

Phillips on Birds Introduced in North America.¹—Dr. Phillips has been at much pains to compile a well annotated list of all wild birds introduced or transplanted in North America. The dates of the attempts to establish foreign species and the success or failure of the enterprise are given as well as comments upon the desirability and habits of the species, and lists of references to published articles and to records, letters etc. of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

As might be supposed, the game birds occupy the bulk of the report and in the case of the Bobwhite its introduction into the various western states is discussed at length. The introduction of southern stock, moreover, into New England, Ontario, etc. has affected the climatic resistance of the species in the northern part of its range and it will not persist as far north as it did twenty-five or fifty years ago.

The attempted introduction of the Bobwhite in England, France, China, and New Zealand furnishes interesting reading, as well as the remarkably successful introduction of the California Quail in New Zealand and Chile.

There are mentioned in the text about one hundred species which have been liberated in North America but only a very few have become permanently established, notably, of course, the Starling and the English Sparrow. Curiously enough the Hungarian Partridge has thrived in western Canada and some of the Rocky Mountain states, but attempts to introduce it in the east have almost always failed.

Those who have had no acquaintance with the subject of importation of foreign species of birds will be surprised to know that as many as 13,000 Australian Shell Parrakeets were brought into the country in one year; and when we consider the large number of other species imported it is surprising that more have not become established through accidental escape.

Dr. Phillips has performed a very important service in collecting the data that he has published, before it is too late, and his report becomes at once our leading work of reference on the subject.—W. S.

Swarth on Some Asiatic Birds in Alaska.²—During the summer of 1927, Mr. C. G. Harrold spent several months on Nunuvak Island, Alaska collecting birds for the California Academy of Sciences, and in the paper before us Mr. H. S. Swarth lists the Asiatic species that he obtained there with notes on their identification.

These are *Charadrius mongolus mongolus*, *Pyrhula pyrrhula cassini*, *Anthus spinoletta japonicus*, *Locustella ochotensis* and *Prunella montanella*. The last three are additions to the A. O. U. 'Check-List.' It is true that

¹ Wild Birds Introduced or Transplanted in North America. By John C. Phillips, Coöperating with the Bureau of Biological Survey. U. S. Dept. Agriculture Technical Bulletin No. 61. April 1928, pp. 1-63. Price 10 cents (address Supt. of Documents, Gov't. Printing Office.)

² Occurrence of Some Asiatic Birds in Alaska. By Harry S. Swarth. Proc. Calif. Academy of Sciences, Vol. XVII, No. 8, pp. 247-251, July 10, 1928.