

erroneous, or that the supposed rate of progress of migrant birds is not approximately correct, although, it must be granted, not yet grounded on satisfactory data and proper methods. The chances are that the inaccuracies due to faulty methods or insufficient data result in the main in approximately correct averages, the errors largely counterbalancing each other. Yet we have at present, it must be admitted, crude results as opposed to scientific accuracy.— J. A. A.

**Birds of the New Haven Region.**—‘A List of the Birds of the New Haven Region,’ compiled by a Committee, forms Bulletin No. 1 of the New Haven Bird Club (pp. 32), issued in May of the present year. The Committee consists of six members of the Club,<sup>1</sup> with Dr. L. B. Bishop as Advisory Committee. The region is divided into five areas, which are described as regards their topography and ornithological features. Following this preliminary matter is the annotated list, numbering 217 species, with a supplementary list of nearly a hundred species which have become extinct or are so rare as not to be ordinarily found within the region. The list is intended as “a brief and simple guide to the birds of the New Haven region,” to serve as an aid to “teachers and others interested in knowing what birds to look for and to a certain extent when and where to look for them.” It is based for the most part on the field notes of the members of the committee taken within the last few years, and thus may be regarded as reflecting present conditions. The annotations relate to the seasons of occurrence, abundance, and special haunts of the species within the region. The list will no doubt well serve its purpose, and is a commendable piece of work, as regards both its intent and execution.— J. A. A.

**‘A Check List of Rhode Island Nesting Birds.’**—This ‘List’<sup>2</sup> is based on records covering the period 1890 to 1908, and comprises only species known to breed in the State. These number 104, with a supplemental list of 15 others that have been reported as breeding in Rhode Island, but of which the Commissioners have been unable to find “accurate or satisfactory nesting data.” It is not assumed that no others than those admitted to the main list breed in the State, it being thought best to have the list accurate as far as it goes. Several of the species given in the second list doubtless formerly bred in the State, if they do not at the present time. The list is printed on only one side of the paper, and the annotations consist of a definite breeding record, with the authority therefor, and the situation of the nest and number of eggs, without any remarks on the abundance

<sup>1</sup> Freeman F. Burr, Chairman; Philip L. Buttrick, Alfred W. Honeywill, Jr., Dwight B. Pangburn, Aretas A. Saunders, and Clifford H. Pangborn.

<sup>2</sup> A Check List of Rhode Island Nesting Birds with Data.—Published by the Commissioners of Birds, Charles H. Remington, Chairman, Providence Co.; William H. Thayer, Bristol Co.; Alexander O’D. Taylor, Newport Co.; Edwin R. Lewis, Washington Co.; W. Gordon Reed, 2nd, Kent Co.—Copyright 1908 by C. H. Remington—16 mo., ll. 26, one half-tone plate.

or manner of occurrence in the State as a whole. The nomenclature is that of the A. O. U. Check-List, brought down to include the changes adopted in the Fourteenth Supplement, published in July of the present year.— J. A. A.

**Penard's Birds of Guiana.**<sup>1</sup>—The authors of the present work (which, unfortunately for English readers, is written in the Dutch language) resided for twelve years in Dutch Guiana and made a large collection of the birds of that region. They therefore write from personal knowledge of the birds, and are able to give much first-hand information of their habits, about which little has heretofore been recorded.

An introduction of about forty pages gives a general account of the local distribution of many of the species, their breeding habits and migrations. The remainder of the first volume treats, in systematic sequence, of the species, from the Grebes to the Cuckoos. There are keys to the higher groups, and descriptions of the species (in small type), followed by a more or less full account of their habits and local distribution.

Volume II, which will contain the remainder of the *Picariæ* and the *Passeres*, is now ready for the press, but (we are privately informed) will not be published until proceeds from the first volume become available.— J. A. A.

**Forbes's Statistical Study of the Mid-Summer Bird Life of Illinois.**<sup>2</sup>—This is a summary of some of the more general results of statistical observations made in 1907, in the southern part of the State in June, in the central part in July, and in the northern part in August, by two field observers, Messrs. A. O. Gross and H. A. Ray. The character of the field work is stated, the purpose of which is to obtain "a better knowledge of the significance of birds in the economy of nature." The statistics here presented are of much interest, as are the conclusions derived from them, which a fuller survey may or may not seriously modify. The work here detailed should be greatly extended, and carried on by a sufficient number of competent field observers to enable surveys to be conducted simultaneously in different parts of the State, so as to avoid the necessity of comparing seasonally unlike data, as in the present instance. It is work eminently well worth doing, and becomes trustworthy in proportion to its thoroughness and comprehensiveness, and which we hope to see undertaken energetically on a large scale. The present is an excellent beginning, and the

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<sup>1</sup> De Vogels van | Guyana | (Suriname, Cayenne en Demerara) | Door | Frederik | Paul Penard | en | Arthur Philip Penard | [Volume I] Uitgave van | Wed. F. P. Penard | Paramaribo |— No date = April, 1908. 8vo, pp. xliii + 588, with 173 half-tone cuts in text. Price, \$5.00; postage 30 cents additional. Orders for the work may be addressed to De Wolfe & Fiske Co., 16-20 Franklin St., Boston, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> The Mid-summer Bird Life of Illinois: A Statistical Study. By Professor S. A. Forbes, University of Illinois. Amer. Nat., Vol. XLII, No. 500, August, 1908, pp. 505-519.