

the Commission can then recommend for adoption in an Official List as authorized by the Gratz International Zoological Congress.

The Ornithological Advisory Committee consisting of Allen, Hartert, Hellmayr, Oberholser, Richmond, Ridgway, Stejneger and Stone, submitted a list of 189 of the more common and more important generic names of birds with references, genotypes, and method of type designation. This list was sent to 350 zoölogists and zoölogical institutions throughout the world as well as to 44 specialists on ornithological nomenclature. As a result objection of some sort or other was raised against 87 names and these were referred back to the Advisory Committee for further opinion as to whether the objections have any weight under the Code.

The remaining 102 names against which no question has been raised are forthwith added to the list.

At first thought it would seem preferable to consider this matter chronologically, publication by publication, but it will, we think, be admitted that the plan adopted, of selecting the more familiar and important genera first, is the better, as it will at once establish uniformity in the names most frequently used. The majority of those who desire to use correct names have neither the time nor the technical experience to work the questions out for themselves by the Code, and an international standard list will fill a long-felt want and do more for stability of nomenclature than anything else. Dr. C. Wardell Stiles, Secretary of the Commission and Dr. Charles W. Richmond, Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Ornithology deserve the thanks of ornithologists for the thorough manner in which they have handled the work and we hope to see the 'Official List' grow apace on the lines they have established.— W. S.

**Aves of the Zoological Record 1914.**<sup>1</sup>— Only those who have labored upon bibliographies can appreciate the magnitude of the task of compiling the ornithological titles of an entire year; and when we realize the absolute necessity of such compilations to systematic work we appreciate our indebtedness to Mr. Sclater. He lists for 1914 a total of 1088 titles as against 1576 for 1913 and 1665 for 1912 — sad evidence of the effect of the war. The 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature' having been discontinued until after the war, the Zoological Society has assumed the publication of the 'Zoological Record' thereby conferring a great favor upon all zoölogists.— W. S.

**Recent Papers by Hartert.**— In 'Novitates Zoologicae' for April, 1916, Vol. XXIII, Dr. Ernst Hartert has a number of important contributions. Under the title 'Notes on Pigeons' he demonstrates that *Streptopelia decaocto* is the correct name for the Indian Turtle-Dove and that *S. roseogrisea* is probably the ancestor of the tame bird. Other groups are

<sup>1</sup> Zoölogical Record, Vol. LI. 1914. Aves. W. L. Sclater. Zool. Soc. London. January, 1916. pp. 1-77. Price, six shillings.