

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.¹—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*.²—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.

¹ 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.

² 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.

As a result he recognizes eight species as follows, with the number of subspecies into which each is divided: *sulphurescens*, with six subspecies; *cinereiceps*, with two; *peruvianus*, with two; *marginatus*, two; *megacephalus*, one; *poliocephalus*, three; *grisescens*, one; and *flaviventris*, three. There is a full synonymy and discussions of relationship, with reprints of a number of the original descriptions.—W. S.

Recent Papers by Bangs and Penard.—These authors have recently considered the proper name for the Common Jungle Fowl¹ and decide that it should be *Gallus gallus gallus* (Linn.), the fact that this name was based upon a domestic variety in no way invalidating it. They select Bengal as the type locality. The other two races will therefore become *G. g. bankiva* Temminck, from Sumatra, and *G. g. ferrugineus* (Gmel.), from China.

Mr. Penard calls attention² to some untenable names. One, *Planchesia fusca* (Bodd.), is preoccupied and, as there is no other available, he proposes *P. pullata* (p. 21). *Muscicapa sibirica fuliginosa* (Hodgson) being also preoccupied, *M. c. cacabata* (p. 22) is proposed. For the same reason *M. ferruginea* (Hodgson) becomes *M. cinereiceps* (Sharpe) and *Eophona melanura melanura* (Gmel.) becomes *E. migratoria pulla* (p. 22), nom. nov. In another paper,³ Mr. Penard describes as new from Mt. Roraima, British Guiana: *Chloronerpes rubiginosus roraimae* (p. 29) and *Tanagra violacea rodwayi* (p. 30).

Mr. Bangs has also proposed⁴ as a new form, *Buteo lineatus eximus* (p. 35) from the Florida Keys.—W. S.

Van Oort's 'Birds of Holland.'⁵—Part 5 and the plates of Part 6 of Dr. Van Oort's notable work are now before us, the text to the latter to appear with Part 7. The ten plates of Part 5 illustrate the geese and brant, while those of the next part comprise the Sheldrakes (*Casarca* and *Tadorna*), the Mallard, Gadwall and three species of Teal. The various plumages are fully illustrated, including the summer or "eclipse" plumage of the males, in such species as exhibit this interesting phase. The high standard of both text and plates as described in reviewing the earlier parts is fully maintained.—W. S.

¹ The Name of the Common Jungle Fowl. By Outram Bangs and Thomas Edward Penard. Proc. N. E. Zool. Club, Vol. VII, pp. 23-25. October 31, 1919.

² Some Untenable Names in Ornithology. By Thomas Edward Penard. *Ibid.* pp. 21-22, October 31, 1919.

³ Two New Birds from Roraima. By Thomas Edward Penard. *Ibid.* pp. 29-31, December 23.

⁴ A New Red-shouldered Hawk from the Florida Keys. By Outram Bangs. *Ibid.* pp. 35. January 16, 1920.

⁵ *Ornithologia Neerlandica*. De Vogels van Nederland door Dr. E. D. Van Oort. Leiden, Martinus Nijhoff. Part 5 text and plates; part 6, plates only.