

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.**<sup>1</sup>— 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.**<sup>2</sup>— Mr. Job with three companions spent three months of the past year on Lake Winnepogosis, 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

with a number of excellent photographs of the young ducks and snapshots of flocks of old birds on the wing. This is Mr. Job's second experiment in securing young wild ducks, the previous summer having been spent at Lake Manitoba when about 100 young, of the later breeding species, were obtained, although he was then too late for the Canvasbacks. The further experiments of the author in rearing these birds will be watched with interest and all bird-lovers and sportsmen will join in his hope "that they may duly multiply and help to replenish the earth in our eastern districts so woefully lacking in these splendid wild fowl." — W. S.

**Mearns on Additional New Birds from Africa.**<sup>1</sup>—Dr. Mearns' latest contribution to African ornithology consists of the description of ten new subspecies contained in the several collections recently added to the U. S. National Museum collection. These are *Pogonocichla cucullata helleri*, Mt. Mbololo; *Cossypha natalensis garguensis*, Mt. Gargues; *C. natalensis intensa*, Taveta; *Bradypterus babæculus fraterculus*, Escarpment; *Sylvietta leucophrys keniensis*, Mt. Kenia; *S. brachyura tavetensis*, Taveta; *Zosterops senegalensis fricki*, Thika River; and *Z. virens garguensis*, Mt. Gargues, all in British East Africa; while from Abyssinia are described *Sylvietta whytii abayensis*, Gardulla; and *Melaniparus afer fricki*, Dire Daoua.—W. S.

**Grinnell's 'Second List of Birds of the Berkeley Campus.'**<sup>2</sup>—Intensive studies like the present are always interesting especially to those interested in keeping records of bird migration and fluctuation from day to day. After all, the list of birds from the farm, the college campus, or the city yard is only the county or state list on a small scale.

The campus of the University of California comprises 530 acres and is fortunate in including some truly wild land and considerable diversity of environment. Mr. Grinnell's list now numbers 97 species, while the mean population in individuals is approximately 8,000. The usual number of species seen per day is remarkably constant as shown by the following: July 3, 29 species; February 11, 26; March 25, 22; January 20, 20; October 18, 27.—W. S.

**Baker's 'Indian Pigeons and Doves.'**<sup>3</sup>—This is another sumptuous work similar in all respects to the same author's 'Indian Ducks.' The

<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of Ten New African Birds of the Genera *Pogonocichla*, *Cossypha*, *Bradypterus*, *Sylvietta*, *Melaniparus* and *Zosterops*. By Edgar A. Mearns. *Smithson. Misc. Collns.*, Vol. 61, Number 20, pp. 1-8. Nov. 29, 1913.

<sup>2</sup> A Second List of the Birds of the Berkeley Campus. *The Condor*, XX, January, 1914, pp. 28-40.

<sup>3</sup> Indian Pigeons | and | Doves | By | E. C. Stuart Baker | F. Z. S., F. L. S., M. B. O. U. | Author of "Indian Ducks and their Allies" | with twenty-seven coloured plates from drawings by | H. Grönvold and G. E. Lodge | Witherby & Co. | 326 High Holborn, London | 1913. roy. 8vo. pp. i-xv + 1-260, 26 plates. £2 10s. net.