

of these parasites in shedding light on the relationship of various birds is referred to above (see Metcalf).

Peters, James L.—The Identity of *Corvus mexicanus* Gmelin. (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 42, pp. 121–124, March 25, 1929.)—Mr. Peters has unearthed a most unfortunate case of misidentification with far reaching effect upon nomenclature. Fernandez described a Mexican bird which he called "Hoitzanat!" and to which Gmelin gave the Latin name of *Corvus mexicanus*. Subsequent authors, without looking up the original description, took Gmelin's action as authoritative and applied his name to the Mexican Crow. It now turns out that the "Hoitzanat!" is nothing more than the Great-tailed Grackle, a common Mexican bird and the name *macrourus* universally applied to it must be changed to the earlier *mexicanus*. This is bad enough but it is not all. Lesson in 1831 proposed the genus *Cassidix* apparently for the Rice Grackle but included in it Gmelin's *Corvus mexicanus* which Gray later designated as the type of the genus, thus transferring this generic name, also, to the Great-tailed Grackle. A new generic name is therefore needed for the Rice Grackle and *Psomocolax* (p. 123) is supplied by Mr. Peters. One race of Rice Grackle, moreover, has been called *mexicanus* Lesson, but this name being of the same origin as *Corvus mexicanus* Gmel. is not available and a new name *impacifus* (p. 123) is proposed for it, while for the Mexican Crow, also deprived of its old name, *imparatus* (p. 123) is proposed.

Peters, James L.—Vertebrates from The Corn Islands [Introduction and Birds] (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Vol. LXIX, No. 7, pp. 127–146).—This is an account of a visit paid by the author and Mr. Edward Bangs to the Corn Islands in the western Caribbean Sea which curiously enough had never been visited by naturalists. The results were disappointing as it was found that there was not only no characteristic avifauna, but the islands were almost devoid of birds. A list of thirty-five forms is given, seven being North American migrants and the rest mainly water birds. The breeding species were the Ani, Mangrove Cuckoo, White-crowned Pigeon and possibly a Coot and some Herons.

Reid, Russell and Gannon, Clell G.—Natural History Notes on the Journals of Alexander Henry. (North Dakota Historical Quarterly, Vol. II, No. 3, pp. 168–200, April, 1928.)—An interesting series of extracts from the Henry Journals published in 1897 under the editorship of Elliott Coues. All references to mammals and birds have been transcribed and identified in present day nomenclature. The same authors performed a similar service, in 1927, in connection with the North Dakota notes in Lewis and Clarke's Journals (see 'Auk' 1928, p. 120).

Riley, J. H.—Descriptions of four new Birds from the Mountains of Northern Siam. (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 42, pp. 161–164. May 3, 1929.)—*Niltava grandis nobilis* (p. 161) Doi Angka; *Niltava*