

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*

smithi (p. 162) Doi Sutep; *Zosterops palpebrosa vicina* (p. 162) Doi Sutep; *Aethopyga nipaleosis angkanensis* (p. 162) Doi Angka.

Riley, J. H.—A Review of the Birds of the Islands of Siberut and Sipota Mentawi Group (*Spolia Mentawiensia*) (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. 75, Art. 4, pp. 1-45, pl. 1, 1929.)—This report is based upon a collection made by C. Boden Kloss, which has already been reported upon by Messrs. Chasen and Kloss (*Ibis*, 1926, pp. 269-306), but which was sent to Washington in order that it might be compared with the collections from neighboring islands made by Dr. W. L. Abbott. Three new forms have already been named by Mr. Riley (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 40, pp. 95-96).

Salomonsen, Finn.—Bemerkungen über die Verbreitung der *Carduelis linaria* Gruppe und Ihre Variationen. (Særtryk af Vidensk. Medd. fra Dansk naturh. Foren Bd. 86, 1928, pp. 123-202.)—A detailed study of the Redpolls in which the author reaches conclusions different from those expressed in the A. O. U. 'Check-List.' He regards all forms as races of *A. l. linaria*, recognizes *A. l. fuscescens* Coues, from Labrador and eliminates *A. l. holboelli* from America.

Schestakowa, Miss G. S.—Die Entwicklung der distalen Muskulatur des Vogelflügels, and Die Entwicklung des Vogelflügels. (Bull. Soc. Nat. de Moscou, 1927.)—Two important papers on the structure of the bird's wing and the arrangement of the muscles published in German and Russian. Miss Schestakowa is a pupil of Prof. Michael Mentzbieier of Moscow, under whose direction the work was done.

Snyder, L. L.—Winter Birds of Toronto. (Bull. Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, No. 2, January, 1929.)

Swarth, H. S.—The Faunal Areas of Southern Arizona: A Study in Animal Distribution. (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., Vol. XVIII, No. 12, pp. 267-383, April 26, 1929.)—Report on a field trip to the vicinity of the Santa Rita Mountains, Arizona, May-June, 1927, by the author, Joseph Mailliard and Raymond Gilmore. This mountain range seems to mark the division between the eastern "plains" region and the western "desert" region of southern Arizona and the object of the expedition was to work out the distribution of the characteristic forms of the two areas. Besides the general discussion of the problem there is an annotated list of the 164 birds and 34 mammals that were found by the party.

Zimmer, John T.—New Birds from Peru, Brazil and Costa Rica. (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 42, pp. 81-98. March 25, 1929.)—Results of a study of the collection made by the Marshall Field Peruvian Expedition. Forms described are: *Xenops rutilus septentrionalis* (p. 82) Guayabo, Costa Rica; *Pipra coronata circumpecta* (p. 84) Munichis, Peru; *Pipra pipra microlopha* (p. 85) Puerto Bermudez, Peru; *Phrygilus unicolor*