

ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

295 AMERICAN BIRDS. Published and distributed by the University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, Minn. Price, \$2.00.

The beautiful colored plates which illustrate "The Birds of Minnesota", by Dr. Thos. S. Roberts, have been previously mentioned in these pages. These plates were, for awhile, made available as separate and loose sheets. They have now been put together between stiff covers and held by a coiled spring binder. There are ninety-two plates, showing 295 species of birds which are found in the Mississippi Valley. These plates are the work of several artists, Major Allan Brooks, George Miksch Sutton, Walter Alois Weber, Walter John Breckenridge, Francis Lee Jaques, and the late Louis Agassiz Fuertes. It is an unusual collection of colored bird plates by noted American artists.—T. C. S.

THE BIRDS OF NEVADA. By Jean M. Linsdale. Pac. Coast Avifauna, No. 23. Cooper Ornith. Club, Berkeley, Calif. 1936. Pp. 1-145, one map. Price, \$4.00.

Most of the work on the ornithology of Nevada has hitherto been scattered. The work here listed is a summary of all that is known at the present time of the distribution of species within this state. It is a much needed publication.—T.C.S.

BIRDS OF THE CHARLESTON MOUNTAINS, NEVADA. By A. J. Van Rossem. Pac. Coast Avifauna, No. 24. Cooper Ornith. Club, Berkeley, Calif. 1936. Pp. 1-65, figs. 13.

The Charleston Mountains are located in the extreme southern tip of Nevada, not far to the eastward of Death Valley. These mountains are described as "boreal islands", surrounded by Sonoran deserts. The present work is an annotated list of 160 species. The list contains several forms which are not recognized by the A. O. U. Check-List. In a few cases the vernacular name has been made to vary from the Check-List. A foot-note explanation of such variations from established usage might be appreciated by many readers.—T. C. S.

PROCEDURE IN TAXONOMY. By Edward T. Schenk and John H. McMasters. Stanford Univ. Press, Stanford University, Calif. 1936. Pp. 1-72. Price, \$2.00.

We know of no other single volume which covers quite the same ground. The book is small, because it is concisely written. One chapter is on types, and defines the various types from holotype to topotype and plastotype. The storage of type material is also discussed. The procedures for describing new species and for compiling synonymies are presented. The appendix, which occupies a little more than half of the book, reprints the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature, together with summaries of official interpretations rendered. Little is said of the status of, and rules governing, subspecies. While the book is written primarily for palaeontologists the same rules apply throughout the zoological field.—T. C. S.

DISTRIBUTION OF BREEDING BIRDS OF OHIO. By Lawrence E. Hicks. Bull. No. 32, Vol. VI, Ohio Biol. Survey. 1935. Pp. 123-190. Price, 75 cents.

The author reports on the breeding of 181 species of birds within the state of Ohio, basing the report on the literature and recent unpublished studies. The breeding status of each species is adequately discussed for the different parts of the state. A table shows the breeding status of the Ohio list in the seven adjacent states. A three-page bibliography is appended. No index.—T. C. S.

INDIANA AUDUBON SOCIETY 1935 YEAR BOOK. Published by the Indiana Audubon Society. Pp. 1-98. Numerous Illustrations. Price, \$1.00 (Harold A. Zimmerman, Sec.-Treas., 915 West Gilbert St., Muncie, Ind.).

The front article is an encomium of T. Gilbert Pearson, well known for his work in the Audubon Association. Dr. Earl Brooks continues his anecdotes about the Robin. A paper by L. A. Test shows that more than 200 Blue Jays have been banded at West Lafayette; and the question whether the Blue Jay migrates from that locality seems to be in doubt. The Indiana Audubon Society holds an annual meeting, which was held at Indianapolis in 1935. The membership appears to be over 200.—T. C. S.

PRELIMINARY CHECK LIST OF THE BIRDS OF DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS. Revised August 15, 1935. By Jerry E. Stillwell. Privately published by the Author, Dallas, Texas. Mimeographed pp. 1-53.

This check list has been made up to serve local needs, and therefore includes a number of expected species in addition to those actually found. A previous list was published in 1934, the present one being a revised edition. The present (1935) list "contains 412 birds, of which 273 have been recorded, leaving 140 on the 'possible' list." A remarkable amount of information concerning most of the species treated is given in a minimum of space; and the inexpensive mode of publication places it within easy reach of those interested.—T. C. S.

THE BIRDS OF NORTHERN PETEN, GUATAMALA. By Josselyn Van Tyne. Misc. Pub. No. 27, Mus. Zool., University of Michigan. 1935. Pp. 1-46.

Two hundred and twenty-two species and one new subspecies are listed in this report.—T. C. S.

THE BIRDS OF KODIAK ISLAND, ALASKA. By Herbert Friedmann. Bull. Chicago Acad. Sci., V, No. 3, September, 1935. Pp. 1-54.

After reviewing the work which has been done in this region the author gives an annotated list of 142 birds.—T. C. S.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LINNAEAN SOCIETY OF NEW YORK. No. 47 for 1935. Published by the Society at the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Issued in March, 1936. Pp. 1-142. Price, 75 cents.

The first paper is an obituary of Mr. Warren Francis Eaton, with portrait. There follows a posthumous paper by Mr. Eaton on the birds of Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey. This is an extensive paper which gives the status of 297 forms in one or both of the counties treated. This list is preceded by a careful historical and ecological analysis of the avifauna. Mr. C. A. Urner contributes a paper on the status of various species of shore birds on the north and central New Jersey coast. Mr. Joseph J. Hickey presents an extensive review of the ornithology of the New York region during 1934. A number of other papers on birds make this issue again wholly ornithological.—T. C. S.

WINTER BIRDS AROUND MY HOME. By Thomas G. Scott and George O. Hendrickson. Ames, Iowa.

This is a pamphlet for the use of schools, clubs, or individuals, giving short sketches and outline drawings of twenty-four Iowa winter birds. The drawings are the work of Sid Horn, and are to be colored with crayons or paint by the

pupil. The work of the authors and artist is good, but the work of the editor is slipshod. Whether the pamphlet is part of any series is not shown, and it is not dated. Names of the authors are given in an obscure corner. Usually when the name of the author is misplaced it is in order to give prominence to some "director", but no such submergence is evident here.—T. C. S.

THE BIRDS OF ZION NATIONAL PARK. By C. C. Presnall. Reprinted, Proc. Utah Acad. Sci. Arts and Lett., XII, 1935, pp. 196-210.

Mr. Presnall reports 140 kinds of birds known to occur in the Zion National Park. He points out that the regular tourist season is not the best time for bird observation in this area. The author follows the rule of using trinomials only where specimens have been taken, but introduces names not yet granted by the A. O. U. Check-List.—T. C. S.

The *Journal of Minnesota Ornithology* makes its appearance with Volume I, No. 1, for April, 1936. It is announced as an "Annual devoted to Minnesota Bird Life", and is published by the T. S. Roberts Ornithology Club, at fifty cents (address, Prof. George W. Friedrich, State Teachers College, St. Cloud, Minn.). A portrait and short sketch of Dr. Roberts are given in the first pages. Dr. H. C. Oberholser contributes a short list of birds from the Lake Traverse and Heron Lake regions, based on observations made in 1919. Dr. T. S. Roberts reports an October storm with high duck mortality in northern Minnesota in 1935. Several bird lists are published: one list from central Minnesota includes 239 species; another names 125 breeding species in the St. Cloud region; another is a short list for Heron Lake. Dr. Roberts reports the nesting of the Great Gray Owl in Minnesota.

The main article in the current number of the *Snowy Egret* (Spring, 1936, XI, No. 1) is an annotated list of birds observed in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The list includes 141 species. Another writer describes the flight song of the Phoebe. Prentice Preace gives a concise and clear description of the behavior of the Road-runner, especially when in conflict with a rattlesnake.

Mr. Harry B. Hall, of the Kansas State Teachers College at Pittsburg, Kansas, has published a list of "The Birds of Southeastern Kansas with Migration Dates" in the *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*, Vol. 38, 1935, pp. 311-315. This list contains 208 species. In the same volume Mr. M. W. Mayberry presents a paper on the "Origin and Development of the Crop of the Chick", pp. 325-327, with four plates.

Iowa Bird Life for June, 1935, has an article by Dr. P. L. Errington on the Bob-white in Iowa. Mr. William Youngworth writes on the Blue Goose in Iowa. In the issue for September, 1935, (V, No. 3) Mr. Philip A. DuMont lists the private collections of birds in Iowa, and gives a brief description of each. The same author brings the Starling records up to date, and records the Magpie invasion of Iowa in 1934-1935. The December number is devoted wholly to a five-year index of the periodical. The leading article in the March, 1936, issue (VI, No. 1) is on the present status of the Prairie Chicken in Iowa, by William Youngworth, and indicates that this species is still resident in many parts of the state, though in small numbers. Each issue contains many short articles on the ornithology of Iowa.

The *Cardinal* for January, 1936, (IV, No. 3) presents an article by Maurice Brooks on the birds of the spruce belt of West Virginia, which lies chiefly above the 3000-foot level. It is interesting to note in this list many birds which in the interior are found only in much higher latitudes where temperature and vegetation are more or less comparable. Mr. Bayard H. Christy gives an interesting account on the feral life of Rock Doves in the city of Pittsburgh. Reference is also made to other reports of similar reversions to nature by this species.

In the *Florida Naturalist* for June, 1935, Mr. Robert C. McClanahan begins a fifty year comparison of the bird life at Gainesville, which is completed in the October number. Messrs. C. R. Mason and R. J. Longstreet contribute, in the January, 1936, number (IX, No. 2) a most entertaining account of the Tortugas Islands. The history includes the establishment of Fort Jefferson in 1846, its abandonment in 1873, revival in 1898, its abandonment again in 1901, and its conversion into a National Monument in 1934, under the control of the National Park Service. In 1907 the Carnegie Institution of Washington established a Marine Biological Laboratory on these islands, and here it was that Dr. J. B. Watson carried on his well known studies on the behavior of the Noddy Tern and Sooty Tern. Announcement is made in this number of the annual meeting of the Florida Audubon Society to be held at Winter Park in March.

Wildlife Review is a new and mimeographed publication issued by the U. S. Biological Survey for a new and distinct purpose. We have seen No. 1, for September, 1935, and No. 2, for January, 1936. It is at present conducted by W. L. McAtee. Its purpose is to present short abstracts of the literature on wildlife conservation and wildlife management. In the first number we find abstracts of papers on the following subjects: conservation (3 titles); cycles (2); disease (12); ecology (10); education (1); food habits (5); life histories (4); management (34); propagation (22); restocking (7). Number 2 was issued in January, 1936, and contains a similar lot of abstracts.

No. 3, for April, has also been distributed, and is similar in plan to the other numbers, except that a useful list of American sportsmen's magazines is included.

We wish only to say that the purpose and plan of the *Wildlife Review* are splendid. So much literature is being published on the subjects of conservation and management of wildlife, and in so many different places, that very few workers will have access to all of it. The enormous amount of literature in all biological fields has made the matter of abstracting very important. We hope there may be no question about the continuance of this abstracting service by the Survey. But the value of it would justify a printed bulletin rather than one by the mimeograph process.

In *News from the Bird Banders* for July, 1935 (X, No. 2), Dr. J. J. Parsons relates some experiments with hummingbirds. One orphan Costa Hummingbird, weighing only seven and a half grains, was placed in the nest of a Black-chinned Hummingbird, and was accepted and fed by the mother bird, in spite of a marked difference in ages of her own and the adopted one. Later the same adult was found to be caring for two nests at the same time—one

containing young, the other eggs. The August number contains a very complete history of the decline of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker. The February, 1936, number (XI, No. 1) announces that Mr. T. T. McCabe relinquishes editorship of the *News*, and will be succeeded by Mrs. M. C. Sargent, of Pasadena. Mr. and Mrs. H. Michener also present a comparative study of the singing of male mockingbirds.

The *Inland Bird Banding News* for September (VII, No. 3) and the December number for 1935 (VII, No. 4) bring reports on the activities of the Inland Association. The latter number has the minutes of the 1935 annual meeting, a sketch of the late Percival Brooks Coffin, and an index for the first five volumes, 1929-1933, of the periodical. The March number for 1936 (VIII, No. 1) has a note by Dr. J. F. Brenckle on the effect of dust storms on Burrowing Owls, and also notes by O. M. Bryens on age records of various birds.

The *Redstart* is issued by the Brooks Bird Club, of Wheeling, W. Va. The December number for 1935 (III, No. 3) consists mainly of a very readable article on the songs of warblers. In the March, 1936, number (III, No. 6), the matter of field identification of subspecies is given some editorial attention, indicating rather widespread interest in it. The April number (III, No. 7) gives a report of the Erie meeting of ornithologists and conservationists. This was a regional meeting attended by representatives from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Ontario, and West Virginia. The plan agreed upon was to form a very loose organization, without dues, and without attempting the merging of any existing organizations. Mr. Bayard H. Christy, of Pittsburgh, was made Executive Chairman, and a vice chairman was named from each district.

The *Raven* is issued monthly in the interest of Virginia ornithology by the Virginia Ornithological Society. Many notes of local and general interest are put on record. For instance, the September-October number (1935, VI, No. 9-10) reports the Arkansas Kingbird for November 16, 1931. And in a historical paper (February-March, 1936, VII, No. 2-3) Mr. John B. Lewis tells of taking a specimen of the Green-tailed Towhee in the winter of 1907-1908. It is doubtless on the basis of this specimen that the A. O. U. Check-List lists this western species as accidental in Virginia. This number also contains the minutes of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the V. S. O. The report shows the Society to be in a flourishing condition, and we hope the *Raven* continues to make its regular trips, as usual. No. 1 for January we did not see.

We note the issuance of several mimeographed periodicals from Missouri. The *Saint Louis Bird Club Bulletin* is the official organ of the St. Louis Bird Club. It has now reached Volume 4, No. 8, for November, 1935. The *News Letter* of the Audubon Society of Missouri has issued January, February, and April copies and Bulletin No. 1, for 1936. *Nature Notes* is the Journal of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society, of which we have seen only No. 9 of Volume VIII, for January, 1936. The *Night Heron* is published privately by Messrs. John O. Felker and John P. Stupp, at Clayton, Mo., and has passed through Volume 3, No. 9, for September, 1935.

A new mimeographed publication to reach us is *Bird Notes*, issued by the Superior (Wis.) Audubon Society (Mrs. E. L. Bolender, 92 Maple Ave., Superior, Wis.—Dues, \$1.00 per year). The initial number (Vol. I, No. 1, 1936) contains papers on the activities of the Society, on winter birds of the region, on certain Purple Finches, the winter feeding of game birds, planting to attract birds, protection of hawks and owls, and short notes.

The *Chickadee* for June, 1935 (Vol. V, No. 1) publishes a 1935 spring migration list, minutes of the Forbush Bird Club's meetings and field trips, and various news notes.

Some of our readers may be interested in a new monthly magazine called *Nature Notes*, which first appeared with the January number for this year. The numbers thus far issued averaged about twenty-four pages of interesting and timely articles on all phases of nature lore. The numerous illustrations are from excellent photographs. The March number reports a field observation of two Arkansas Kingbirds in the western part of Michigan on May 31, 1935, the evidence for which seems to be satisfactory. The subscription price is \$1.00 per year, and the address is 4800 Prospect Road, Peoria, Ill.

The *Bird Calendar of the Cleveland Bird Club* is a mimeographed bulletin which seems to be older than most similar publications now current, the January, 1936, number being marked "31st Year, Bulletin No. 4". The eleven pages of this number are filled with local notes and statistics, and fall migration records.

The *Game Research News Letter* (mimeographed) is issued by the Department of Game Management at the University of Wisconsin, and gives information of the current activities in training game management workers at this University.

The *Migrant* for last December contains an account of ornithological work done at Peabody College by Dr. Shaver's students, nineteen theses being listed. The issue for March (VII, No. 1) mentions twenty species of birds to be added to Gannier's "Distributional List of the Birds of Tennessee". Both numbers carry the halftone plates which Mr. Gannier inaugurated.

The *Prothonotary* is published by the Buffalo (N. Y.) Ornithological Society. The subscription is 50 cents a year, and may be sent to Mrs. Geo. C. Kratzer, 140 Wardman Road, Kenmore, N. Y. It gives records of field trips and news of local events. The March number announces a regional meeting of bird students to be held at Erie, Pa., on March 14 and 15. The April number indicates that this meeting was held. We would have been glad to learn more about it.

The *Flicker* continues to appear at its regular intervals of February, May, October, and December. It is issued by the Minnesota Bird Club. The officers are: Charles Evans, President; Robert Turner, Vice-President; Robert Upson, Secretary-Treasurer, 4405 Lyndale Ave., S., Minneapolis; George Rysgaard, Editor.