

until 1871. No less than twenty-two species of the extinct Moas are recognized referred to five genera. Moa gizzard stones, four perfect eggs and pieces of skin with feathers and muscles attached have been discovered and the evidence is clear that they were killed in numbers and cooked for food by the Maoris after they reached the islands and to this slaughter is attributed the apparently rapid extermination of the great birds.

Since the settlement of the country by Europeans twenty-three species of birds have either become extinct or have been greatly reduced in numbers. As a factor in this the introduction of foreign birds is to be considered and America would do well to seriously take heed of the effect of the enormous increase in the numbers of the European Starling and the consequent disappearance of our native species where the foreigner is most strongly entrenched. If this species is not held in check some of our native American birds will go the way of the New Zealand forms.

Where fields and plantations replace native forest in New Zealand, we learn that European, Australian and Asiatic birds meet the eye on all hands and here and there only is a native species to be seen. Mr. Oliver is to be congratulated upon his excellent book which should be in every ornithological library describing as it does one of the most interesting bird faunas to be found anywhere in the world.—W. S.

Baerg's 'Birds of Arkansas.'—Prof. W. J. Baerg, of the Entomological Department of the University of Arkansas, College of Agriculture, has prepared an excellent pamphlet¹ on the birds of the state. There are introductory remarks on distribution, migration, song, conservation etc., with a table of arrival dates at Fayetteville and another showing song periods.

The main text consists of a brief description of each species and a statement of range followed, in the case of the better known species, by a short account of habits, etc. A number of halftone illustrations are scattered through the text.

The present list includes 312 species or subspecies of which 15 have not definitely been observed within the state limits but are listed because there is every likelihood of their presence there. Howell's list of 1911 contained 255 forms with 35 additional not yet definitely found within the state, while Wheeler's list, 1924, included 287 species and subspecies of which 2 were not definitely known from within the state limits, so that the score would seem to stand Howell 255, Wheeler 285, and Baerg 297.

Mr. Baerg's publication will prove of much assistance to teachers and bird students throughout Arkansas and will doubtless result, in the near future, in definite records for the fifteen species requiring confirmation.—W. S.

Van Schaick's 'The Little Hill Farm.'—Those who are familiar with Mr. Van Schaick's nature sketches will welcome another little volume

¹ Birds of Arkansas. By W. J. Baerg. Bulletin No. 258. Agricultural Experiment Station. Univ. Arkansas. College of Agriculture. Dan T. Gray, Director. Fayetteville, Arkansas. January, 1931. Pp. 1-197. Price 77 cents.