Bowen on the Life Zones of Africa.—In the first installment of a report[1] on the A. Blaney Percival collection of East African birds recently acquired by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Mr. W. Wedgwood Bowen presents his conclusions on the life zones of Africa based upon his personal experiences and upon a study of extensive collections and of the literature bearing on the temperature and contour of the continent.

Dr. James P. Chapin, who has published upon this subject, decided that life zones in Africa were largely ecological and that "the whole question of plant and bird distribution in Africa * * * goes back to the distribution and abundance of rains." To this Mr. Bowen does not agree but decides that "there are in Africa climatic zones comparable to those which Dr. Chapman has demonstrated in South America."

He draws his own zonal map recognizing as primary divisions the Tropical, Subtropical, Temperate, and Alpine Zones and lists characteristic species for each concluding with the statement that "a large part of the Ethiopean region possesses a climate which is subtropical rather than tropical."

Our author would seem to have made a good point though the accuracy of his conclusions must rest upon a careful checking of the distribution of the African species which cannot be done in the space of a review. It would seem strange if the underlying principle which governs distribution in South America did not also pertain in Africa.

As Mr. Bowen points out most of the subdivisions recognized by Chapin are perfectly valid and except for some changes in boundary lines they remain the same in each scheme. It is the underlying principle that is novel.

In addition to his discussion of life zones Mr. Bowen lists the localities represented in the Percival collection and the number of skins from each, the total number being 6,287. He also gives a list of the collectors. This paper is preliminary to a systematic discussion of the more interesting specimens in the collection.

In another paper[2] he lists some forty-three species of Angolan birds obtained by an expedition from the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, in 1930, consisting of Harold T. Green and John Jonas, whose primary object was to obtain specimens of the Giant Sable Antelope. Notes on plumages and some field notes by the collectors are added.—W. S.

Hellmayr on the Birds of Chile.—This report[3] was originally intended to cover the collection of some 1500 specimens brought back by the Mar-

[1] Notes on the A. Blaney Percival Collection of East African Birds,—Part I. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., LXXXIV. Pp. 259–280, June 30, 1932.

[2] Angolan Birds Collected During the Second Gray African Expedition—1930, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., LXXXIV, pp. 281–289, June 30, 1932.

[3] Field Museum of Natural History | Publ. 308 Zool. Ser. | XIX. The Birds of Chile | By | Charles E. Hellmayr | Associate Curator of Birds. | Chicago, U. S. A. June 13, 1932. Pp. 1–472. (No illustrations.)

shall Field Chilean Expedition of 1922–1924, conducted by W. H. Osgood, H. B. Conover, and Colin C. Sanborn. Later however it was extended to include all available information on Chilean birds and thus becomes a monograph of Chilean ornithology.

The limits of the country as here considered include all of the province of Tacna on the north and extend southward to latitude 48° S., practically the southern limit of the "Valdivian" forest. Prefatory to the main text are presented a historical sketch of Chilean ornithology from the publication of Father Molina's "Saggio," in 1782, to the present time; a discussion of climatic conditions, which separate Chile into three regions: the sterile northern portion, from Atacama northward; a central area (31°–38°), and the humid forested region at the south. The first of these belongs to the Tropical Zone and the two latter to the Temperate which here comes down to sea level. Another zone the "Puna," corresponding to the "Paramo" of the northern Andes, occupies the upper parts of the high mountains. Migration, our author tells us, is of three sorts. Temperate and Puna birds come down to the valleys, other Puna forms go north to Bolivia, and forest birds move more or less northward.

The systematic portion of the report covers 335 species and subspecies. Under each is given a list of Chilean references, tha range in Chile, a list of specimens obtained by the expedition, if any, a discussion of relationship to allied forms, and field notes by members of the expedition.

Dr. Hellmayr has given us a most useful work—the first complete summary of the Chilean avifauna, which will take its place along with Chapman's monographs of the birds of Colombia and Ecuador, Todd and Carriker's work on the birds of Santa Marta and Mrs. Naumburg's on the Matto Grosso avifauna.—W. S.

Stone, on the 'Birds of Honduras.'—In the summer of 1930 an expedition in the interests of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia visited Honduras with the highlands along the southern border as its chief objective. It was under the leadership of James A. G. Rehn, Secretary of the Academy, who was accompanied by John T. Emlen, Jr. and C. Brooke Worth, members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club. The collection of bird skins made by the two latter numbered 569 skins representing 191 species and subspecies. It has been studied by Dr. Witmer Stone and his report[1] upon the material has just appeared. In view of the scattered nature of the literature bearing on Honduran birds it seemed to the author worth while to add such species as had been previously recorded from the country but not obtained by this expedition and to quote all recorded localities for each form so that the list, containing 420 species and subspecies, includes all the birds known from Hunduras to date.

[1] The Birds of Honduras with Special Reference to a Collection Made in 1930 by John T. Emlen, Jr., and C. Brooke Worth. By Witmer Stone, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phila., LXXXIV, 1932 Aug., 18, pp. 291–342.