Hellmayr and Seilern on the Birds of the Cumbre de Valencia, Venezuela.[1]— This important contribution to neotropical ornithology is based upon a collection of 1200 skins made by Mr. S. M. Klages in 1909 and 1910, and comprises annotations upon 172 species or subspecies, while a list of 39 species reported by other writers of this region but not obtained by Mr. Klages is added. The following forms are described as new either from the collection itself or from other material examined in connection with its study: *Tangara guttata bogotensis*, Bogota; *Xanthoura yncas andicola*, Merida, Venezuela; *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus venezuelanus*, Cumbre de Valencia; *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii striaticeps*, Cumbre de Valencia; *Sittasomus griseus virescens*, Cumbre de Valencia, *Premnoplex brunnescens rostratus*, Cumbre de Valencia; *Drymophila caudata klagesi*, Los Palmales, Anden von Cumaná; *Chamæza brevicauda boliviana*, Yungas, Bolivia. A number of North American species were found wintering in the region covered by Mr. Klages including *Hylocichla aliciæ aliciæ*, *Helminthophila* [= *Vermivora*] *peregrina*, *Mniotilta varia*, *Dendroica striata*, *D. cærulea*, *Oporornis agilis*, *Setophaga ruticilla* and *Piranga rubra rubra*.— W. S.

Hellmayr on Zonotrichia strigiceps Gould.[2]—Mr. Hellmayr reviews the history of this little known finch and tabulates the specimens so far obtained. He finds that they are separable into two races, *Z. strigiceps strigiceps* ranging from Paraná to Cordoba, in Brazil and Argentina, while *Z. s. dabbenei* described as new is restricted to the mountains of northwestern Argentina.— W. S.

Nelson on New Birds from Panama, Colombia and Ecuador.[3]— This paper comprises the new birds obtained by Mr. E. A. Goldman on Mount Pirri and vicinity in eastern Panama near the Colombian border, from January to June, 1912, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Biological Survey of the Panama Canal Zone. This mountain reaches an altitude of 5,200 feet and as no zoölogical collector seems to have visited it previously, new forms were naturally to be expected from its slopes. Besides the new birds here described, many South American species were found which are unknown farther north. The new forms named by Mr. Nelson are as follows: *Geotrygon goldmani*, *Chloronerpes chrysochlorus aurosus*, *Aulacorhamphus cæruleigularis cognatus*, *Momotus conexus reconditus*, *Electron platyrhynchus suboles*, *Eriocnemis floccus*, *Phæthornis adolphei fraterculus*,

[1] Beiträge zur Ornithologie von Venezuela. Von C. E. Hellmayr und J. Graf von Seilern. I Die Vögel der Cumbre de Valencia. Archiv für Naturgeschichte. Vol. 78, pp. 34–166, September 20, 1912.

[2] Bemerkungen über eine wenig bekannte, neotropische Ammer (*Zonotrichia strigiceps* Gould). Verhandlungen der Ornith. Gesellschaft in Bayern. XI, pp. 187–190. July 1, 1912.

[3] Descriptions of New Genera, Species and Subspecies of Birds from Panama, Colombia and Ecuador. By E. W. Nelson. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 60, No. 3, pp. 1–25, Sept. 24 [= 27], 1912.

Thamnistes anabatinus coronatus, Dysithamnus mentalis suffusus, Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus exiguus, Grallaricula flavirostris brevis, Margarornis bellulus, Mitrephanes eminulus, Caryothraustes canadensis simulans, Tangara fucosus, Chrysothlypis chrysomelas ocularis, Vireolanius eximius mutabilis, Basileuterus melanogenys ignotus, B. m. eximius, Troglodytes festinus, Myadestes coloratus, Catharus fuscater mirabilis. There are also three new species for which Mr. Nelson establishes new genera: *Goethalsia bella* on interesting hummingbird allied to *Goldmania*, and named in honor of Col. Goethals, head of the Panama Canal Commission; *Prædo audax*, a flycatcher allied to *Aphanotriccus* but resembling *Empidonax* in color; and *Hylospingus inornatus* a tanager resembling *Chlorospingus*. Incidentally Mr. Nelson also describes *Tanagra xanthogastra quitensis* from Quito, Ecuador, and *Hemithraupis ornatus* from Truando, Colombia. The Genus *Tanagra* is used by Mr. Nelson for the genus formerly called *Euphonia* while *Tangara* is used in place of *Calospiza* (=*Calliste*). This seems inevitable if we regard these names as different and take them from the first place of publication but in the absence of any word of explanation it is misleading to those not familiar with the history of the case.—W. S.

Oberholser's Revision of the Green Herons.[1]— As the result of a critical study of 568 specimens of Green Herons, *Butorides virescens*, Mr. Oberholser recognizes eighteen geographic races, twelve of which are here named as new. These are *B. v. eremonomus*, north central Mexico; *B. v. mesatus*, western Nicaragua; *B. v. hypernotius*, Costa Rica to Brazil; *B. v. margaritophilus*, San Miguel Island, Bay of Panama; *B. v. cubanus*, Greater and northern Lesser Antilles; *B. v. christophorensis*, St. Christopher; *B. v. dominicanus*, Dominica; *B. v. lucianus*, St. Lucia; *B. v. barbadensis*, Barbados; *B. v. grenadensis*, Grenada; *B. v. tobagensis*, Tobago; and *B. v. curacensis*, Curaçao.

Mr. Oberholser has presented extremely detailed descriptions and a large array of measurements and his paper represents a painstaking piece of work. Whether ornithologists will endorse his views remains to be seen. With practically the same material before them Messrs. Thayer and Bangs have already (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 46, p. 142) expressed precisely opposite views on the status of the San Miguel Island birds and have questioned the distinctness of several of the forms named up to that time. As San Miguel Island is but twenty miles off shore, it would indeed seem remarkable that a bird of the size and habits of a heron should there become differentiated into a local race, and in considering any group of large water birds it would seem that much more latitude should be given to individual varia-

[1] A Revision of the Subspecies of the Green Heron (*Butorides virescens* [Linn.]). By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, Vol. 42, pp. 529–577. August 29, 1912.