,' (1884), and which gives an excellent list of the birds of Concepcion. The present instalment of the work covers the families from the Rheas to the Gulls following the sequence of Sharpe's 'Handlist.'—W. S.

**Snyder on the Birds of Wrangell Island.**—This paper<sup>3</sup> is a report on a small collection of bird skins, eighteen in all, made by Allan Crawford between September 16, 1921, when his party landed on Wrangell Island and January 28, 1923, when he with two companions left the island in their tragic attempt to reach the shores of Siberia. A few species are added to the list having been attributed to Wrangell by E. W. Nelson and others.

<sup>1</sup> On Ornithological Journey in Marocco in 1924. By E. Hartert. Bull. Soc. des Sci. Nat. du Maroc. V. No. 6. July, 1926. pp. 271-304.

<sup>2</sup> Anales del Museo de Historia Natural de Montevideo. Serie II—Tomo II. Entrega II. pp. 129-200. Montevideo, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> The Birds of Wrangell Island, with Special Reference to the Crawford Collection of 1922. By L. L. Snyder, Univ. of Toronto Studies. Biological Series No. 28. pp. 1-20. 1926.