

RECENT LITERATURE.

Stresemann's 'Aves' in Kükenthal and Krumbach's Handbuch der Zoologie.¹—Since the review of the first section of this excellent work of reference² three additional parts have appeared, carrying the text to 432 pages, with further sections to follow. The second part continues the account of the nervous system, taking up immediately the organs of special sense with a very complete account of the avian eye. There follows a description of the digestive tract, with consideration of the liver and pancreas, and an account of the respiratory system with special attention to peculiarities of the air-sacs and the trachea. The circulatory system is described in detail with a brief statement regarding body temperatures, which might profitably have been amplified from recent studies in the subject in view of the detail used elsewhere. Under the urino-genital system there is some discussion of the double ovary in certain species, a description of various types of eggs, and detailed notes on embryonic growth, followed by observations on the post-embryonic development of young birds of various types, peculiarities of nestlings, mouth markings, observations on sex chromosomes and inheritance, and experiments in producing changes in secondary sexual characters of male and female, with detailed description of normal characters of this type for many species.

Mating displays conclude this portion and extend into part four, followed by descriptions of nests and nest construction, number of eggs, incubation, the care of young, and parasitism. The last pages begin a statement on the age attained by birds which is to be concluded in the following section.

The work, though detailed, is presented in a highly interesting and attractive form, with abundant illustrations to make clear the various questions treated in the text. The material is drawn from a wide range of literature and contains frequent reference to contemporaneous ornithological writings throughout the World. The system of citation of other authors it is assumed refers to a bibliography to appear at the close of the completed volume.

The work is one that will be of great utility to those sufficiently familiar with the German language to utilize it easily.—A. W.

Phillips' 'Shooting Stands of Eastern Massachusetts.'—Dr. John C. Phillips has made another valuable contribution to the history of wild

¹ Handbuch der Zoologie. Gegründet von Dr. Willy Kükenthal, herausgegeben von Dr. Thilo Krumbach. Siebenter Band, Zweite Hälfte, Sauropsida: Aves, by E. Stresemann. Lieferung 2, December 15, 1927, price 12 Rm.; Lieferung 3, August 15, 1928, price 12 Rm.; Lieferung 4, December 20, 1928, price 10 Rm. Published by Walter de Gruyter and Co., Berlin and Leipzig.

² Auk, 1928, pp. 114-115.

fowl shooting in New England in this handsomely printed little volume,¹ which has been privately printed in a limited edition and is being sold for the benefit of the Massachusetts Fish and Game Association.

After a preliminary account of Duck and Goose shooting in eastern Massachusetts, the nature of shooting stands and the relative abundance of the species of wild fowl, there follows a list of all of the shooting stands concerning which the author has been able to obtain information.

The country under consideration is covered with scattered ponds, each of which supports one or more shooting stands, so that the total number runs up to about 230, of which 180 were occupied in 1928; some history of each is given with extracts from shooting records when available. Some of these date back as far as 1876.

In his introduction Dr. Phillips tells us that the total number of Geese shot per year in eastern Massachusetts averages about 4200 (2500-8500) and of Black Duck about 10,000. Live Goose decoys are used to a large extent, probably at the present time some 5000-6000, and a slightly smaller number of live Black Duck decoys.

This little volume will interest a large number of sportsmen who have shot over this region, and will appeal also to the lovers of good books as it is beautifully printed and attractively gotten up with a frontispiece of Canada Geese coming into a pond.—W. S.

Ten Year Index to 'The Auk.'—This indispensable publication² has at last appeared and should be secured by everyone who possesses a set of 'The Auk' or who desires to ascertain what has been published on any bird or group of birds, or on the birds of any country or state. No one who has not made use of the two previous 'Auk' indexes can form any idea of the usefulness of these volumes. Suppose, for instance, that we are interested in the bird life of Florida, we turn to "Florida" in the 'Index' and find listed, under authors, not only all of the papers on Florida birds that have appeared in the 'The Auk' during the ten years covered by the 'Index,' but also references to all other papers on the subject which have been reviewed or noticed in the pages of the magazine. We thus are at once in touch with practically the entire literature of the subject for the ten-year period.

The 'Index' follows closely the plan of the two preceding 'Indices' which together covered the period from 1876 to 1910, and brings the compilation up to 1920. As we are now close to the end of another ten-year period it

¹ Shooting Stands of Eastern Massachusetts. By John C. Phillips. Privately printed. The Riverside Press, Cambridge. 1929. pp. 1-158. (A limited number for sale by the Mass. Fish and Game Asso., 41 Mount Vernon St., Boston, Mass.)

² Ten Year Index to The Auk, Volumes XXVIII-XXXVII—1911-1920. Prepared by a Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union. Edited by T. S. Palmer and M. T. Cooke. Published by the American Ornithologists' Union. Lancaster, Pa. 1929. pp. i-xviii + 1-339. Price, cloth \$5.00, paper, \$4.00 (W. L. MacAtee, 200 Cedar St., Cherrydale, Va.)