

Publications Reviewed

The Canadian Alpine Journal, Special Number, 1912. Published by The Alpine Club of Canada. Price one dollar.

This Journal takes the form of a report upon the Mammals, Reptiles and Batrachians, Birds, and Plants of The Alpine Club Expedition to the Mount Robson Region. The first four pages are devoted to the itinerary, a discussion of the life zones, and acknowledgements. Then follows the annotated list of species of Mammals covering about 38 pages, Reptiles and Batrachians, two pages; Birds, 28 pages; and Plants, 21 pages. The report upon the Birds is made by J. H. Riley, of the U. S. Smithsonian Institution. Seventy-seven species are here given. The Journal contains numerous excellent half-tones of specimens as well as scenery, and closes with a colored topographical map of the region under discussion.

L. J.

Second Report of the Meriden (N. H.) Bird Club. 1912. With brief reports from other New Hampshire Clubs.

This report contains 17 half-tone figures and two maps, one of the Bird Sanctuary, known as the Allen Woodruff Smith Bird Sanctuary. It is a valuable treatise on the protection and care of birds, and should be in the hands of every one interested in bird protection.

L. J.

The Practical Value of Birds. By Junius Henderson. University of Colorado Bulletin. Vol. XIII, No. 4. Boulder, Colo., April, 1913. 48 pp.

There is condensed in these 48 pages a wealth of material arranged in handy form. Judge Henderson will receive the hearty thanks of the large army of people who want to present facts in their arguments for the conservation of our birds.

L. J.

Distribution and Migration of North American Herons and their Allies. By Wells W. Cooke, Assistant, Biological Survey. 1913.

The Flamingo and all of the Herodiones are treated in this Bulletin. The treatment of each species is accompanied with a map of America, and in each case the breeding range as well as the area in which the species occurs at any time is indicated. It would be impossible to speak too highly of the value of such maps of distribution. They show at a glance the exact status of the species without wading through a thicket of verbiage with the necessity of hunting up a general map in order to follow the description at all.

L. J.

Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard. Prepared in the Bureau of Biological Survey, Henry W. Henshaw, Chief, Farmers' Bulletin 513. 1913.

The fifty figures are from the pen of Louis Agassiz Fuertes, and all are colored. The mechanical work is for the most part good. This pamphlet is intended as a handy guide in the hands of the farmers, and besides the colored pictures contains much valuable information concerning the birds treated. L. J.

Birds of the Thomas County Forest Reserve. By John T. Zimmer, Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, Proceedings. April 14, 1913. Vol. V, Part 5.

This amounts to an ecological survey of the region of this Forest Reserve, as far as the birds are concerned. The two life zones treated are the sandhills of the Upper Sonora and the prairies of the Carolinian. Each zone is treated topically according to the character of the country, and the birds grouped under the several heads. Thus the birds are not treated according to their taxonomic relationships, but according to their habitat distribution. L. J.

A Revision of the Genus *Chaemepelia*. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Reprinted from the Annals of the Carnegie Museum, Vol. VIII, Nos. 3-4, 1913. Pp. 507-603.

This is a technical paper relating to the Ground Doves. A new genus, *Eupelia*, is here separated off from the one under discussion, and three new subspecies are described. The paper occupies almost a hundred pages and appears to be a thorough revision of this group of Ground Dove. L. J.

Cassinia. A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia, 1912. Issued February, 1913.

The appearance of this annual upon our desk is always an inspiration. It is not merely the value of its contents, but the spirit of optimism which emanates from it. With an environment of an old settled country and a dense population, one who is favored by living in an open country might well question whether there was anything in an open country might well question whether there was yet here is a thriving bird club, with a big city at its center; and it is putting out every year the results of work of the first order. Long may it thrive and continue its work. L. J.