

intermedius (p. 427); and from the latter, *Saucerottia beryllina motaguae* (p. 421) and *Mitrephanes phaeocercus pallidus* (p. 435). There are many discussions of the relationships of the species and other annotations of interest.

Another paper¹ dealing with the birds of this country is Ludlow Griscom's report on the Richardson collection in the British Museum from the Sierra de las Minas. One new form is described, *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus richardsoni* (p. 816), and annotations are given on thirty-nine forms of the higher altitudes with a zonal discussion of the mountain range.—W. S.

Danforth on West Indian Birds.—Dr. Danforth has recently published several papers² on West Indian birds occupying the entire October, 1935, number of the 'Puerto Rico Journal of Agriculture.'

First comes an annotated list of 67 species of birds observed in Cuba on a trip taken in 1933 followed by remarks on the advisability of introducing Cuban birds into Puerto Rico. The Wood Duck, Jacana, Mourning Dove, Barn Owl and Solitaire are among those whose introduction would seem to be of economic benefit. The introduction of ground nesting species is impossible on account of the mongoose.

Another paper is a supplement to the author's 'Birds of the Virgin Islands' with annotations on some seventy species. A complete list of the 132 species known from the islands follows.

An annotated list of the fifty-four species known from the island of Barbuda is also presented and there is a description of a new Ground Dove from St. Kitts, *Columbigallina passerina nigrirostris* (p. 483), and a race of the Broad-winged Hawk from Puerto Rico by Danforth and J. Adger Smyth—*Buteo platypterus brunnescens* (p. 485)—W. S.

Recent Papers by Berlioz.—In a short paper³ on a collection of birds from the Belgian Congo, M. Berlioz presents notes on twenty-two species obtained by M. G. Babault mainly at M'Bwahi in the mountain forest west of Lake Kivu. Another collection obtained by Dr. R. Malbrant from the Chari River south of Lake Chad is also reported upon.⁴ It comprised some seventy forms but none regarded as new.

In another paper⁵ the author lists specimens of twenty-two species supposed to be extinct which are in the collection of the Paris Museum. We note that there are seven Passenger Pigeons, four Carolina Parakeets, nine Esquimo Curlew and two Ivory-billed Woodpeckers, the last correctly regarded as possibly not yet exterminated, also a mounted specimen and three eggs of the Great Auk and a male Labrador Duck. Students of West Indian birds will be interested in two specimens of the Cuban Macaw (*Ara tricolor* Bechst.).—W. S.

Collinge on Food of the Coot.—It is gratifying to learn that Dr. Collinge is able to continue his studies of British economic ornithology. His recent paper on Food and feeding-habits of the Coot (*Fulica atra* Linn.)⁶ is welcome not only as settling disputed features of this bird's activities in Great Britain but as suggesting parallel conclusions for the American Coot, not yet seriously studied. Coots consume much green vegetation and grind it finely so that analysis of their stomach contents is no

¹ The Birds of the Sierra de las Minas, Eastern Guatemala. By Ludlow Griscom, *Ibis*, October, 1935. Pp. 807-817.

² Journal of Agriculture of the University of Puerto Rico. XIX, No. 4, October, 1935.

³ Étude d'une Collection d'Oiseaux du Congo Belge. Par J. Berlioz. Bull. Mus. Paris, VII, No. 3, 1935. Pp. 159-164.

⁴ Étude d'une Collection d'Oiseaux du Tchad (A. E. F.) Par J. Berlioz. Bull. Mus. Paris, VI, No. 6, 1934. Pp. 490-496.

⁵ Notice sur les Spécimens Naturalisés d'Oiseaux Éteints Existants dans les Collections du Muséum. Par J. Berlioz. Arch. du Mus. d'Hist. Nat. XII, 1935. Pp. 485-495.

⁶ The *Ibis*, Jan. 1936, pp. 35-39, 1 table.

easy task. Dr. Collinge found such vegetation, chiefly grass and aquatic plants, to compose in averages of monthly diet 84.10 per cent of the contents of 157 stomachs. Food items next in rank were molluscs 4.60 percent, worms 3.23, and fish and fish eggs 2.39 percent. Charges that the Coot destroys numbers of the eggs and young of wild Ducks were little substantiated by this study, only two instances of bird-eating being found. The general conclusion is that the food habits are neutral and the bird essentially harmless.—W. L. M.

On the Types of J. K. Townsend's Birds.—In my review of Hellmayr's 'Birds of the Americas' (Auk, January, 1936, p. 104) I said "we do not think that the Washington and Cambridge specimens [of J. K. Townsend's birds] can be regarded as 'co-types.' Most of the new species were described in the 'Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia' and we maintain that the specimens retained there are the types."

When this was written I had intended publishing in the same issue a paper on the Townsend types with extracts from some letters of Audubon bearing upon the subject, to which reference was to be made. Unfortunately this paper had to be held over so that my statement lacked the explanation that it should have had. My point was not against the status of "co-types" as forming the basis of species described from several specimens but, rather, whether the specimens in Audubon's possession (which later came to the U. S. National Museum and the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, were used in drawing up the descriptions which were published in the 'Journal' of the Philadelphia Academy, in Townsend's name, by an "ornithological committee" of that institution, during his continued absence in the West.

The "duplicate specimens" were sold to Audubon on October 23, 1935, and in all probability were at once taken possession of by him, at any rate he left Philadelphia on November 10, taking them with him to Charleston where he drew them. The paper describing the novelties was, according to Audubon, published by Dr. Samuel G. Morton, though some other members were doubtless associated with him on the "committee." As it was not read before the Academy until November 15, 1935, and as Audubon apparently had nothing to do with it, it seems very doubtful whether any of the specimens purchased by him were used in its preparation.

Furthermore Townsend's second collection was shipped in its entirety to Audubon in London and a part of it was purchased by him. How many additional specimens of the species he originally bought in Philadelphia were in this lot it is impossible to ascertain, but it is easily possible that some of those in Washington and Cambridge may have been secured at this later date. The whole matter is much involved but is interesting historically.—WILMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Other Ornithological Publications.

Andrews, C. L.—Migratory Birds of Northwestern Alaska. (Nature Magazine, February, 1936.)

Bailey, H. H.—A Revision of the Genus *Coturnicops*. (Bull. 10. Bailey Mus. and Library Nat. Hist., Miami, Fla.)—Describes *Coturnicops noveboracensis richi* (p. 1) from Canton, Ohio, and *C. n. emersoni* (p. 3) from Shandon, California. While the paper is dated September 1, 1935, our copy was not received until December 17. The delay in mailing this publication may result in some unfortunate duplication of names, as it has in the past!

Brand, Albert R.—Bird Voices in the Southland. (Natural History, February, 1936.)—Accounts of taking sound pictures of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Caracara, etc., etc.