

based upon the fifth edition of Dr. Snow's list. The total number of species and subspecies is 379 as against 348 given by Dr. Snow. The Oregon Junco, Loggerhead Shrike and Long-billed Marsh Wren recorded by him are omitted as no evidence of their occurrence could be found.

It is unfortunate that the species added to Dr. Snow's catalogue are not listed separately as it is difficult or impossible to pick them out of the main list. The paper makes a convenient summary of our present knowledge of the Kansas avifauna and will be of much assistance to local students of Kansas birds.— W. S.

Swarth on Geese of the *Branta canadensis* Group.¹— Mr. Swarth bases his study upon a series of 153 skins mainly from California and his conclusions go far to straighten out the confusion that has prevailed regarding the relationships of the four races of Canada Geese.

He finds that the breeding bird of California is true *canadensis* while *occidentalis* is entirely restricted to the humid northwest coast region where it is nearly resident, never migrating as far south as California. These are both large birds with the throat usually entirely white and the collar on the lower neck usually absent, the former form being light gray below, the latter dark brown.

Branta c. minima is the smallest form, with a bill notably smaller than in either of the above but presenting the greatest variation in coloration.

B. c. hutchinsi forms a perfect series of intergrades between *canadensis* and *minima*, and like the latter is very variable in color characters. The smaller races breed in the far north, *minima* on the Alaskan coast of Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands; *hutchinsi* farther east. The numerous intergrades indicate that their breeding areas merge one into the other but the alleged breeding of *hutchinsi* in Alaska would seem to need careful confirmation. Mr. Swarth has produced a careful and valuable piece of work.— W. S.

Job on the Quest of the Canvasback.²— Mr. Job with three companions spent three months of the past year on Lake Winnepegosis, northern Manitoba, studying the breeding ducks and other water fowl. His main object was to secure young of the various species, especially Canvasbacks, for breeding experiments which he is carrying on in Connecticut. He succeeded, with the aid of incubators and brooders, in hatching and raising about 200 young ducks of ten species, as well as some Coots, while a few young were caught alive in the marshes. Mr. Job tells the story of his summer's experience in a most delightful way and illustrates his article

¹ A Study of a Collection of Geese of the *Branta canadensis* group from the San Joaquin Valley, California. By Harry S. Swarth. Univ. of Cal. Publ. in Zool., Vol. 12, No. 1, pp. 1-24, pls. 1-2. Nov. 20, 1913.

² In Quest of the Canvasback. By Herbert K. Job. Outing, February, 1914, pp. 515-525.