

volumes there should be enough others willing to make their publication possible.

While not in any way criticising Mr. Swarth, for he was following a system set by his predecessors, we would take exception to the practice of listing the hundreds of reviews written by the 'Auk' editor, under his own name. No one would think of looking for a review under the editor's name when he can find it at once under the name of the author. If he did attempt to locate it under the editor's name he must wade through some thirty pages of titles arranged chronologically! With the elimination of these thirty pages a material saving could be effected in the cost of the index and possibly in its selling price. Furthermore the editor might be able to find references to his own publications which are now buried in this maze of reviews!—W. S.

McIlhenny's 'Bird City.'—This little booklet¹ by Mr. E. A. McIlhenny, of Avery Island, La., describes the remarkable colony of Herons, Egrets and other southern water birds which he has established close to his home and is illustrated by nearly one hundred excellent photographs of the "City," individual birds, and other interesting inhabitants of the spot.

There is an introduction by Harris Dickson and the main narrative by Mr. McIlhenny in the form of talks to his grandchildren, telling them how "bird city" was constructed and about the life history of the various water fowl that inhabit it.

He has produced an attractive little volume which cannot fail to interest all who have a love for nature and for conserving wild life, and will enlist their sympathy for the efforts to bring back all through the South the beautiful birds that millinery greed and lack of laws or their enforcement almost exterminated.—W. S.

Brooks and Allen on the Blackbirds, Orioles, etc.—The July number of the 'National Geographic Magazine' contains another installment of Major Brooks's excellent paintings of North American birds, covering the Icteridae, as well as the Waxwings, Shrikes and Vireos. The arrangement is very pleasing following that of Thorburn's 'British Birds' with several individual groups on a plate and tinted backgrounds.

Dr. A. A. Allen furnishes the text for this number drawing upon his wide experience for items of interest on the species covered. The additional halftone illustrations, a prominent feature of the previous installments, are, for some reason, omitted. In discussing the origin of the North American avifauna our author derives it entirely from the Old World by way of Alaska and from South America, but we wonder if a part, at least, of the alleged South American element may not be indigineous to our

¹ Bird City | Illustrated with Photographs Taken | by the Author | E. A. McIlhenny | Author of "Befo' De War Spirituals" and | "The Wild Turkey and Its Hunting" | With Introduction By | Harris Dickson | The Christopher Publishing House | Boston, U. S. A. Pp. 1-203.

continent even though it may have been forced southward at the time of the Glacial Period. The caption of the Cowbird plate which attributes the bird's parasitic habit to "laziness" is doubtless chargeable to the editor rather than the author. While this is a popular explanation of the peculiar habit, parasitism is hardly to be explained so easily. The ninth article covering the Ducks and Geese is promised for an early issue and will be looked for with much interest since it is with these birds that Major Brooks is at his best.—W. S.

La Touche's 'Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China.'—The final part of this important work¹ begun in January, 1925, appeared in May of the present year. In our reviews of the ten preceding parts, as they were issued, we have commented upon the excellent plan of the work and the admirable way in which it has been carried on. It only remains to say that the concluding part is quite up to the standard of its predecessors. It covers the remainder of the Anatidae and the Podicipidae and Colymbidae with thirteen pages of corrigenda and addenda.

Mr. La Touche has completed an excellent piece of work which merits the thanks of all ornithologists who deal with Asiatic birds. The 'Handbook' will be our authority on the birds of East China for many years to come.—W. S.

Taverner and Sutton on the Birds of Churchill, Manitoba.—This report² on field work in the immediate vicinity of Churchill covers several expeditions made during the years 1930 to 1933. P. A. Taverner, A. C. Lloyd and V. E. Gould, representing the Canadian National Museum, in 1930; John B. Semple, A. C. Lloyd, G. M. Sutton and O. S. Pettingill representing the Carnegie Museum, and another party consisting of A. and D. Twomey, Frank Farley and H. A. McGregor, both in 1931. Mr. A. Twomey visited the spot again in both 1932 and 1933 accompanied on the latter occasion by Miss Marguerite Heydweiller.

With an interesting historical introduction and a description of the country the report passes on to an annotated list of the 142 species of birds observed. This is replete with interesting field observations and in many cases comments on specimens collected. The importance of securing the information presented in the report is evident when we learn that Churchill at the southern end of Hudson Bay and exactly at the limit of tree growth has become an ocean port and railway terminus! At the time of the authors' visits "an army of men were at work with transit, shovel and hammer and docks, round houses and elevators were being erected with feverish haste, while steam shovels leveled the inland gravel ridges and filled the marshes. A shallow lagoon where many of the

¹ A Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China. By J. D. D. La Touche. Vol. II, Part VI, May, 1934. Pp. 1-xxiii + 497-566. Price, per part 7s. 6d. net. Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet St., London, E. C. 4.

² The Birds of Churchill, Manitoba. By Percy A. Taverner and George Miksch Sutton. Reprinted from the Annals of the Carnegie Museum. Vol. XXIII, 1934. May 1. Pp. 1-83, pl. I-XIV.