

published a very useful list¹ of 120 species and subspecies proposed in recent years by Japanese ornithologists showing which are valid in the opinion of the Committee and which are synonyms. As in nearly all cases critical material is to be found only in Japanese collections, this list becomes of great assistance to ornithologists in other countries. It develops that of the many forms recently described by Mr. Momiyama over one hundred are regarded as synonyms, the result of "unwarranted splitting."
—W. S.

Howard on Eagles of the Rancho La Brea Pleistocene.²—Miss Howard has presented an admirable study of the fossil eagles and eagle-like vultures of the Rancho La Brea, southern California, formation, in connection with which descriptions of similar birds from other parts of the United States and skeletons of various recent types have been studied. Each important bone of every species is described and compared with corresponding bones of allied forms and a scheme of classification of these birds is presented which differs slightly from that of the A. O. U. 'Check-List.' She recognizes the subfamily Aquilinae as distinct from Buteoninae; places the old world vultures after *Haliaeetus* and includes *Morphnus* in the Buteoninae ahead of *Aquila*.

A remarkably fine series of half-tones of portions of the skeletons of the birds considered pictures 180 bones so accurately that they would appear almost as satisfactory to the student as the specimens themselves. We congratulate Miss Howard upon a valuable contribution to avian anatomy and phylogeny.—W. S.

The "Crested Grebe Enquiry" in Great Britain.—The results of this coöperative investigation, reported on from time to time in 'British Birds,' which fostered the enquiry, have now been published in pamphlet form³ and are well worth careful study. The Great Crested Grebe was first given adequate protection in 1880 and immediately began to increase and spread and from about fifty lakes occupied by at least a pair of the birds, in that year, nearly 500 now have them present as breeders. The total number of pairs today is about 1160, the county of Norfolk leading with 202. The investigation did not deal wholly with a census of the birds but included data on early history, character of increase, factors involved, food, habits, migration, nesting, etc., etc.—forming in fact a monograph of the species.

¹ A Revision of the Types of Birds Described by Japanese Authors During the Years 1923-1931. By Nagamichi Kuroda. *Novit. Zool.*, Vol. XXXVII, pp. 384-405. June, 1932.

² Eagles and Eagle-like Vultures of the Pleistocene of Rancho La Brea. By Hildegard Howard. *Contrib. to Palaeontology*, Carnegie Inst. Washington. Pp. 1-82, pl. 1-29. October, 1932.

³ The Great Crested Grebe Enquiry, 1931. By T. H. Harrisson and P. A. D. Hollom. Reprinted from 'British Birds' H. F. and G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. 1. Price 2 shillings 6 pence.