

subspecies, and he therefore recognizes thirteen subspecies of *Piranga flava*, one of which *P. f. albifacies* (p. 205) is here proposed as new.

Our North American Hepatic Tanager thus becomes *Piranga flava hepatica* while the northern race *oreophasma* separated by Oberholser he considers unwarranted.—W. S.

Meise on Bird Types in the Dresden Museum.—This is the first installment¹ of another of the catalogues of types which are now being put out by various museums and which are of the greatest benefit to systematic workers as they enable them to have comparisons made with type specimens the whereabouts—or even the actual existence—of which, they were in ignorance. The present paper covers the Crows, Birds of Paradise, Starlings, Orioles, Drongos, Shrikes and Swallow-Shrikes. Dr. Meise is to be thanked for undertaking this publication.—W. S.

De Schauensee on Siamese Birds.—As a result of an expedition to northern Siam, undertaken October 1928–January 1929, in the interests of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Mr. deSchauensee secured a collection of 750 skins representing 255 species and the present paper² is a report on this material. The collecting was done mainly at Chieng Mai and Doi Soutep. Measurements of each species are presented with annotations regarding distribution, habits, and relationship. The new forms secured were previously described and have already been noticed in these columns. The paper is a valuable contribution to the ornithology of a comparatively little known section.—W. S.

Publications on Bird Banding.—Messrs. F. C. Lincoln and S. Prentiss Baldwin have prepared an excellent 'Manual for Bird Banders',³ in which is contained all the information that could possibly be desired concerning this phase of bird study. Methods, traps, cages, records, tools, etc., etc. receive careful consideration, while an abundance of illustrations assists in making everything clear. The pamphlet at once places in the hands of the prospective bird bander all the information that he will require to carry on the work and should stimulate many people, who may hesitate to take it up because they are unformed as to the procedure. It is published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

Another important step in the history of bird banding is the enlargement of the publication of the Northeastern Society and its support by two

¹ Verzeichnis der Typen des Staatlichen Museums für Tierkunde in Dresden, 2 Teil., Vogel I., von Dr. Wilhelm Meise. Abh. und Berichte der Mus. f. Tierk. und Völk. zu Dresden. Band XVII (1927–1929), December 30, 1929. Pp. 1–22.

² A Further Collection of Birds from Siam. By Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sciences, Phila. Vol. lxxxi, 1929. Pp. 523–538.

³ Manual for Bird Banders. By Frederick C. Lincoln and S. Prentiss Baldwin. Misc. Publ. No. 58. U. S. Dept. Agriculture. November, 1929. Pp. 1–112. Price 30 cents. (Supt. of Documents, Wash., D. C.)

of the sister organizations. The name of the journal becomes 'Bird Banding.' This move will centralize still further the activities of the bird banders and save a great amount of energy now expended on separate publications. (For notice of contents see p. 290).—W. S.

Publications on Game Birds.—Two recent publications of the Biological Survey, by W. L. MacAtee, deal with the propagation of game birds and should prove a great help to those engaged in this line of work. The time seems to be rapidly approaching when certain groups of game will be extinct so far an original wild stock is concerned and, if sportsmen wish to continue to shoot, a supply of game will have to be raised for the purpose. Therefore all information relating to this business is welcome.

The first paper¹ deals with the propagation of upland game birds and contains detailed instructions for enclosures, cages, breeding houses, etc., followed by specific information about Pheasants, Bobwhites, Hungarian Partridges, Grouse and Wild Turkeys.

In discussing enemies, while the use of pole traps for catching Hawks is discouraged and the hope extended that it will eventually be everywhere prohibited, as it has been in New Jersey, nevertheless considerable space is devoted to explaining how pole traps may be made less cruel and less likely to cause the death of smaller birds which alight upon them. It would seem to us, however, that the Biological Survey stands strong enough in the estimation of the public to take the lead in this matter and to state emphatically that pole traps should under no circumstances be used, that they are cruel and that they are likely to make the user liable to fine for killing smaller beneficial birds. Such a statement from such a source would go far to eliminate the obnoxious pole trap.

Mr. MacAtee's other paper² lists game birds suitable for introduction into this country. He recommends many species of Pheasants, Sand Grouse and Bustards but considers that the Red Grouse and Black Grouse are too dependent upon the presence of heather to make it possible to introduce them where the plant does not grow. The Wood Pigeon is regarded as likely to become a nuisance and its introduction is not advised. May not some of the others also become undesirable when it is too late to remedy the error? Introduction of any foreign species is a dangerous procedure and it would seem that the breeding of native birds were the better alternative.—W. S.

Stegmann on Birds of S. E. Transbaikal.—This excellent paper³ is based on the author's personal experiences and upon extensive collec-

¹ Propagation of Upland Game Birds. By W. L. MacAtee. Farmers Bulletin No. 1613. U. S. Dept. Agriculture. pp. 1-61, January, 1930. Price 10 cents, Supt. of Documents, Washington, D. C.

² Game Birds Suitable for Naturalizing in the United States. By W. L. MacAtee. Circular 96. U. S. Dept. Agriculture. November, 1929. pp. 1-23.

³ Die Vögel Süd-Ost Transbaikaliens von B. Stegmann. *Annuaire du Musée Zool. Acad. des. Sci. de l'Urss.* Pp. 83-242, pl. IV-IX