

of the habits and distribution of the twenty-six North American species beautifully depicted by Major Brooks. This series will form a work which all interested in American ornithology cannot afford to be without. Besides Major Brooks' paintings, which are attractively grouped on tinted backgrounds, there are a number of interesting photographs of young swifts and humming-birds.—W. S.

**Legendre's Monograph of the European Titmice.**—This publication<sup>1</sup> forms Vol. VI, of the 'Encyclopedie Ornithologique' being published by Paul Lechevalier and Sons. It considers in much detail the various species of titmice found in Europe with the numerous geographical races that have been recognized by recent authorities. There are descriptions, distributions, accounts of habits, nests and eggs etc., together with keys for determination, maps, photographs of several of the species, and a colored plate of four of the species of *Parus*. The limits of the family Paridae are somewhat extended by including the Kinglets. The five genera recognized as belonging to the group are *Parus*, *Aegithalos*, *Anthoscopus*, *Regulus*, *Panurus* and eighty-three forms are recognized while eight supposed hybrids are described.

The paper is well prepared and forms a valuable contribution to our knowledge of a group of birds to which the author has given much attention.—W. S.

**The Indiana Audubon Year Book.**—This valuable publication contains a vast amount of notes on Indiana birds besides much information of wider interest. Prominent in the latter category may be mentioned a biographical sketch, by Dr. B. W. Evermann, of the veteran Indiana ornithologist, Amos W. Butler, with portrait and bibliography; an extensive paper on Bird Parasites both internal and external by George Zebrowski; Birds of Prey of Mercer Co., Ohio, by Paul Forsthoefel; a short paper on Bird Life of Nova Scotia by Mrs. Henry Watterman; and Racing Homing Pigeons by Harry M. Gould. Much information on Robins has been compiled by Dr. Earl Brooks and Arthur M. Grass, the latter estimating on several careful counts that the total number of Robins' nests in the state each year is over eight million!

We congratulate the Audubon Society upon another excellent publication.—W. S.

**A British Bird Census.**—Our colleague W. B. Alexander has published<sup>2</sup> the results of both winter and summer counts of the bird inhabitants of a 125-acre farm near Oxford, England. The results are of comparative value with those obtained in the Eastern United States, with which they

<sup>1</sup> Monographie des Mesanges d'Europe par Marcel Legendre. Encyclopedie Ornithologique. Paul Lechevalier & Fils Editeurs 12, Rue de Tournon, Paris—Vie. 1932. Pp. 1-121, 15 figs., 5 planches.

<sup>2</sup> The Bird Population of an Oxfordshire Farm, Journ. Animal Ecol. 1, No. 1, May 1932, pp. 58-64.

substantially agree. The number of birds found was about 2 to 3 per acre at either season. This result shows that remarks as to the greater abundance of birds in England compared with this country have been prompted by enthusiasm rather than based on facts. The number of birds seen about a greenery embowered residence is no safer criterion of the average population of village, wood, and field in England than it would be in the United States. We can thank Mr. Alexander for debunking another portion of gush. The average number of birds decreased steadily through the winter, and the data put in another form—combined weight of the birds—show the same decline to be true of the actual quantity of bird life present.—W. L. M.

#### Shorter Articles.

**Berlepsch, Hans Freiherr von.**—Twenty-fourth report on bird study and protection at Seebach. (In German.)

**Grote, Hermann.**—On the Avifauna of Novaya Zemlaya. (Verh. Ornith. Ges. Bay. XI X, Heft 4, 1932, p. 57–584.)—An annotated list of species procured on the island by G. Gorbunow. (In German.)

**Naumburg, Elsie M. B.** Three New Birds from Northwestern Brazil. (Amer. Mus. Novitates. No. 554, August 22, 1932.)—*Nothura maculosa cearensis* (p. 1) Ceara; *Columba picazuro marginalis* (p. 3) and *Crypturellus tataupa septentrionalis* (p. 6) Corrente, Piauhy, Brazil all collected by Emil Kaempfer.

**Stresemann, Erwin.**—Notes on the Systematics and Distribution of some Swifts (Collocalia) of Malaysia and adjacent subregions. (Bull. Raffles Mus., Singapore, Straits Settlements, No. 6, December, 1931.)—Three new forms are described. Representatives of four species of these interesting swifts breed in the Malay Peninsula; two in Borneo; three in Sumatra; two in central Celebes and three in Java where three different races of *C. francica* occur, the only instance where more than one race of a species occurs on an island. It now appears that the white edible nest which has such a high commercial value is the product of *C. francica* and not *C. fuciphaga* the latter and all other larger species making a black nest in which the saliva is mixed with moss and feathers.

**Wetmore, Alexander.**—Birds Collected in Cuba and Haiti by the Parrish-Smithsonian Expedition of 1930. (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1932, pp. 1–40.)—This expedition, under the direction of the late Lee H. Parrish, brought back to the U. S. National Museum a collection of 558 birds from Gonave Island, Haiti and from Navassa Island, Petit Gonave, Grande Cayemite, Petit Cayemite and Isle a Vache, some of them difficult of access and from which little or no material was available. Dr. Wetmore lists the species obtained from each island as well as two species *Dendroica v. virens* and *Vireo olivaceus barbatula* not hitherto taken in Haiti. The