

of birds' stomachs is the commercial demand for a stuffed specimen." Such statements only serve to illustrate the author's unfamiliarity with this side of his subject. We could never have secured adequate laws for the protection of our birds had we not been able to meet the hard-headed legislators with just the scientific facts that the author criticises, and those laws as he ought to know have stopped the commercializing of stuffed specimens.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Riley.**—Mr. J. H. Riley has recently described<sup>1</sup> *Dryonastes grahami* (p. 59) from Szechuan, China, and proposed<sup>2</sup> a new genus *Orospingus* (p. 61) for *Chlorospingus goeringi* ScI. and Salv. He has also pointed out<sup>3</sup> that *Noddi* Desmurs 1847 is the first tenable name for the Inca Tern, that *Grammopsittaca lineola maculata* Ridgway really came from Venezuela and should be called *tigrinus* Souancé<sup>3</sup>, and that *Anas arcuata* Horsfield is still available for the Tree Duck<sup>4</sup> to which it has usually been applied, although without consulting all the references it is difficult to follow Mr. Riley's rather involved explanation.<sup>3</sup>—W. S.

**Check List of the Birds of Essex County, Mass.**<sup>5</sup>—It is only proper that such an active organization as the Essex County Club should want a field check list of its own and the present little pocket list is the result. It is astonishing to see how many different field check lists there are, and nearly everyone has personal preferences and likewise finds points to criticise in the lists of others.

In the present list we find that with names and dates, etc., all in heavy faced type and printed close together, it is extremely difficult for the eye to separate them and almost impossible for it to carry across to the proper line on the opposite blank page. The probability of getting one's notes opposite the wrong species is so great as to constitute a serious danger. The printing and character of the data, are however, excellent.—W. S.

**McGregor and Marshall on Philippine Birds for Boys and Girls.**<sup>6</sup>—We are constantly astonished at the spread of the interest in popular bird study but nothing in recent literature has emphasized this fact more

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, p. 59.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 61.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 77.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. p. 78.

<sup>5</sup> Check List of the Birds of Essex County, Massachusetts April, 1922. (12 pp. of list and 12 blank for notes). To be had from the Secretary, 88 Washington Square, Salem, Mass.

<sup>6</sup> Philippine Birds for Boys and Girls. By Richard C. McGregor and Elizabeth J. Marshall with illustrations by Macario Ligaya. Manila. Bureau of Printing 1922. pp. 1-138.

strikingly than the appearance of a Philippine bird book for boys and girls with a diagram of a Hornbill on the cover and colored plates and cuts of various species by a native artist, Macario Ligaya!

The text by R. C. McGregor and Elizabeth J. Marshall is printed in extra large type and is very popular and conversational in character to attract the attention of the young reader, but it carries nevertheless reliable information on the habits of the species and a plea for their protection.

A list of the thirty species considered is given at the end with their technical names and some further information, while there is also a list of bird books relating to Philippine ornithology.—W. S.

**The Provencher Society of Natural History of Canada.**<sup>1</sup>—Under this title appears a pamphlet describing the incorporation and objects of the Society i. e., the study and conservation of the wild life of Canada. There are also articles on sanctuaries, game, fish, and various birds; and poems, some original and some reprinted. The illustrations are numerous and varied, with many excellent little color sketches of birds by F. C. Hennessy. A curious feature of the book is that upon turning it over vertically and opening what was the back cover we have all the matter relative to the society and its objects reproduced in French but with different supplementary matter and different illustrations, thus cleverly meeting the difficulties presented in a country where the public which it is desired to reach speak some one language, some the other.—W. S.

**Todd on the Genus *Myiobius*.**<sup>2</sup>—This is a very careful review of a difficult group, of which Mr. Todd recognizes seven species and four additional races. Only one of these, *M. villosus peruvianus* (p. 32) Rio Tavera, Peru, is new. Mr. Todd comments upon the danger of hastily relegating similar forms inhabiting adjacent geographic areas to the category of subspecies, as many so treated, especially in the Tyrannidae, have ultimately proven perfectly distinct species.—W. S.

**Misses Baxter and Rintoul on some Scottish Breeding Ducks.**<sup>3</sup>—This little work presents an historical record of the nestings of a number of species of ducks in Scotland with detailed accounts of the character of their occurrence in the several counties and abundant references to sources of information. The species considered are the Gadwall, Wigeon, Shoveller, Pintail, Pochard, Eider, Common Scoter, Goosander and Red-breasted

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<sup>1</sup> Secretary of Society Jos. Matte, Roads Dept. Prov. of Quebec, P. Q.

<sup>2</sup> Studies in the Tyrannidae. II. The Restricted Genus *Myiobius*. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Proc. Biol. Soc., Washington. 35, pp. 17-38. March 20, 1922.

<sup>3</sup> Some Scottish Breeding Duck. Their Arrival and Dispersal. By Evelyn V. Baxter and Leonora Jeffrey Rintoul. Edinburgh. Oliver and Boyd, Tweeddale Court, 1922. pp. 1-90. price 5s. net.