

has published two accounts of his experiences which fully support the reputation of the country for difficulty of travel and inhospitality. One of these constitutes the November-December issue of the 'Bulletin of the N. Y. Zoological Society' while the other appears in the corresponding number of 'Natural History.' Both are illustrated by an abundance of photographs including portraits of the birds themselves taken in captivity but showing their characteristic attitudes and actions.

Mr. and Mrs. Rollo H. Beck also visited New Guinea in 1928 to secure specimens for the American Museum and an interesting account of their experiences appears in the same number of 'Natural History,' the illustrations including a colored plate of the new Bower Bird (*Xanthomelas bakeri*) discovered by Beck.—W. S.

Shoffner's 'Bird Book.'—This little volume,¹ by the organizer of the 'Farm Journal's' Liberty Bell Bird Club, is designed to furnish in compact form information desired by the school clubs and teachers all over the country, who apply to the 'Journal' for help in organizing and conducting bird clubs.

The topics covered in the forty odd chapters include, Migration, Mating, Nest and Eggs, Growth of Young, Structure, Color, Molts, Food, Sanctuaries, Bird Clubs, etc. Each topic is discussed in a separate chapter following which is another chapter containing questions and answers bearing upon it.

Mr. Shoffner has had much personal experience in stimulating popular bird study and in conducting bird sanctuaries and his little book should meet a general need. There are a number of half-tone illustrations.—W. S.

Boas on the Structure of the Bird's Wing.²—This is a detailed "biological-anatomical" study, with tables and comparisons, of the skeletal and muscular structure of the wing in the principal groups of birds. There are also twenty-four large plates showing different types of cervical vertebrae and the method of attachment of the cervical muscles in the various families. Text figures show the position and convolutions of the neck in several types of birds in performing characteristic actions and the relative position and movement of the vertebrae.

The paper is a most valuable contribution to avian anatomy.—W. S.

Rowan on Manipulation of the Reproductive Cycle.—It has long been realized that when we seek information on the stimulus to migration we must go deeper than the observation of the time of arrival and departure

¹ The Bird Book. A new book for bird-lovers, teachers and students, with more than 500 questions and answers. By Charles P. Shoffner. Richard Manson, Publisher. New York, pp. i-xi+1-335. Price \$2.00.

² Biologisch-Anatomische Studien über den Hals der Vögel, von J. E. V. Boas. Mit 23 Tafeln und 20 figuren im Text. Mem. del'Acad. Royal des Sci. et des Lettres de Danemark, Copenhagen, Sect. des Sci., 9me. serie t. I. No. 3., Kobenhavn, 1929.