

NOTES AND NEWS

In the current issue of *The Condor* the editors have agreed to a qualified use (see Watson, p. 247) of plumage terminology of the Humphrey-Parkes system (*Auk*, 76, 1959:1-31) on the principle that we do not wish to engage in a scientific censorship despite our conviction that the system involved is not the best and that its introduction is confusing even in a scientific journal. This matter has been placed before the entire editorial board and within the board and the editorial staff there is strong consensus that the system is not to be recommended. Indeed we are unanimous that the term "basic" and its connotations are unfortunate. We call attention to the thorough critique by Stresemann (*Auk*, 80, 1963:1-7) of the Humphrey-Parkes nomenclature in which its inadequacies and inappropriateness are amply discussed.

The editors therefore recommend against use of the Humphrey-Parkes system and will, when an author insists on its usage, insert the equivalent, well understood terms of standard usage. If this becomes cumbersome, the editors will reserve the right to alter this plan and to consider it in relation to the total value and readability of a given article.—A. H. MILLER, J. DAVIS, N. K. JOHNSON.

Elections of persons to special classes of membership at the meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union in Gainesville, Florida, included the following: Honorary Fellow, Lars von Haartman of Finland; Corresponding Fellows, Biswamoy Biswas of India, Beryl P. Hall of England, E. V. Kozlova of the U.S.S.R., and Helmut Sick of Brazil; Fellows, Nicholas E. Collias, Wesley E. Lanyon, and Raymond A. Paynter, Jr.; Elective Members, F. Graham Cooch, Robert W. Dickerman, William B. Robertson, Milton W. Weller, and David B. Wingate.

Publication of the monographic paper on the Western Flycatcher by Davis, Fiesler, and Davis appearing in this issue of *The Condor* was made possible by subsidy of the Hastings Natural History Reservation.

We call attention to Herbert Friedmann's important compilation and discussion of "Host Relations of the Parasitic Cowbirds" (*U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* 233, 1963, 276 pages). A correction of an error made by the printer on page 85 should be noted. The first line of the account on the Gray Vireo should read: "This vireo has been recorded only once in print as a host of the" dwarf race of the Brown-headed Cowbird.