

proached the birds would suddenly disappear and come up some distance off. This is rather a rare bird in this locality and this is the first time I have found them personally, although I have been told by competent observers that they occasionally appear from year to year during the vernal migrations in this park.

LOUIS S. KOHLER.

ADDITIONAL VERNACULAR NAME FOR THE FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus*).—The residents in several sections of Northern New Jersey speak of the Flicker as the "Woodcock." There is no confusion between this bird and the real Woodcock (*Philohela minor*), which they call "Mud Hen," as on numerous occasions I have asked them to show me the bird they term as the "Woodcock" and they have pointed out the Flicker each time.

The young of this bird in many instances fall prey to pot hunters, as they are prized by some of the lesser intelligent of the country folk and nearly all of the resident aliens as a table delicacy. The Game Commission has put forth their best efforts to stamp out this traffic, but in some of the isolated portions the practice is successfully carried on and heavy inroads are made upon their numbers each year.

Bloomfield, N. J.

LOUIS S. KOHLER.

Educational Work

A COURSE IN BIRD STUDY.—For the last five summers there has been given a regular course in bird study at the marine biological laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. The laboratory is located at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York. It is thirty miles east of New York City, on the north side of Long Island, near Oyster Bay. Dr. Charles B. Davenport is director of the laboratory, and he is also director of the Station for experimental Evolution of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which is located on adjacent grounds.

The surrounding country is quite diversified. In the immediate vicinity are sphagnum bogs, pine barrens, forest-clad hills, briery thickets, salt marshes, four beautiful fresh-water lakes, and an arm of Long Island Sound. This variety of habitat is conducive to a variety of birds. The Spotted Sandpiper, the Little Green Heron, and the Black-crowned Night Heron nest in the vicinity, and besides these, a great many land birds. During the six weeks, the bird class locates and identifies about three hundred nests, either in use or abandoned. This gives some notion of what a bird's paradise the region is.

The course, which consists of twenty lectures and daily excursions for field identification and study, is in charge of Mrs. Alice Hall Walter, who is well known to the bird students of this country. She is the efficient editor of the Audubon Societies School Department of BIRD-LORE, but perhaps she is best known as the co-author of "Wild Birds in City Parks," a very useful little book which has gone through several editions. In addition to the regular course, special problems for individual study, relating to the food and habits of birds, are given. During the session a beginner can get an introduction into ornithology, and can become more or less familiar with some sixty species of nesting birds.

The subjects of the lectures given are as follows: (1) Nesting Birds of Cold Spring Harbor; (2) * Skeleton; (3) Study of a Bird Family—Warblers (4) * Anatomy; (5) Study of a Bird Family—Sparrows; (6) * Feathers and Molt; (7) Other Passeriform Families; (8) Water and Shore Birds; (9) *The History of Bird Classification; (10) The Facts of Migration; (11) *Theories of Migration; (12) The Ancestry of Birds; (13) Distribution; (14) Distribution in America; (15) *The Bird's Place in Nature; (16) *The Economic Value of Birds; (17) Enemies and Protection of Birds; (18) Methods of Study in Schools; (19) *General Methods; (20) Literature. The lectures marked with an asterisk are given by Dr. H. E. Walter, Professor of Zoology in Brown University.

The course will be given again this summer beginning July 5th. Excursions to the American Museum of Natural History and to Bronx Park Zoological Garden will be arranged if desired.

G. C. F.

Publications Reviewed

The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle, Photographed and Described by H. B. Macpherson, with thirty-two mounted plates. Witherby & Co., London. Second revised edition.

In this brochure of forty-five pages the author has told in a simple manner of the difficulties attending a study of the home life of this "King of Birds." Only one whose heart was in the work could brave the difficulties and endure the almost impossible weather conditions which he endured. We wonder at his success in keeping his plates dry. The mounted photographs accompanying the descriptive matter make a collection of unique and enduring value, illustrating, as they do, nearly every phase of the home life of young and parents. Mr. Macpherson must find