

natural history of an important geographical area. The world of the naturalist includes a motley assembly; not only professionals, but, in the area under consideration, "priests and clergymen, professional geologists, itinerant prospectors and woodsmen, alpinists, landscape painters, a one-time coal miner, a Shakespearean actor, wealthy English noblemen, attorneys, doctors, invalid consumptives, mining engineers, a mesmerist, a literary fraud, a sugar-beet chemist, a sewing machine mechanic, a street car operator, and a railroad station hand (who collected insects on his lay-overs incident to freight schedules across northern New Mexico)." It is perhaps in the chronicles of this non-professional assembly that the ornithologist will find the greatest fund of information; in sketches of men like the physician William Henry Bergtold, the Colorado Springs business man and part-time museum curator Edward Royall Warren, the amateur oölogist William Chase Bradbury, the financier Robert Blanchard Rockwell, and others on the local scene. Professional ornithologists of the region and teachers of ornithology are, of course, included, as well as others of the last century and the present day alike who visited the region and whose visits, in some cases, are otherwise unchronicled in the permanent literature.

The chief criticism of the book is that errors, chiefly of omission, have crept into the brief sketches of the roster. Some of these could have been eliminated had the author contacted more of the living naturalists included. It is only fair to state, however, that he was by no means wholly negligent in this respect, as almost three pages of acknowledgments will attest; yet he might have gone farther. The allotment of space might also be criticized. It is a surprise to find some important men of the region missing from part one, as well as to find the names of some who have made definite contributions to Rocky Mountain natural history missing from the roster. It is unfortunate that these defects must mar so fine a book.—Maurice T. James.

**41. Lifelong Boyhood.** Loye Miller. 1950. University of California Press, Berkeley 4, California. x + 226 pp. \$2.75. The career of Professor Loye Miller is a dominant and inseparable facet of the development of biology and natural history in the Far West. Consequently this charmingly written collection of memoirs is an omnibus of incidents and experiences which contribute much to an understanding and appreciation of many of the chapters of the history of western biology. Rancho La Brea, the John Day Basin, Pacific Grove, the University of California, Baja, California, Scripps Institution of Oceanography and many other institutions and localities well known to biologists are entwined in the author's wealth of experiences. Throughout the all-too-few pages one senses the profound feeling of enthusiasm and satisfaction of the successful teacher and investigator. Part Three, *Selected Writings*, exemplify the author's enviable facility in presenting scientific information and thought in an interesting, non-technical, yet accurate manner. This little book is heartily recommended to biologists in all fields.—D. S. Farnar.

**42. Records of the Parrot-like Birds Bred in the United States of America.** Arthur A. Prestwich. 1949. Published by the author, Chelmsford Road, Southgate, London, N. 14. 57 pp. This list consists of those records which have appeared in *Aviculture* plus those in the lists of Lee Crandall which have appeared in the *Bulletin of the New York Zoological Society*. Although this little book will be of interest almost exclusively to fanciers of parrots and aviculturists it may be of some value also to investigators who may desire to use such species experimentally.—D. S. Farnar.

#### NOTES AND NEWS

At its January meeting, the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association voted a formal expression of thanks to its retiring Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Charles B. Floyd, for his efficient and untiring service. Few officers of any banding group had served a longer term, since his term of office (first as Treasurer and then as Secretary and Treasurer) went back more than a quarter of a century. Not many of the newer members of the Association realize that more than 50,000 birds have been banded under his permit, with special emphasis on herons and terns on Cape

Cod. Mr. Floyd has been called to Washington for work with the Leather Production Board. His successor as Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Richard M. Hinchman, is active as a bander and in several natural history groups; for a number of years, he has been Treasurer of Nantucket's Maria Mitchell Association.

Whether *Bird-Banding* will include future lists of banding cooperators, or lists of species banded annually in North America, depends in large part on how many readers show interest in them. If you would like to see such lists regularly, or if on the other hand you question the wisdom of devoting space to them, please make your opinion known to the editor.

*Erratum:* on page 37 of the January issue, in a review of "Weather and Spring Migration" by Dr. George G. Williams, the word "belief" was quoted inadvertently as "beliefs."

The Editor would welcome more good general notes; appropriate topics include new trap designs or materials, natural or artificial baits not widely known, suggested changes in band sizes for certain species, bird parasites, diseases or deformities, movement of individuals of species normally considered sedentary, unusual speed or direction of migration, recoveries representing first records of a species from a given state, extreme old age, changes in plumage or habits with advancing old age, unusual family relationships in successive broods or seasons, and observation of nesting habits or general behavior made possible by banding. The number of general notes published in the past has been limited less by available space than by the small number of notes received, relative to the great mass of data in the files of most banding stations. If all of us who are active banders could spend one hour in writing up the results of our work for every 50 hours in the work itself, our stations would be far more productive.

While *Bird-Banding* no longer attempts to review all types of ornithological papers, coverage of those of special interest to banders is more complete than previously. Through the addition of several major journals in recent months, we now receive and review journals from 19 countries outside the United States and Canada, with some countries represented by several journals. On the average, few of these are readily available to readers of *Bird-Banding*, even where language is not a barrier. We feel that it is important to cover our field as thoroughly as possible, to help avoid unwitting duplication of work and to make it possible for our own work to be based on wider knowledge of the work of others. Such exchange of ideas may in its small way be helpful in bringing about better understanding between nations.