

the last head we notice that the contributions are signed only with the initials of the authors, a practice which sanctioned by custom in the case of reviews is certainly open to criticism in the case of scientific contributions.

In looking over the various records we wonder if the observer of the Connecticut Warbler in May fully realized the excessive rarity of this species in the east, in spring, or was familiar with the plumage of the female Mourning Warbler which has a more or less conspicuous eye-ring and bears a striking resemblance to the Connecticut. Mr. Brewster's statement that there was not a single spring record of the bird in any part of Massachusetts in which he had full confidence, is significant.

We wish the Essex County Club every success and trust that the present publication is the forerunner of a series of valuable bulletins upon the bird life of the district.—W. S.

**Hollister's Account of the National Zoo.**<sup>1</sup>—In the Report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1917, published in 1919, there is an admirable popular account of the animals in the National Zoological Park, prepared by the director, Mr. Ned Hollister. It is fully illustrated by half-tones from photographs and a number of these are devoted to the birds, the Californian Condor, Whistling and Trumpeter Swans being among the more notable of the North American species. Among foreign species figured are the Horned Screamer, Cape Barren Goose—inadvertantly marked "Barren Ground Goose"—Black and Mute Swans, etc.

This pamphlet should serve an excellent purpose in producing a more intelligent interest in foreign birds and mammals. The great trouble with American systematic zoologists until quite recently has been that they have dealt almost exclusively with North American species and the broadening of the field in the present generation is most encouraging. In furthering this tendency our zoological gardens offer the best opportunities but too often there is a lack of accessible information about the mammals and birds that may be on exhibition. Mr. Hollister's "popular account" furnishes just what is needed, and may lead many a young student to a wider study of mammalogy and ornithology than he would otherwise have followed.—W. S.

**Cory's Review of the Genus *Rhynchocyclus*.**<sup>2</sup>—In this useful paper Mr. Cory gives the results of his study of the specimens belonging to this genus in the collection of the Field Museum of Natural History.

---

<sup>1</sup> The National Zoological Park: A Popular Account of Its Collections. By Ned Hollister. From the Smithsonian Report for 1917, pages 543-593, with 46 plates. Washington, 1919.

<sup>2</sup> The Relationships and Geographical Distribution of the Species and Races belonging to the Genus *Rhynchocyclus*. Proc. Biological Society of Washington. Vol. 32, pp. 217-224. December 31, 1919. By Charles B. Cory.