

**Birds of the National Parks.**<sup>1</sup>—Two years ago in referring to the Circulars of Information of the National Parks (The Auk, XXXV, p. 493, 1918), attention was called to the need of lists of the birds of Crater Lake, Mt. Rainier, Rocky Mountain, and Yosemite. Lists for the last two parks have now been supplied. In the Rules and Regulations for 1920 bird lists are included in the circulars for Rocky Mountain, Sequoia, Yellowstone, and Yosemite, and notes on twelve characteristic birds in that for Mt. Rainier. The Glacier Park list is no longer published in the circular but forms part of the special bulletin on 'Wild Animals of Glacier Park', 1918 (See The Auk, XXXVI, p. 434, 1919).

Through an unfortunate oversight the names of the authors of the Rocky Mountain and Yellowstone lists have been omitted and consequently the notes lose much of the authority which they should have when reduced to the category of brief lists in anonymous official publications in which it is impossible to ascertain the responsibility for the statements. It is evident however that Dean Babcock is the author of the list for the Rocky Mountain Park, and M. P. Skinner of that for the Yellowstone. The last mentioned list contains 200 species as compared with 194 in 1918 while the Sequoia list includes only 168 as compared with 182 two years ago. It is much to be desired that the notes in the anonymous lists should be made at least as full as those in the Yosemite list by Grinnell and Storer. Bird lists for Crater Lake, Grand Canyon, Lafayette, Mt. Rainier and Wind Cave National Parks, and also for the Muir Woods National Monument are still greatly needed.—T. S. P.

**Game Laws for 1920.**—The United States Department of Agriculture has issued the usual summary of the Federal, State and Provincial game laws as Farmers' Bulletin 1138<sup>2</sup>, the compilation being the work of George A. Lawyer and Frank L. Earnshaw of the Biological Survey. The plan follows that of previous years. First is given a synopsis of the open seasons in the various States and Territories and the Provinces of Canada followed by a summary of the new legislation passed during the year.

The wide circulation of the information in this pamphlet will do more to save wild bird life than anything else and we trust that all who receive the pamphlet will follow the request on the inside of the cover and "show the bulletin to a neighbor."

<sup>1</sup> Rules and Regulations, Mount Rainier National Park (birds pp. 13-17); Ibid. Rocky Mountain National Park (birds pp. 30-36); Ibid. Sequoia and General Grant National Parks (birds pp. 26-31); Ibid. Yellowstone National Park (birds pp. 80-90); Ibid. Yosemite National Park (birds pp. 50-54). National Park Service, Dept. of the Interior, 1920. Free on application to the Director of the National Park Service, Washington, D. C.

<sup>2</sup> Game Laws for 1920. Farmers' Bulletin. 1138, U. S. Department of Agriculture. A summary of the Provision of Federal, State and Provincial Statutes. pp. 1-84 To be had on application to the Division of Publications, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Why cannot every member of the A. O. U. post himself on the laws as they affect the birds of his state and make it his business to converse with as many gunners as possible and let them know in the course of conversation that he is informed on the law and is on the lookout for violators? In the case of boys or ignorant gunners actually engaged in illegal shooting or preparing to do so, the law and the penalties could be forcibly explained. Educational work of this sort carried on with a little tact will do a world of good and exemplify once more the old adage that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.—W. S.

**Peters on a New Jay.**—In this short paper<sup>1</sup> Mr. Peters describes as new the form of the Canada Jay occurring at Red Deer, Alberta, calling it *Perisoreus canadensis albescens* (p. 5). The specimens examined are in the Brewster collection, now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and are paler than any of the other known races.—W. S.

**Chapman on *Ostinops decumanus*.**<sup>2</sup>—As a result of a study of a large series of this Cacique Dr. Chapman separates the birds from Bolivia, Peru and south-western Brazil from the typical form of northern South America, as *Ostinops decumanus maculosus* (p. 26) Yungus, Bolivia, characterized by a sprinkling of yellow or white feathers over the body and wing-coverts. The most important part of his paper however is the careful study of variation which it contains. The author finds variation of several kinds represented in this species the most striking being in the shape and size of the wings and tail in male birds from the same locality, which he attributes partly to age and partly to other factors. Dr. Chapman's paper should be carefully studied by anyone contemplating further subdivision of this or allied species while it is also an important contribution to the problem of variation in general.—W. S.

**Lonnberg on 'The Birds of the Juan Fernandez and Easter Islands.'**<sup>3</sup>—The material upon which this paper is based was procured on the Swedish Pacific Expedition of 1916-17 by Mr. Kare Backström, zoologist of the party. From the Juan Fernandez specimens of twenty species were obtained which are described in detail by the author, the *Cinclodes* hitherto regarded as *C. fuscus* being separated under the name *C. oustaleti baeckstroemii* (p. 4). The interesting hummingbird, *Eus-  
tethanus fernandensis* was taken in various stages of molt, some indi-

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<sup>1</sup> A New Jay from Alberta. By James Lee Peters. Proc. New England Zool. Club, VII, pp. 51-5. May 4, 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Unusual Types of Apparent Geographic Variation in Color and of Individual Variation in Size Exhibited by *Ostinops decumanus*. By Frank M. Chapman. Proc. Biol. Society of Washington, Vol. 33, pp. 25-32. July 24, 1920.

<sup>3</sup> The Birds of the Juan Fernandez Islands.

Notes on Birds from Easter Island. By Einar Lonnberg, pp. 1-24. Extract from The Natural History of Juan Fernandez and Easter Island. Edited by Dr. Carl Skottsberg. Vol. III. 1920. [In English.]