While the membership roll, giving as it does the date of election, the date of death of deceased members, the date of resignations, etc., has the strong element of personal interest that always attaches to such a record, the biographies and portraits have permanent value as a concise history of a large number of the leading British ornithologists, many of whom have finished their work and left an enviable record.

The Jubilee Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union is further noteworthy as the occasion of the initiation of a plan proposed by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant for the exploration of the Charles Louis Mountains in Dutch New Guinea, which are believed to rise to an altitude of from 16,500 to 17,500 feet, and to constitute at the present time "beyond doubt the finest unknown ground in the world." It is Mr. Grant's desire to associate this undertaking with the British Ornithologists' Union, "so that it may be known as the 'British Ornithologists' Union Jubilee Exploration of the Charles Louis Mountains'." The proposition, when put to vote, received unanimous approval, and a Committee was appointed to coöperate with Mr. Grant in securing the necessary funds for the enterprise.— J. A. A.

Thayer and Bangs on the Birds of Guadaloupe Island.[1]— Guadaloupe Island is situated off the coast of Lower California, about 220 miles southwest of San Diego. Practically nothing was known of its fauna till 1875, when it was visited by the well-known collector Dr. Edward Palmer. He obtained eight species of land birds, represented by 72 specimens. On investigation of this material Mr. Ridgway [2] found that while each species had a near relative on the mainland, the Guadaloupe forms were so far differentiated from them in each case as to warrant their recognition as distinct species. These differences consisted in the increased size of the bill and feet, shorter wings and tail, and darker colors in the island forms, due to insular environment. The island has since been repeatedly visited by ornithologists, including W. E. Bryant [3] in 1885, who increased the number of species known from the island from 9 to 36, all land birds except 4, but adding none to the 8 previously described as peculiar to the island. Mr. Bryant, however, gave for the first time a detailed account of the topography, climate, and vegetation.

In the spring of 1906, Mr. W. W. Brown, Jr., with two assistants, visited the island in the interest of Messrs. Thayer and Bangs, and the present paper gives the results of Mr. Brown's work. Reference is made to the

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[1] The present state of the Ornis of Guadaloupe Island. By John E. Thayer and Outram Bangs. Condor, Vol. X, No. 3, May–June, 1908, pp. 101–106.

[2] Ornithology of Guadaloupe Island. By Robert Ridgway. Bull. U. S. Geol. and Geogr. Surv. Terr., Vol. II, No. 2, April, 1876, pp. 183–195.

The Birds of Guadaloupe Island, discussed with reference to the Present Genesis of the Species. By Robert Ridgway. Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, Vol. II, No. 3, July, 1877, pp. 58–66.

[3] Additions to the Ornithology of Guadaloupe Island. By Walter E. Bryant. Bull. California Acad. Sci., No. 6, pp. 269–318, Jan., 1887.

"alarming rapidity of the destruction" of the original biota of the island that is taking place, "due to the introduction of goats and cats. Already," it is stated, "many plants and three birds are gone and others are reduced to very small numbers, and the whole island seems threatened in the near future with absolute desolation — doomed to become a barren rock." The three birds that have already become extinct are the Caracara (*Polyborus lutosus*), a Wren (*Thryomanes brevicauda*), and a Towhee (*Pipilo consobrinus*). While the island is uninhabited at present by man, it is overrun by "between six and eight thousand" goats; cats are also numerous, and the house mouse (*Mus musculus*) has become well established. In the present paper 17 species are recorded as taken, several of them in large series, and two others as seen by Mr. Brown and his assistants. The list is copiously annotated with field notes made by the collectors, who were on the island from May 1 to June 28, but too late for the breeding season of most of the species. The Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia becki* Rothschild and Hartert, based originally on a single specimen), of which 27 specimens were taken, is said to be "absolutely indistinguishable in any way" from the mainland form. While this is not quite true, the under wing covers being marked more or less with dusky streaks, instead of being unmarked as in the mainland form, the difference is thought by the A. O. U. Committee to be too slight to warrant the recognition of the island form as even a subspecies.— J. A. A.

Bangs on Birds from Western Colombia.[1]— The basis of these 'Notes' is a small collection made in northwestern Colombia, just south of Darien, by Mervyn G. Palmer, a region hitherto ornithologically little known. "Although it contained but 110 species and subspecies, it is rich in rare and new forms," and should subsequent installments from Mr. Palmer prove of equal interest a list will be published of the birds of the region. In the present paper 5 forms that appear to be new are described and notes are given on a few other species.

In another paper of the same date [2] Mr. Bangs separates the Colombian form of *Rhynchocyclus sulphurescens* as *R. s. exortivus* subsp. nov.— J. A. A.

Bangs on Costa Rican Birds.[3]— The present paper includes notices of 35 species and subspecies, two of the latter being described as new. Most of the forms are rare, and the relationships of some others are considered. Thus the author's *Scotothorus veræpacis dumicola* proves to have been founded on "differences due to individual variations." The known range of several of the forms mentioned is here extended. The paper is based

[1] Notes on Birds from Western Colombia. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, XXI, pp. 157–162. July 27, 1908.

[2] A New Tyrant-Bird from the Santa Marta Region of Colombia. By Outram Bangs. *Ibid.*, p. 163.

[3] Notes on Some Rare or not well-known Costa Rican Birds. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XXII, pp. 29–38, March 10, 1909.