

observations on shore birds were made, is to become a switching yard and covered with oily trackage'.

A colored plate of the Hudsonian Curlew, from a painting by Brooks, forms the frontispiece of the report and there are twelve plates of half-tones from photographs of birds and nests and a sketch map, forming altogether a most valuable and interesting contribution to Canadian ornithology.

A curious feature is the use of binomials only in the headings of the list following the practice of the senior author. Inasmuch as subspecific names are used in the body of the text wherever specimens have been secured (and in several cases where they were not!) it is hard to see that this practice serves any purpose except to cause annoyance and waste of time for the subsequent author who may wish to quote references under the proper subspecific headings.—W. S.

'**Birds of the Chicago Region.**'—This excellent little booklet¹ presents a list of the 371 species or subspecies of birds recorded from the area surrounding the southern end of Lake Michigan, and including portions of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. The character of occurrence, migration and nesting dates, and more exact data on rare forms, are given and 92 species are marked with an asterisk to indicate that they are extinct, accidental or listed on the basis of sight records only. A map and a bibliography complete the work.

We have but one suggestion to offer on the plan of the list, i. e. the use of "Transient" instead of "Migrant" for birds which pass through in the spring and autumn. The "Summer Residents" and "Winter Visitants" are also "migrants" and the more distinctive term would appear more satisfactory.

It is more than twenty-five years since the appearance of Mr. Woodruff's list covering practically the same field and with the vast increase in local bird students in that time a new publication on the subject is most welcome.—W. S.

Ball on 'Hybrid Ducks.'—This interesting paper² is mainly devoted to detailed descriptions of a cross between the Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) and the Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta clangula americana*) recently obtained by the author and another in the Boston Society of Natural History. He also discusses some hybrids between the Golden-eye and Smew recorded by Suchetet and a Black Duck and Mallard hybrid.

By way of introduction a list of hybrid Ducks recorded since 1907 is presented. While its date of publication is prior to 1907 we might call

¹ Birds of the Chicago Region. By Edward R. Ford, Colin C. Sanborn and C. Blair Coursen. Program of Activities of The Chicago Academy of Sciences, Vol. 5. Nos. 2-3, May, 1934. Pp. 1-80. The Chicago Academy of Sciences, 2001 North Clark Street, Chicago. Price 50 cents.

² Hybrid Ducks, including Descriptions of Two Crosses of *Bucephala* and *Lophodytes*. By Stanley C. Ball. Bulletin 3, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University 1934. Pp. 1-26, pls. I-III.