

learn that the fauna of the eastern half is exclusively eastern in its character, that of the central area showing a decrease in eastern elements but with few really western forms, while at the extreme end of the "Panhandle" western birds predominate. Of the entire list 50% of the breeding species are eastern forms, 28% western, 8% middle western and 15% widely distributed species.

There is a good bibliography and an excellent annotated list of itineraries and reports on field work in Oklahoma, many of them manuscripts. A page is devoted to attracting and protecting birds, and there is an account of migration in the state and a series of Christmas censuses.

The list proper which comprises most of the report is excellently prepared with full annotations as to abundance, character of occurrence, habitats, etc., with migration and nesting dates, definite records of occurrence of the rarer species, and a brief summary of food.

Several outline maps and four half-tone plates constitute the illustrations. The nomenclature is that of the forthcoming A. O. U. 'Check-List,' with the original numbers placed at the front of the names. While these numbers are preserved in the new Check-List (at the end of the names) for the benefit of oölogists, who depend upon them for the identification of eggs, they seem to serve no purpose in a faunal list such as the present, especially as the new classification throws them completely out of sequence.

Mrs. Nice deserves the thanks of all ornithologists, especially those of the Middle West for her excellent report which will long be our standard authority on the birds of the state.—W. S.

Spiker's Birds of Peterboro Swamp and Labrador Pond, N. Y.—A recent 'Bulletin' of the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station consists of a "Biological Reconnaissance of the Peterboro Swamp and the Labrador Pond Areas," in Madison Co., N. Y., with the object of determining their suitability as permanent game refuges which might serve as a reservoir for the maintenance of small game and its spread into adjoining territory.

The report has been prepared by Charles J. Spicer and follows the excellent plan of previous publications of the same kind issued by the Experiment Station. The general character of each area is described with photographs illustrating the various habitats; then follows a summary of the present mammal and bird faunas with notes on each species, and finally a consideration of the game species, their present, past, and probable future—if the area is preserved. The birds observed during the several visits of the author to the Peterboro Swamp numbered 114 with 107 for the Labrador Pond area.

There is also presented an excellent consideration of the economic value of birds and of the control of raptors and rodents. While the author finds

¹ A Biological Reconnaissance of the Peterboro Swamp and the Labrador Pond Areas. By Chas. J. Spiker. Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin, Vol. 6, No. 1, March 19, 1931. Pp. 1-151.

that Goshawks and Cooper's Hawks need a measure of control he finds no evidence of depredations by the Snowy Owl during its phenomenal incursion in 1927-8 and places the Great Horned Owl "on the fence" as it does much good. The control of these species as well as of the Crow he says should be governed by local conditions and not by a state-wide law. Unfortunately, as shown by illustrations, taxidermists handled large numbers of both these Owls killed (within the law) for trophies without any regard to economic considerations.

An excellent color plate of winter birds by E. J. Sawyer is a valuable addition to the other illustrations.

Mr. Spiker has produced a good and reliable piece of work and we trust framers of economic legislation in New York will carefully consider his conclusions.—W. S.

Hachisuka's 'Birds of the Philippine Islands.'—We have received the first volume¹ of a comprehensive work on the birds of the Philippines (in English) by Hon. Masauji Hachisuka.

This volume "Part I" contains first, an account of the geography and climate of the archipelago with a map illustrating the rainfall; second, an ornithological history of the Philippines containing excellent summaries of the work of all who have studied the bird life, arranged chronologically with lists of the new species described, and third, a detailed account of the author's explorations in Mindanao and those of his colleague Mr. Nahamura. Then there follows a bibliography of Philippine ornithology and the systematic account of the avifauna, of which the present volume contains only the Megapodes and Pheasants. There are numerous excellent plates mainly from photographs of scenery, natives, camps of the author's expeditions, etc., and several plates of birds from drawings or published pictures, with a frontispiece in colors of the Palawan Peacock Pheasant from a painting by Grönvold.

The work is admirably prepared and beautifully printed in royal octavo size ($10 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ ins.), and we shall look forward with interest to the appearance of the succeeding parts.—W. S.

van Rossem on Sonoran Birds.—Nearly 4000 bird skins from Sonora, mainly collected by J. T. Wright for Mr. Griffing Bancroft, and now incorporated in the Dickey collection at the California Institute of Technology, have been studied by Mr. van Rossem and a number of new forms described from time to time. The present paper² is a report upon the entire land bird material (the water birds to be reported upon by Mr. Bancroft), and constitutes one of the most important contributions that has been

¹ The Birds of the Philippine Islands with notes on the Mammal Fauna. By The Hon. Masauji Hachisuka F.Z.S., F.R.G.S. (etc.). Part I. Pages 1-168. H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. 1. March 16, 1931.

² Report on a Collection of Land Birds from Sonora. By A. J. van Rossem. Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist., VI, No. 19, pp. 237-304 with map. April 30, 1931.