

plates of the bird together with several of the last individual, taken from life, and after it had been mounted by the late Nelson R. Wood. Incidentally he states that the plates of Wilson's 'Ornithology' were engraved by Warnicke but we are at a loss to know what authority he has for the statement. If the great majority of them are not the work or Lawson it is high time that proof of the fact were presented.—W. S.

Lincoln's Instructions for Bird Banding.¹—This is a clear and concise series of instructions on how to band birds, how to catch them for banding and study, and how to keep the necessary records. So many important problems can be solved by thus tagging birds, and keeping records of their recapture at the same place or elsewhere, that the Biological Survey has adopted the practise as one of its regular lines of research and volunteers are solicited to aid in the banding. The present pamphlet is issued especially to furnish the necessary instructions for carrying on the work. It seems to admirably fill the requirements.—W. S.

Murphy on the Sea Coast and Islands of Peru, IV and V.²—Dr. Murphy continues in the 'Brooklyn Museum Quarterly' his interesting account of his recent trip to the Peruvian coast. One installment deals with the Chincha Islands and the Guano industry and is prefaced with an account of a visit there fifty years ago by Dr. Frederick A. Lucas, which was written at Dr. Murphy's request to contrast conditions at that time with those of today. The other installment relates to the ancient mummies of the coast region and to Independencia Bay where the Chilean Flamingo was found.—W. S.

Speck on Bird-Lore of the Northern Indians.³—This is a delightfully written account of the fables and beliefs of the Penobscot Indians which relate to the wild birds. The Great Auk we learn was regarded as the chief of a tribe which is visited by the chief deity of the Penobscots when his uncle desires to secure a wife. The Petrel's name in the Penobscot language means "picking up grease," referring to the bird's habit of skimming the surface of the water. The Owls, to the primitive Indian mind, were of deep portent and almost all the species are distinguished by name.

The Redstart is "little fire," and the Thrushes, "birds of evening,"

¹ Instructions for Bird Banding. By Frederick C. Lincoln. U. S. Dept. Agr Department Circular 170. April 1921. pp. 1-18. Price 5 cents (from Supt. Documents, Government Printing Office).

² Brooklyn Museum Quarterly January, 1921, pp. 1-28 and April, 1921, pp. 35-55.

³ Bird-Lore of the Northern Indians. By Frank G. Speck. Reprint from Volume VII, Public Lectures by University of Pennsylvania Faculty, 1919-20. Philadelphia, Pa. Published by the University, 1921.

while others are named in imitation of their calls as in the case of the Whip-poor-will, which to the Penobscots seems to say "wipolesu." The part that birds play in folk-lore is always interesting and Dr. Speck's paper covers an important branch of this subject.—W. S.

Year Book of the Rhinebeck Bird Club.¹—Besides the general reports of the Club there are articles on the Barn Owl by G. W. Gray; the Evening Grosbeak by Dorothy Cookingham; the Barred Owl by Clinton G. Abbott, and a preliminary list of the birds of Dutchess Co., N. Y., by Maunsell S. Crosby. The White Swans originally liberated at Rhinebeck some years ago have bred wild and now number 26 individuals.—W. S.

Wetmore on the Ducks of the Bear River Marshes, Utah.¹—While engaged in studying the duck sickness which has recently become prevalent in Utah, and upon which he has already reported, Dr. Wetmore gathered much information on the life history and favorite foods of the ducks of this region which has been embodied in the present bulletin for the benefit of sportsmen and others interested in water-fowl.

One of the most interesting portions of the report is that dealing with the "eclipse" plumage which was studied in life by Dr. Wetmore. The Drakes of all the resident species except the Ruddy Duck, desert the female, in almost every case, as soon as incubation begins, gathering together in large flocks. Early in summer they molt their bright plumage and assume the dull "eclipse" dress and lose their flight feathers. They then take to the thick marsh growth where they remain in concealment until they are again able to fly. The new normal plumage coming in in September. The females are naturally later in molting than the males and are not in full feather again until late October. The male Canada Goose accompanies the young, as does the Ruddy Duck, and, nesting early, they are able to start the molt by the end of May. It is completed about the time the young goslings are able to fly and the flocks are in evidence again, on the bay, by early July. The Geese are exceedingly wary when hiding during their flightless stage and are rarely seen.

The report contains much valuable data on food plants, and on the enemies and conditions affecting water-fowl.

The importance of the region as a resort of the birds during the molt is emphasized.—W. S.

¹ Year Book of the Rhinebeck Bird Club for the years 1918, 1919, 1920. Published by the Rhinebeck Bird Club, Rhinebeck, N. Y. 1921 pp. 1-40, numerous plates.

¹ Wild Ducks and Duck Foods of the Bear River Marshes, Utah. Bull. 932 U. S. Dept. Agriculture. pp. 1-20. pl. I-III, May 31, 1921. Price 5 cent. (from Supt, Documents Gov't. Printing House).