

ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

CHECK-LIST OF BIRDS OF THE WORLD. VOLUME II. By James Lee Peters. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1934. Pp. i-xvii+1-401. Price, \$4.00.

The second volume of this notable work appeared in the middle of June, there being an interval of about two and a half years between the first and second volumes. The author reports that his work on the second volume was completed early in 1933. The plan of this work follows that of Volume I (which was announced in the *WILSON BULLETIN* for December, 1931, XLIII, p. 320). Volume II treats of the Galliformes, Gruiformes, Diatrymiformes, and Charadriiformes (grouse, quail, cranes, rails, sandpipers, plovers, gulls, terns, and auks), thus including a considerable number of the "game birds". In the list is given the scientific name, source of original description, and world distribution. Vernacular specific names are omitted, for the reason that they have only national use. Vernacular family names are added in the Table of Contents, but the author remarks in the Preface that, "inventing English names for birds that do not have them is a waste of time." As this series of volumes nears completion the magnitude of it will become more apparent, and it is to be hoped that early volumes are being issued in sufficient numbers to accommodate late buyers.—T. C. S.

LES OIEAUX DE FRANCE. VOLUME II. By A. Menegaux. Published by Paul Lechevalier & Sons, 12 Rue de Tournon, Paris, VI. Pp. 450. Figs. 148. Pls. 80 (64 in color). 1934.

"The Birds of France" here appears in the second volume. This volume treats of the grebes, auks, petrels, terns, gulls, plovers, sandpipers, ducks, geese, cormorants, pelicans, storks, herons, cranes, and rails—the water birds. The volume is arranged in two parts. Part I is the systematic text, and covers about 300 pages. It includes 130 line drawings to illustrate various morphological features, e. g., head, tail, wing, foot, bill, etc. Besides this systematic treatment of the water birds of France, there is a very full treatment of the parasites found on the birds of the list. Eighteen genera, including 194 species, of parasites are described, all but three of the species belonging to the Mallophaga. A list showing the distribution of the parasites on the bird species is also given. There are line drawings (eighteen in number) to illustrate practically all of the genera of parasites.

Part II is called the Atlas, which contains the pictures. There are eighty full page plates, sixty-four of which are in color. Each plate is accompanied with a page of descriptive text matter, including plumage, measurements, food habits, and distribution. Each plate illustrates one species, but both sexes are shown in cases where they differ. A useful paragraph in the text for each species gives the vernacular names in the French, German, English, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese languages.

This volume on the water birds of France follows the same general plan as in the earlier volume on the hawks, grouse, pigeons, woodpeckers, etc. (reviewed in the *WILSON BULLETIN*, June, 1933, XLV, p. 91). In many respects the second volume impresses us as being an improvement on the first volume of the series. We do not find a statement as to the price of Volume II, but Volume I was priced at 50 francs. Volume III is projected to treat the song birds of France. These volumes are of uniform pocket size ($4\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$ inches), and should be most helpful to bird students travelling in Europe.—T. C. S.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS, GIVING FIELD MARKS OF ALL SPECIES FOUND IN EASTERN NORTH AMERICA. By Roger Tory Peterson. Pp. i-xxiv+1-167. 1934. Houghton, Mifflin Co., New York. Price, \$2.75.

This handbook is intended as a popular manual for "birding", rather than as a reference book in ornithology; and as such it admirably fulfills its purpose, and will be found helpful by all amateurs who do field work. However, the author's failure to fully treat the birds of the Middle West is noticeable, and must be taken into account in this region. As examples of subspecies which are found in the Middle West, not included by the author, may be mentioned, the Lesser Loon (*G. i. elasson*), the Northern Bald Eagle (*H. l. alascanus*), the Western House Wren (*T. a. parkmani*), the Bendire's Crossbill (*L. c. bendirei*), and the Dakota Song Sparrow (*M. m. juddi*). In some of these cases only the species are treated, doubtless on the assumption that the subspecies are not distinguishable in the field. However, the author claims ability to distinguish in the field "typical individuals" of the Newfoundland Crossbill from the Red Crossbill. These omissions would not be worth mentioning were it not for the fact that subspecies along the Atlantic coast seem to be pretty well covered. The utility of the book as a field guide is not much impaired by such omissions because the student in the field is not much concerned with subspecies; if he is, he collects.

The author attempts to describe the bird as it may be recognized in the field. Descriptive facts not useful in field identification are omitted. However, a brief statement of the range of each form listed would have added much to the book's value for field purposes, without unduly adding to its bulk. Too little attention is given to the matter of range by many writers. Students might often be saved from error had they better knowledge of the usual distribution of a species or subspecies in question.

The illustrations form an important feature of the book. There are four color plates and thirty-two plates in black and white, each showing the portraits of numerous species. Most of the portraits are in the form of diagrams emphasizing the field marks.—L. W. W.

BIRD CITY. By E. A. McIlhenny. Pp. 1-203. Many photographs. 1934. Price, \$3.00 (E. A. McIlhenny, Avery Island, La.).

The story of the wonderful man-made "Bird City" is presented in the form of a conversation between the author and his two grandsons during a day spent together in the blinds. It tells of the routine of tragedy in the daily existence of the wild things of the swamps—with many examples of the intricate mechanism in the balance of nature. One striking fact recorded is the case of a brood of five half-grown Florida Gallinules caring for and feeding a second brood of seven brother-sister young, just hatched, while the parents of both were in the nearby rushes preparing a nest for a third brood! Eventually both older broods will help care for the youngest ones. The account of how the young herons are taught to fly is an interesting one. The author treats the habits of flying as wholly acquired by a learning process.

Not by any means the least interesting feature of this book is the story of how "Bird City" came to be. At the time of Mr. McIlhenny's boyhood practically all of the herons and egrets had been driven from Avery Island by the plume hunters. About the year 1893 he located two nests of the Snowy Heron, each with four young. These he took home and reared in large cages. They became so tame that they followed him about and ate from his hand. But that

fall, at migration time, the eight birds left. Next year six of the eight returned, though one later deserted. Four of the remaining five mated and nested on his premises. From the two nests eight young were hatched and raised. The young and old were tamed as in the preceding year. On November 17 all of the thirteen healthy birds migrated. In the succeeding spring all of the thirteen birds returned—in two different groups. In this third season five nests were built and twenty young ones were raised. By 1908 the colony had grown to 10,000 birds, including various other species of the heron kind. By 1912 there were 120,000. Since that year the population of the "City" has remained at about 100,000, and a good deal of labor is required in providing for the needs of so many.

Early in the history of the colony the Little Blue Herons and the Louisiana Herons voluntarily joined it. When any of these birds built a nest and laid a full clutch of eggs Mr. McIlhenny removed the eggs and substituted a clutch of Snowy Heron eggs. The foster parents reared a brood of Snowy Herons, while the Snowy Herons, which were robbed, at once laid another set of eggs. Thus the rarer Snowy Herons increased more rapidly than if left to their own devices. It has been necessary for Mr. McIlhenny to furnish not only a great deal of food for his birds (especially for his winter visitors), but he has found it necessary also to furnish nest material. Thus, each year he hauls from twenty-five to thirty-five truck loads of twigs (size of a lead pencil, or a little larger) to be dumped in piles near the rookery. These sticks are all used up by the birds in the construction of their nests. It is an interesting story, and well told.

And, as Mr. McIlhenny told the story of "Bird City" to his grandchildren, so we think that many other children would be fascinated by having the same story read to them from this book.—T. C. S.

THE BIRD FAUNA OF THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS IN RELATION TO SPECIES FORMATION.

By Harry S. Swarth. *Biol. Reviews*, IX, No. 2, April, 1934, pp. 213-234.

The author visited the Galapagos Islands in 1932, after several years of close study of the world's collections of birds from that region. Explanation of the avifauna of this region hinges chiefly upon the history of the islands themselves. Darwin, Salvin, and Ridgway regarded the islands as of oceanic origin, through the agency of volcanic activities. Baur, Van Denburgh, and others considered that the Galapagos Islands arose by the severance of a former land connection with the American continent. Careful study of the bird life affords some evidence on this question. Mr. Swarth's studies lead him to the conclusion that the birds of the Galapagos Islands are of diverse origin—that they are "clearly not derived from the South American mainland directly to the eastward". At least one bird, the Galapagos Penguin, is an immigrant from the south, carried northward, perhaps, by the Humboldt Current. Other birds seem to be definitely related to West Indian forms. Still others have a world wide distribution. Altogether Swarth's analysis of the Galapagan avifauna leads him to the conclusion that the islands were first populated by "chance-controlled wanderers" from various directions. And, of course, this conclusion supports the theory of oceanic origin of the islands.—T. C. S.

FIGHTING THE INSECTS. The Story of an Entomologist. By L. O. Howard. 1933.

Pp. i-xvii+1-333. The Macmillan Co., New York. Price, \$2.50.

Some justification is likely to be expected for presenting this review of a title by an entomologist, even though it may be autobiographical. It is thought to be an opportune occasion to make reference to Dr. Howard's brief contact

with the Wilson Ornithological Club, and his unfailing courtesy and magnificent simplicity. Sometime during 1915 the writer, as President of the W. O. C., wrote to Dr. Howard, then the Permanent Secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, relative to the possibility of affiliation of the smaller society with the American Association. Dr. Howard was very cordial, and after some inquiry and doubtless some investigation, the matter was placed before the A. A. A. S. Council and acted upon favorably. And from 1916 to the close of Dr. Howard's Secretaryship this relation remained. When Dr. Howard retired as Secretary to become the President, influences were successful in securing a change in classification. This, however, is incidental, and another story.

The writer has a very vivid mental picture of Dr. Howard at the Columbus meeting of the American Association in 1915, so soon after the correspondence. Though we had no personal acquaintance with Dr. Howard, he was immediately recognized as he came down the hallway in short, shuffling steps, and with a cigar stub, apparently out, hanging downward between his lips. The book under discussion, which is largely biographical, fully corroborates our impressions of the man. His simplicity is shown by the pleasure with which he enjoyed various honors bestowed upon him and the frankness with which he tells about it.

In reading the book we discovered only one reference to birds. Dr. Howard was attending an Agricultural Congress in Vienna in 1907. The protection of birds was being discussed, and Dr. Howard was invited to speak. He took the ground that "by far the most important enemies of injurious insects are other insects" (p. 191), rather than birds. And he suggests that birds should be protected for sentimental reasons, rather than because of their value as insect destroyers—a view which is coming to be more and more recognized. The book is full of anecdotes, and is enjoyable reading.—T. C. S.

A REVISION OF NORTH AMERICAN HOUSE WRENS. By Harry C. Oberholser. Reprinted from Ohio Journ. Sci., XXXIV, No. 2, March, 1934. Pp. 86-96.

There are two features in this paper. First, Dr. Oberholser uses the specific name *domesticus* in place of *aedon*, on the supposition that Vieillot's work designating the type of the eastern race as *aedon* was not published until 1809, a year after Wilson proposed the name *domestica*. And thus by priority, if the supposition is correct, the House Wren should be known as *Troglodytes domesticus* (= *Troglodytes aedon*). The second point in the paper is the proposal of a new subspecies of House Wren for Ohio, to be known as the Ohio House Wren (*T. d. baldwini*). Specimens of both *domesticus* and *baldwini* are reported in this paper from Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Western House Wren (*T. d. parkmani*) is still recognized and specimens are reported from the following states, among others: Indiana, Florida, Texas, Louisiana, and Michigan. That is, these states have yielded three of the three subspecies of the House Wren (at least during the non-breeding season)—from Florida to Michigan and on to Texas. It would evidently be hazardous to name the subspecies of any House Wren seen in the field within this wide range. *T. d. baldwini* and *T. d. parkmani* are also both recorded from Michigan during the breeding season; while *T. d. domesticus* is recorded from there on May 27, which very nearly falls within the breeding season. If this latter bird was migrating through Michigan and headed eastward, how may we account for this peculiar route? If it was not a migrant then Michigan may boast of three breeding subspecies of the House Wren—three

"geographical races". We can understand the desire to do justice to the efforts of early workers, even at the inconvenience of living ornithologists; but we confess to an inability to understand the occurrence of three breeding geographical races within so limited an area, even after granting the somewhat more northerly occurrence of *T. d. parkmani*, as shown by the data in this paper.—T. C. S.

THE BIRDS OF CHURCHILL, MANITOBA. By Percy A. Taverner and George Miksch Sutton. *Annals Carnegie Museum*, XXIII, May, 1934. Pp. 1-83. Pls. I-XIV.

One hundred and forty-two species of birds are reported, not including ten which are regarded as hypothetical. All species are well annotated, the annotations in some cases being important systematic discussions. The sequence is that of the A. O. U. Check-List, and the authors have tried to follow the nomenclature of that authority as far as possible. All birds are listed in binomial terms. In some cases the subspecies are named in the annotations, or the probabilities are discussed. In this respect we believe that this report may well be taken as a model. Mr. Taverner is "convinced that Kumlien's Gull is a distinct species and not a hybrid as is represented in the last A. O. U. 'Check-List'". Two forms of the Horned Lark were found, *O. a. alpestris* and *O. a. hoyti*. *Hoyti* was found to be the breeding form, but individuals recognizable as *alpestris* (the latter having a more easterly range) remained to interbreed with *hoyti*. A somewhat similar condition was found to prevail with the Water-Thrushes (*Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis* and *S. n. notabilis*). The specimens taken at Churchill were all intermediate between these two. The senior author refers to ninety-eight specimens of these Water-Thrushes in the National Museum of Canada, which were collected throughout Canada. "White *noveboracensis* and yellow *notabilis* with their accompanying characters are scattered indiscriminately throughout the series". While some of these specimens were migrants, yet in the forty which could be regarded as breeders "practically the same confusion persists". These unprejudiced observations are made by one who is not opposed in principle to the subspecies concept, but by one who is not carried away, apparently, by a scientific fetish. The plates are reproductions of some excellent photographs both of birds and habitats. The colored frontispiece by Major Brooks shows a Hudsonian Curlew and downy young.—T. C. S.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HAWK AND OWL SOCIETY. Bulletin No. 4. June, 1934.

Besides the reports of officers we find on these pages reports on the present status of the hawks and owls in two states, viz., Vermont and Arizona. Printed correspondence shows a pitiful ignorance of hawks and their habits by occasional state officials. For instance, an official in the Department of Conservation of the state of Illinois is quoted as follows: "As to the killing of hawks, owls, eagles, etc., I beg to advise that all species of hawks and owls are considered predatory birds, and are not protected by the game laws." They were all alike to him. But an editorial comment shows that only six species of raptors are unprotected by the game laws of Illinois. With men of this calibre in official positions the laws are practically nullified. However, there are indications that a new day in conservation is close at hand. And as soon as a supply of trained men is available, they will be gradually placed in the state positions to administer the wild life of the country. Let us then encourage young men to take training for this work, as it is offered at Wisconsin under Leopold, at Iowa State under Errington, and at Cornell under Allen, and at other similar places when established. Other recent papers on the protection of hawks and owls are as follows: "Birds of Prey",

by Warren F. Eaton, in the Transactions of the 20th American Game Conference, 1934; "The War on Winged Predators", by William Vogt, in the American Forests, June, 1934.—T. C. S.

IN DEFENSE OF PELICANS. By Ben H. Thompson. Calif. Fish and Game, Vol. 19, No. 3, July, 1933, pp. 188-192.

Again Mr. Thompson comes to the defense of the White Pelican, but this time it is in specific reply to a writer who denounced this bird as a nuisance. It is an interesting paper, and closes with the suggestion that instead of being the "worst of all" predators upon fish, it may be the "best of all", because a large part of the pelican's diet may consist of non-game fish which prey upon game fish.—T. C. S.

BULLETIN OF THE ESSEX COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB OF MASSACHUSETTS. Salem, 1933. Pp. 1-56. Price, 75 cents (S. G. Emilio, 7 Winter St., Salem, Mass.).

Mr. Griscom reports on the exceptional abundance of warblers in the spring migration of 1933, comparing it with the year 1917. Those students of migration who are interested in the phenomenon of bird waves will find this paper interesting. The late Dr. C. W. Townsend discusses the predatory habits of the Northern Shrike and some winter feeding habits of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The annual composite bird list is given.—T. C. S.

THE AUDUBON YEARBOOK [INDIANA] 1934. Published by the Indiana Audubon Society. Pp. 1-84. Numerous illustrations. Price, \$1.00 (Miss Margaret R. Knox, 4030 Park Ave., Indianapolis).

Dr. Blatchley offers a plea for the preservation of the Sand Dunes of Indiana. There is also a report that 50,000 Crows were killed in the state of Indiana during the first six months of 1934. A vivid account of netting Passenger Pigeons is given by one of Indiana's pioneers. There is also a paper by Mr. McAtee on "The Mutual Relations of Farms and Birds", which gives a good review of economic ornithology as exhibited on the farm. A paper by Mr. M. L. Fisher presents a digest of many questionnaires on the habits of the Starling in Indiana. Many other short papers are included in this issue of the Yearbook.—T. C. S.

BIRDS OF THE CHICAGO REGION. By Edward R. Ford, Colin C. Sanborn, and G. Blair Coursen. Pub. jointly by the Ill. Aud. Soc. and the Chicago Acad. Sci. (Order from the latter at 2001 N. Clark St., Chicago). May, 1934. Pp. 1-63. Price, 50 cents.

This new list for the Chicago region includes 371 species and subspecies, as contrasted with 317 species listed by Woodruff in 1907. The old list was practically limited to Cook and Dupage Counties, with the northern portion of Will County (Ill.) and Lake County, Indiana. The new list covers a much wider area, including five counties in Wisconsin, seven counties in Illinois, and seven in Indiana. The annotations include a statement as to status and the migration dates.—T. C. S.

FIFTY YEARS OF BIRD MIGRATION IN THE ANN ARBOR REGION OF MICHIGAN. By Norman A. Wood and A. D. Tinker. Occasional Papers Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich., No. 280, May 21, 1934, pp. 1-56.

The authors present under this title fifty-three pages of tables showing the migration dates for 212 species and subspecies. An early and late date is given

for each year from 1906 to 1930, inclusive; an average date for these twenty-five years is also given. And with the latter there is also given an average date for the preceding twenty-five-year period, based on data published by Mr. Wood in 1906. The paper is a valuable contribution to migration data.—T. C. S.

EFFECT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF EXOTIC ANIMAL FORMS. By Rudolph Martin Anderson. Proc. Fifth Pacific Sci. Congress, 1933, pp. 769-728. Printed by the University of Toronto Press, 1934.

Dr. Anderson herein gives a splendid brief history of the known natural and artificial introductions of exotics of all kinds. Details of various introductions throughout the world are given, and local effects are discussed. A summary of generalizations on the good and bad effects of such introductions is finally presented.—T. C. S.

WILD LIFE AS A PROFESSION. By Paul L. Errington, Sci. Month., XXXVIII, June, 1934, pp. 554-560.

A paper of interest to all who may be contemplating a career in the field of game management or similar work. The young man who is fond of outdoor life and the study of nature, but who sees no opportunity of going into it professionally, will find this discussion of much help. Now is the time to prepare for this new profession.—T. C. S.

MANAGEMENT POSSIBILITIES FOR RING-NECKED PHEASANTS AND HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGES. By Lawrence E. Hicks. Proc. 27th Convention Internat. Assoc. Game, Fish, and Conserv. Commissioners. 1933.

Dr. Hicks' paper on this subject will be of interest to those who are concerned with game management.—T. C. S.

A FLUSHING APPARATUS DEvised TO SAVE GROUND NESTING BIRDS AND MAMMALS DURING MOWING OPERATIONS. By P. F. English. Game Div. Bull. No. 2, Mich. Dept. Conservation. 1934.

In recent years much consideration has been given to the problem of the destruction of adult birds and nests by mowing machines. Several types of "flushing rods" have been designed to attach to the tongue of the machine and project laterally in front of the cutting knife. The first one became known as the Wisconsin bar. Later ones were known as the Iowa bar and the Minnesota bar. The modification here described by Dr. English may become known as the Michigan bar. In one case where 280 acres of hayfields were mowed without any kind of a flushing device, 64 per cent of the hens were killed; on another parcel of 258 acres only 33⅓ per cent of the birds were killed where a flushing device was used.—T. C. S.

THE GROWTH OF SOME YOUNG RAPTorial BIRDS. By E. Lowell Sumner, Jr. Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., XL, pp. 277-308, 1933. Price, 50 cents.

This statistical study is based upon three species, viz., the Pacific Horned Owl, the Barn Owl, and the Golden Eagle. Observations were made on the temperature changes, weight increase, food consumption, bone growth, and feather development.—T. C. S.

GEOGRAPHICAL VARIATION IN BELONOPTERUS CHILIENSIS (MOLINA). By Pierce Brodkorb. Occasional Papers Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich., No. 293, June, 1934.

Belonopterus chiliensis is a South American species which now embraces four subspecies, including one newly described by the author in this paper.—T. C. S.

For some years, beginning in 1923, Prof. O. A. Stevens, of North Dakota State College, at Fargo, has been issuing a mimeographed bulletin under the title, "North Dakota Bird Notes". It appears weekly from March to June, covering the migration season. It gathers up information from many parts of the State, and is distributed to the newspapers of the State. Prof. Stevens tells us that about seventy-five copies were distributed this year, chiefly to the newspapers. This ought to be a practical means of developing public interest in birds.

The *St. Louis Bird Club Bulletin* for May and June are at hand. The St. Louis Bird Club made an interesting experiment in placing ad cards in street cars, the cards reading, "Protect the birds. They will reward you with beauty and song." Notes on extinct birds in Missouri, migration lists, with numerous short items, fill the Bulletin.

The *Redstart* is the youngest of the local bird periodicals. It is published monthly by the Brooks Bird Club, of Wheeling, W. Va. The Editor is Mr. Thos. E. Shields. This Club has conducted an essay contest, prizes being given to the authors of ornithological essays which are judged to have the greatest merit. The *Redstart* is mimeographed and is similar in its aims and methods to other local publications which are now being issued.

"Conservation Economics" is the title of a paper by Professor Aldo Leopold in the *Journal of Forestry* (XXXII, May, 1934) in which he points out some of the disharmonies in the adjustments of the numerous conservation and relief enterprises put into operation under the "New Deal". For illustration, we quote: "There was, for example, the road crew cutting a grade along a clay bank so as to permanently roil the troutstream which another crew was improving with dams and shelters; the silvicultural crew felling the 'wolf trees' and border shrubbery needed for game food; the roadside-cleanup crew burning all the down oak fuel wood available to the fire-places being built by the recreation-ground crew; the planting crew setting pines all over the only open clover-patch available to the deer and partridges; the fire-line crew burning up all the hollow snags on a wild-life refuge, or worse yet, felling the gnarled veterans which were about the only scenic thing along a 'scenic road'. In short, the ecological and esthetic limitations of 'scientific' technology were revealed in all their nakedness." The entire paper is an instructive discussion in a very new field. Perhaps the lesson to be drawn is that the business of conservation in practice calls for a new type of trained man, and the breadth and directions of necessary training is the surprising thing. It probably means the setting up new departments in the universities for the proper training of this new profession.

The *American Midland Naturalist* for May, 1934, contains two papers each dealing exhaustively with a genus of sedges in Indiana, viz., the genera of *Cyperus* and *Scirpus*. Not only is the distribution in Indiana fully treated, but the species are illustrated with full page drawings, making identification easy in any locality. The entire July number is occupied by a scholarly report on the Amphibia of Kansas, covering 250 pages. In addition to the usual catalogue account of each species, keys are presented for adults, for tadpoles, and for eggs of the species found in that state. All of these papers are exceptionally useful.

The August number of *News from the Bird-Banders* (IX, No. 3, Museum of Vert. Zool., Berkeley, Calif.) contains a general plea for coöperation in banding work, and makes specific mention of many projects now under way in which

assistance is wanted. Mr. E. L. Sumner is reported to have evidence that a Wren-tit lived to be ten years old, at least, and belief is expressed that this is a unique record. We may call attention to a record of a ten-year-old Cardinal published by Mr. Ganier in the *WILSON BULLETIN* (for December, 1933). This bird has now passed its eleventh season, as later reported by Mr. Ganier.

In the *Florida Naturalist* for July R. J. Longstreet writes on Wilson's Plover in Florida—its various habits and the marks which distinguish it in the field from the Semipalmated and Piping Plovers. The October number presents a report by Dr. H. R. Mills on some rookeries in the Tampa Bay region which have recently been given warden protection. This protection has already resulted in a marked increase in the bird population. In a paper on bird banding E. W. Davis reports on the cannibalistic habits of immature Brown Pelicans.

The *Migrant* for March, 1934, contains an account of the night events in a roost consisting mainly of Starlings. The nesting of Swainson's Warbler in Tennessee is reported. In the June number we find an article by Professor Mayfield on the song of the Mockingbird. He places the Carolina Wren, Blue Jay, and Cardinal first of birds mimicked by the Mockingbird. Dr. Mayfield also announces that he is continuing his study of this problem, and would be glad to hear from others on the same subject. Benj. R. Warriner tells of a pair of Prothonotary Warblers nesting in a hornet's nest for two successive years. The number for September has an article by Harry C. Monk on the habits of the Warbling Vireo. Mr. Ganier presents a list of public and private libraries in Tennessee which contain the works of Wilson and Audubon. The *Migrant* is edited by Mr. Geo. B. Woodring, 1414 Stratton Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

The second volume of the *Nebraska Bird Review* has appeared regularly during the present year. Each issue contains one or more leading articles and many short "General Notes"; migration reports and proceedings appear occasionally. One of the most important articles is a paper by Prof. Swenk on "The Present Status of the Whooping Crane" (October, 1933). The paper gives a history of the species with particular reference to Nebraska, over the last twenty-year period. A list of specimens and sight records and maps of distribution, with bibliography, make the paper a very complete one. The important conclusion seems to be that this species is not as near extinction as many previous writers have assumed. Prof. Swenk also has another article (July, 1934) on the Carolina Paroquet as a Nebraska bird, collecting the known records of this bird through the Missouri Valley. The October number (1934) contains an important article by Messrs. DuMont and Swenk on the Canada Goose and its varieties. It is a detailed report on 404 specimens of the various forms of the Canada Goose collected in Nebraska about fifty years ago by D. H. Talbot, of Sioux City, or by his collectors, and later deposited in the Museum of the State University of Iowa. The paper is especially interesting in showing the intergradation in dimensions of the three subspecies of the Canada Goose which are involved in this study. The *Review* is published by the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union and edited by Prof. Myron H. Swenk, 1410 N. 37th St., Lincoln. The subscription rate is \$1 per year.

The *Iowa Bird Life*, now completing its fourth volume, is published quarterly by the Iowa Ornithologists' Union, and edited by Mr. Fred Pierce, Winthrop, Iowa (50 cents per year outside of Iowa). It contains much local material in the form of long and short articles. About a year ago (December, 1933) it pre-

sented a useful history of extinct amateur ornithological serials published in whole or in part in Iowa—thirteen of them. The number for March, 1934, gives a list of all known published items on Iowa ornithology during the preceding year. This is a most useful service, and a very proper function for a state publication.

The *Flicker* was issued in February and May, 1934. It is the publication of the Minnesota Bird Club. Dr. Gustav Swanson is President, 3305 47th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

The *Snowy Egret* (Volume IX, No. 1) appeared during the summer of 1934. This number gives a history of the publication, which will be of interest to bibliographers. It contains also a list of birds seen in southern Michigan during recent years by Dr. Harry W. Hann. Two papers by Oscar McKinley Bryens and an autobiography by R. E. Olsen make up the forty-six pages of mimeographed material.

The *Inland Bird Banding News* for June, 1934 (Vol. VI, No. 2) contains a letter from Mr. Berner, at Jamestown, N. D., which is interesting for the statements concerning drouth conditions and their effect on wild life. Prof. O. A. Stevens gives a summary on the banding work in North Dakota, showing that a total of 8,749 birds were banded during the first five months of 1934, by ten banders. Mr. T. E. Musselman gives a report of activities, especially along educational lines.

The *Chickadee* for June, 1934, contains as its chief article a list of birds seen during the spring migration at Worcester. Reports of daily field trips and proceedings complete the number of sixteen mimeographed pages.