

their subspecies have a wide range of variation in extent, though usually preserving a characteristic outline, although at times this also disappears. Thus we have the dusky area practically gone on the inner web of the outer tail feather of some of the females of *cinerascens*, producing a feather exactly as in *nuttingi*."

Nineteen species and subspecies are recognized of which three, *M. lawrencei bangsi*, *M. l. querulus*, and *M. l. tresmariae* are new. A key to the species and subspecies of the genus is also given.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM SOUTHERN MEXICO. By E. W. NELSON. From Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington XVI, Nov. 30, 1903, pp. 151-160.

Mr. Nelson gives descriptions of thirteen new species of Mexican birds from the collection of the Biological Survey. One of the most remarkable of these is the Omilteme jay, *Cyanolyca mirabilis*, from Omilteme, Guerrero. It is marked with a band of silvery white extending across forehead and back over the eyes behind the ear coverts to unite with a large white area covering the throat and under side of neck. The rest of the head is black and the body dull indigo blue.

A NEW GROUSE FROM CALIFORNIA. By FRANK M. CHAPMAN. From Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. History, XX, Art. XI, pp. 159-162, April 25, 1904.

Mr. Chapman has described the common grouse of the Sierra Nevada Mts., under the name *Dendragapus obscurus sierrae*, the type coming from Echo, El Dorado Co. It is a much paler bird than *fuliginosus*, and although probably derived from this form looks more like *obscurus*. The range is: "California in the forested portions of the Transition and Boreal zones, 'east of the humid coast belt, and south through the Sierras to Mount Pinos' (Grinnell); north to Fort Klamath, Oregon."

ADDITIONAL NOTES TO SUMMER BIRDS OF FLATHEAD LAKE, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SWAN LAKE. By PERLEY MILTON SILLOWAY, Bull. University of Montana, No. 18, Biological Series No. 6. 1903, pp. 291-308, 5 plates.

This paper includes a description of the physiographical features of Swan Lake, Montana, and under Oological Notes, additional observations on the nests and eggs of a considerable list of species. Under Notes on New Birds are listed with annotations eleven species not included in the "Summer Birds of Flathead Lake." The paper concludes with a list of all the summer birds which have been observed about Flathead Lake, numbering 137. A nest of the willow thrush was found in the swampy area near the station. "Instead of being situated near the ground, it was six and one-half feet above, in an upright crotch of an oblique thorny sapling. The nest was typical of the willow thrush in construction, but the site was so unusual in my experience that I collected the owner for complete identification." Numerous other interesting notes bear witness to Mr. Silloway's careful observation and industry.

BIRD LIFE STORIES, BOOK ONE, by CLARENCE MOORES WEED, is a collection of biographies of twenty-four common birds compiled from the writings of Audubon, Bendire, Nuttall and Wilson. These four writers, as the compiler states "are especially notable for the absorbing interest with which they pursued the study of birds. They were all original investigators, exploring the trackless wilderness in their search for knowledge." Each sketch is followed by a short paragraph defining the geographical distribution of the species. There are also twenty-four portraits from mounted specimens reproduced by the three color process. This book which is to be followed by two others, is intended for use in the higher grades, for which purpose it should prove acceptable. (Square 12 mo, 86 pages, 12 plates; Rand, McNally & Co.)

IN BIRDS FROM BENGUET PROVINCE, LUZON, AND FROM THE ISLANDS OF LUBANG, MINDORA, CUYO AND CAGAYANCILLO (Bull. Philippine Mus. 3, Jan. 30, 1904) Richard C. McGregor records all identified species of birds collected or observed on recent expeditions to the above localities. The paper includes zoographical notes, accounts of undescribed plumages and notes on the rarer species.

BIRD-LORE for March-April is an unusually attractive number, and contains three general articles, all very readable. The splendid series of warbler plates is continued, there being two in this number, the frontispiece representing the Canadian and Wilson, and the second plate the black-throated green and golden-cheeked. There are three pages of Notes from Field and Study, and the Audubon Society Section concludes with Educational Leaflet No. 8, The March Hawk, by William Dutcher, illustrated by L. A. Fuertes. For Teachers and Students contains the third instalment of The Migration of Warblers by W. W. Cooke. Under "The Warbler Book" the editor asks for cooperation of bird students in securing information regarding the habits of warblers, as noted in another column of this issue.

THE BULLETIN OF THE MICHIGAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB commences its fifth volume considerably enlarged and clad in an attractive new cover depicting the Kirtland warbler among its native pines. The opening article, by Norman A. Woods, is on the Discovery of the Breeding Area of Kirkland's Warbler, recounting the finding of the first nest and egg of this species in Oscoda County, Michigan, in July, 1903. Charles A. Adams contributes The Migration Route of Kirtland's Warbler. There are besides, Editorials, Recent Literature, Correspondence, Notes from Field and Museum, and a page devoted to the Michigan Audubon Society, newly organized.

THE JOURNAL OF THE MAINE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY is in a flourishing condition, judging by the April issue which contains a number of good bird articles, among which may be noted: Notes on the Warblers found in Maine, The Woodcock, Notes on the Finches found in Maine, and numerous short local notes.

THE AMATEUR NATURALIST, A Journal for Those Who Study Nature from a Love of It, is edited and published by Chas. D. Pendell, at Binghamton, New York. The second number, March, contains short articles on a great variety of subjects of popular interest extending over the general departments of zoology, botany and geology. It is the aim of the editor to publish a magazine "along the line of nature study in a popular, understandable form, interesting yet reliable and accurate."—W. K. FISHER.

## NOTES AND NEWS

The Southern Division of the Cooper Club, at their April meeting, decided to again take up the matter of revising the "Birds of the Pacific Slope of Los Angeles County." Mr. Joseph Grinnell was newly elected to take charge of the undertaking, and the former committee was instructed to turn over to him all the material thus far accumulated. It is the intention of the Division to publish the paper, within the coming year, as number five of the Pacific Coast Avifauna series. All who are in a position to furnish data for the new list are urged to communicate at once with Mr. Grinnell.

Messrs. Swarth, Robertson, and Lelande left on the first of May to explore ornithologically the almost unknown mountainous portions of Ventura county. With such a trio of expert field observers, we shall expect some valuable accounts of rare discoveries for our July issue.

From March 26th to April 2nd, a very successful camping and collecting trip was participated in by a party of Cooper Club members from Throop Polytechnic Institute, Pasadena. A central camp was established in the Tujunga Valley, northern Los Angeles County, and the surrounding region explored for various natural history objects of interest. Mammals and birds received most attention, and some rare specimens and photos of both were secured. Those comprising the party were: Messrs. Rex Barnwell, Joseph Dixon, Crawford May, Philip Pinger, H. T. Clifton, and Joseph Grinnell.

Messrs. Lelande and Howard of the Southern Division recently made a hurried trip through western Los Angeles county into Ventura county. They traversed an extremely rugged range of mountains among which California condors were surprisingly numerous. As many as eleven were seen circling about overhead at one time, and several nesting aeries were located on the faces of precipitous cliffs.

The demand for Mrs. Bailey's Handbook of Western Birds has been so great as to completely exhaust the first edition. The second edition, just out, presents a number of changes and additions so that the book is brought quite up to date. The horned larks in particular have been revised to accord with recent A. O. U. rulings. Both the publishers and the author are to be congratulated on the well-deserved success of this authoritative text-book.

Mr. G. W. Howard, who is already well known for his careful work with Arizona birds, started early in April on another trip into the extreme southern part of the Territory. He goes this time in the interests of Mr. J. L. Childs, and is thoroughly equipped for at least three months. He is paying special attention to rare eggs, and has a particular yearning after a set of the rare Mearns quail.

Mr. W. O. Emerson writes that Dr. Cooper's old home in Haywards is to be sold to make way for a new Carnegie Library. We regret very much to learn that the estate is thus to pass out of the family's hands. An effort will be made to preserve some of the trees which the Doctor planted, a laurel, live oak and several cypresses.

An olive-sided flycatcher (*Contopus borealis*), with a lamentable ignorance of life zones, has taken up his residence in the Stanford aboretum, where his resounding orders, "Quit, leave here," may be heard at all times of day.

(Continued on Editorial page)