

For your further information I enclose herewith copy of an article which is appearing this week in 'The Graphic.' The Cuckoo which Mr. Pike photographed this year is the same bird as Cuckoo 'A' mentioned in 'The Cuckoo's Secret;' she therefore returned for a fifth season, and this year, besides being filmed by Capt. Pike, was subjected to similar treatment on two laying days by Mr. H. M. Lomas, on behalf of British Instructional Films, using a Debret ultra-rapid camera. These two films will probably be combined and issued as a complete film for distribution amongst the British picture houses in the spring of next year.

For your information, this particular Cuckoo this year set up a fresh world's record by laying no less than 25 eggs all but one of which were actually seen laid and in the majority of cases I correctly forecasted days in advance the actual nest in which the next egg would be laid. A report of this year's proceedings is likely to appear at a later date in one of the British ornithological journals.

Yours faithfully,

EDGAR CHANCE.

[We are perfectly willing to accept the accuracy of Mr. Chance's demonstration. In our position of reviewer, however, we felt bound to give place to Mr. Stuart Baker's statements after he had seen Mr. Chance's film, especially as they were so prominently published. We fully agree with Mr. Chance that Mr. Baker's change of view should have been given the same publicity as his original statements, in which case we should not have referred to them at all.—Ed.]

NOTES AND NEWS

IN STARTING upon a new year it is customary to look forward rather than backward, to make promises for the future and forget the failures of the past, but in the present case the Editor feels that some word of explanation is due the members of the Union and subscribers to 'The Auk' for many shortcomings during the past year,

Ever since the beginning the Editors and Managers of this journal have been busy men, whose time has been fully occupied with other duties, so that the editing and management of the magazine have, of necessity, been performed in evenings or such other spare moments as they may have had at their disposal. This fact is apparently not generally understood. The increase in the size of the journal with the inevitable additional correspondence has made it increasingly difficult to keep up to date with the editorial work.

During the past year illness and a combination of circumstances greatly increased these difficulties in the case of the present Editor with the result that much correspondence has remained unanswered and the revues

have been seriously curtailed. The Editor deeply appreciates the forbearance of contributors and subscribers during this period and hopes that with the next issue all delinquencies will be met and the review of literature brought up to date. This has already been accomplished in the present number, with the exception of some European bird journals.

With the publication office in Lancaster, and the editor's office in Philadelphia, delays in transit between the two, especially about the first of the year, cause complications which we are powerless to control, and the effect of unrest in the publishing business is still very evident.

In planning for the future certain action seems absolutely necessary.

1. To consider no papers or reports for publication that are not in the Editor's hands at least six weeks before the appearance of the number in which they are to appear.

2. To accept no paper over twenty printed pages in length.

3. To insist that contributors of "General Notes" shall study the style of the notes, as published in 'The Auk' and make their manuscripts conform to it. At present they often come buried in a letter and in all sorts of form so that many hours of editorial time are consumed in rewriting them for the printer.

4. To insist that writers of lists place the scientific name first with the English name following and use a serial set of numbers beginning with 1, not the numbers of the A. O. U. or any other Check-List. Numbers however are really not necessary.

5. To request the writer of either leading article or note to be as brief as possible without omitting matter of importance. A careful re-reading of a rough manuscript will often result in the discovery of some verbiage, the omission of which will make the final copy not only more forceful but better literature.

THE BUSINESS management of 'The Auk' for the past two years under the direction of the Editor has been taken over by the Treasurer, Mr. W. L. McAtee, and dues, subscriptions, etc., should now be sent to him at 200 Cedar St., Maywood, via Cherrydale, Arlington Co., Va.

All articles for publication, etc., or requests for separates to the Editor, Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia, as heretofore.

CHARLES MORELAND CARTER, an Associate of the A. O. U. since 1920, died at his home in St. Joseph, Missouri, September 1, 1922, and was buried at Mount Mora in that city.

He was born in Cambridge, Mass., September 22, 1852. His father was Robert Carter a well known journalist, correspondent and editor, successively, of leading papers in Washington and New York, and author of 'A Summer Cruise on the Coast of New England,' the first edition of which was published in 1864. He was also an intimate friend of James Russel Lowell, Oliver Wendell Homes and other literati. Mr. Carter's mother, who died when he was eleven years old, was an artist and author

of children's books and his step-mother was for twenty years at the head of the Art Department of the Peter Cooper Union.

Young Carter had strong artistic gifts and at one time thought of making this his profession, and many an evening was spent in drawing Game Birds, and copies which he made of Woodcock, Ruffed Grouse and other species are now prized by his friends who hunted with him in the early 70's.

About 1875, Carter went to Nebraska and engaged in the railroad business and later was transferred to Dubuque, Iowa, where he married Ada P. Hunter, May 15, 1879, and in 1889 removed to St. Joseph, Mo., where he remained during the rest of his life as Assistant Treasurer of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy System, and director and treasurer of the St. Joseph Union Depot Co.

Mr. Carter was not technically an ornithologist, but had a deep interest in the subject. As a true and eager sportsman he had no rival, and devoted his spare time to field sports all over the western country where game was then in great abundance. No one was better posted on the habits of our game birds.

He was a man of broad culture and of unimpeachable integrity of character, and of a peculiarly loving disposition. He never forgot his early friendships which remained life long.

In 1919 he published, and had privately printed a brochure 'Shooting in the Early Days,' relating his experiences with dog and gun in a series of interesting chapters.

When living in Dubuque, Iowa, from 1877 to 1880, he speaks of the hundreds of Passenger Pigeons, which he frequently saw in the tall woods on the islands of the Mississippi, yet they gradually grew scarcer and scarcer until 1880, when few were to be seen.

Besides his widow, Mr. Carter is survived by three daughters.—R. D.

GEORGE ZENKER.—Friends of natural science will be sorry to hear of the death of George Zenker at Bipindi, Cameroon, West Africa, on February 12, 1922. Zenker was born June 2, 1855, at Leipzig, Germany where he was educated at the Leipzig Gymnasium. He specialized in agriculture and botany and after graduation continued his botanical interest along with position as florist in several cities in Germany and later as Director of the Botanical Gardens in Naples, Italy. While at Naples he married Miss Serafina Maih, whom death took from him after a few months of married life.

In 1886 he made his first trip from Italy to Africa in a sail boat. He was sent from Italy to Congo and later to Gaboon to collect botanical specimens. In 1889 he went to Cameroon when the Germans were just making ready an expedition into the interior and he joined the company of four who fought their way up to Jaunde. The other Europeans returned to Douala and left Zenker to build the station at Jaunde. During six years off hand-ship, fighting and danger from the then savage natives he began collecting general scientific material.

In 1896 Zenker left the government service to start a plantation of his own at Bipindi, known as Bipindihaf, where he developed a wonderful cocoa and rubber plantation, all the while sending new and rare specimens of natural science to the Berlin Museum where his collections are preserved. Many botanical specimens as well as specimens of mammals, birds, butterflies and other insects bear the name *zenkeri*.*

His death came as a surprise. While he was getting along in years, 67 being a good age for a life spent on the West Coast of Africa, he was known up and down the country as a young old man. His place at Bipindi was a typical European country home. The verandas were always decorated with interesting plants and the interior of the house with paintings which he himself painted. The mysterious room was the one where he kept his literature and newspapers, a jumble to be sure, but not for him. If there was an argument to be settled, a specimen to be identified, Zenker would disappear for a few moments into that sanctum sanctorum and come out with the literature necessary to prove his side.

Natural Science has lost a valuable man in the death of George Zenker.
—JACOB A. REIS, JR. Edea, Cameroon, West Africa.

AT THE RECENT meeting of the A. O. U., the Inland Bird-Banding Association was organized to carry on this line of bird study in the Mississippi Valley and other inland states and Canada. The Association is soliciting members and those interested living within this district should communicate with the secretary.

The officers are S. Prentiss Baldwin, President; Prof. Leon, J. Cole, Vice-President, Wm. I. Lyon, Waukegan, Ill., Secretary and Herbert L. Stoddard, Treasurer.

THE Houghton, Mifflin Company announce the early appearance of the first volume of 'A Natural History of the Ducks,' by Dr. John C. Phillips. All of the species of the world will be treated numbering 155 with many geographical races and there will be numerous colored plates and others in black and white. The artists are Allan Brooks, Louis Agassiz Fuertes and Frank W. Benson. The work will be quarto, 9¾ by 12 5⁄8 and will be complete in four volumes. The price of Volume I is \$50.

THE Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh is about to issue the 'Birds of Santa Marta' by Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd and M. A. Carriker, a comprehensive treatise on the avifauna of this region upon which the authors have been at work for many years. It is in a great part complementary to Dr. Chapman's 'Bird Life of Colombia' in which the Santa Marta region was purposely omitted owing to the fact that the present report was nearly finished.

* Among the birds named in his honor are: *Accipiter zenkeri*, *Agapornis zenkeri*, *Macrosphenus zenkeri*, *Melignomon zenkeri*, *Stigorhinus zenkeri*, and *Turacus zenkeri*, all described by Reichenow from Cameroon. A genus of flying squirrels, *Zenkerella*, described by Matschie, also bears his name. The large Gorilla in the Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia was collected by him.—T. S. P.

'The Auk' has been favored with an advance copy for review but unfortunately it arrived too late for an adequate notice in this issue so that a detailed account of the volume must be deferred until April.

Some Notes from the Records of the New England Bird Banding Association.—The members of the New England Bird Banding Association have sent in records of 4,000 to 5,000 birds banded during 1922. This number would undoubtedly have been multiplied several times had it not been for the lack of bands, as practically none were received between June and November. Ninety-five species have been banded. The Song Sparrow heads the list with 542, the next largest number is for the Robin, 219, with the Chipping Sparrow a close third with 183. Black-crowned Night Herons, Roseate Terns, Purple Finches and White-throated Sparrows number about 150 each; Tree Sparrows and Barn Swallows about 100 each. Some of the more uncommon species successfully banded are Petrels, Scaup Duck, Woodcock, Spotted Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Plover, Hummingbird, Wood Pewee, Prairie Horned Lark, Henslow's Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Blue-headed Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Brown Creeper, Blue-winged Warbler and Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Mr. Aaron C. Bagg, of Holyoke, Mass., banded the first bird for the Association, a Chickadee, on January 29, and he banded the first migrating Song Sparrow March 9, at 4:30 P. M., three hours after it appeared on his grounds. Mr. and Mrs. Bagg have banded over 300 birds.

The following history of a Song Sparrow banded at Cohasset, Mass. by Mr. Laurence B. Fletcher will show the importance of recording repeats: (taken from Circular No. 3, U. S. Biological Survey).

No. 11006, Song Sparrow,	Banded May 28, 1921,	3:15 P. M.
Repeats, 1921	" 31,	12 Noon
"	June 5,	7 P. M.
"	" 6,	11 A. M.
"	" 7,	4 P. M.
"	" 16,	4 P. M.
Return, 1922	May 13, 1922	3 P. M.
Repeats, 1922	" 16,	11 A. M.
"	" 16,	4 P. M.
"	July 5,	5 P. M.
"	" 13,	8 A. M.
"	" 22,	2 P. M.
"	" 26,	11 A. M.
"	" 29,	8 A. M.
"	Aug. 10,	3 P. M.

What became of No. 11006 after June 16, 1921, and where did it go on May 16, 1922, after it had returned three days previously? What was it doing in the period from May 16 to July 5? At present these questions are puzzling, but with persistent work such details will ultimately be worked out.

Mrs. W. H. Herrick, of Topsfield, Mass., traps her birds in an ordinary bird cage, made so that the perch will break when a bird alights, thus closing the door. This trap is on the roof of a piazza under her bedroom window. She trapped and banded 43 Evening Grosbeaks last spring, and three of these were in the cage at one time. The last one was banded May 8. She has also trapped and banded, among other birds, 119 adult Purple Finches. One Purple Finch, after trapping himself, mounted the upper perch and burst into song.

Hon. Herbert Parker, of Lancaster, Mass., the latter part of last winter banded 30 Tree Sparrows, 19 Fox and 18 Song Sparrows. The Tree and Song Sparrows repeated, but none of the Fox Sparrows did so. In April and May, 22 White-throats were banded, but none of these repeated, except one which came at 8 in the morning and repeated again at 6:30 at night. In October, Mr. Parker banded a White-crowned Sparrow, young of the year, and some Fox Sparrows, and of these he had three Fox Sparrows repeat in November.

William E. Smith, of South Chatham, Mass., banded over 100 Common and Roseate Terns, fledglings,—and while on a trip to New Brunswick on the steamer Governor Dingley, he banded a Song Sparrow which flew on board when the boat was 30 miles off Portland, Maine, and released it next day at Lubec, Maine.

Miss Bertha E. Brown, of Bangor, Maine, in reporting the banding of a Chipping Sparrow, said that when she opened her hand to release the bird he would not fly, but lay quietly on her outstretched hand. This continued so long that she became tired and sat down. When she looked at her watch, she found that the sparrow had remained five minutes longer before deciding to fly away.

Mr. I. H. Johnston, of Charleston, West Virginia, banded a Song Sparrow which repeated fifteen times in July. A House Wren, nesting in a gourd on his estate, was caught by a hoop and net hand-trap placed over the opening.

Mr. R. J. Middleton, Jeffersonville, Pa., noted that when he banded Song Sparrow 12420 on May 6 it had no tail, but when it repeated on June 1, the tail was fully grown.

During the spring migration Mr. L. R. Talbot, President of the Brookline Bird Club, went to Mr. Baldwin's place in Thomasville, Ga., and banded over 300 birds, besides noting returns and repeats, and made a record of handling about 1850 birds.

Mr. O. R. Robbins, of Pleasant Lake, Nova Scotia, banded two Herring Gulls. He put out fish and lobster as bait on the shore, and when the Gulls began to eat, threw a fish net over them.

While on a vacation at Unity, Maine, Mr. Arthur W. Taylor, of Salem, Mass., banded a female Wood Pewee and two young. The mother bird was so tame that she fed the young birds as they sat on Mr. Taylor's knee.

Mr. I. B. Fletcher, of Cohasset, banded a Red-winged Black-bird (male) in August, 1922. The next day this bird appeared at the trap with a

female and four fledglings. After leading them around the trap several times, the female and four young went under the trap, were taken and banded. In the twenty years Mr. Fletcher has lived there he had never observed Red-winged Blackbirds on his lawn where the trap is operated until regular feeding was established.

Mrs. Alice B. Pratt, of Middleboro, Mass., used a pull string trap on the beach at Marion, and caught and banded two Spotted Sandpipers and two Semipalmated Plovers.

A large snake was found swallowing a fledgling Song Sparrow, and had got both legs down, when Mr. George H. Priest, of Brockton, Mass., rescued the sparrow and afterwards banded it.

Birds were banded by other Members as follows: Leach's Petrels (43), Prof. Alfred O. Gross, Brunswick, Me.; Roseate Terns (Forty-nine young), at Chatham, Mass. and 61 Cliff Swallows in Sweden, Me., Henry E. Childs, of Providence, R. I.

Purple Finches (19), Mrs. W. K. Harrington, Norwalk, Conn.

Song Sparrows (65), Sydney Harris, Vineyard Haven, Mass.

Redstart, male, flew into back kitchen, and was banded by Miss Inez Addie Howe, St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Lincoln's Sparrows were banded by Mrs. H. S. Miller, Racine, Wisconsin, and also by Rev. George E. Allen, Plainfield, Mass.

White-crowned Sparrow, Mr. William P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.

Vesper Sparrow, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Sargent, Manchester, N. H.

Miss Elizabeth Dickens, Block Island, R. I., took Prairie Horned Larks in her trap and also Spotted Sandpipers.

Dr. Charles W. Townsend, of Boston, banded young Black-crowned Night Herons in an Ipswich Heronry.

At Fairfield, Conn., Prof. A. A. Saunders banded two Blue-winged Warblers and a Cowbird in the same nest.

On an expedition through Essex County, Mass., Messrs. Whittle, Fletcher and Floyd banded 43 young Barn Swallows.

Fox, Song and Tree Sparrows (70) in March and April, Mr. Frank Novak, Fairfield, Conn.

Over 200 birds of several species were banded by Miss Kathleen Hempel, of Elkader, Iowa,—and she had several Chickadee returns from some she banded in 1921. These were trapped mostly in her dooryard.

Returns: At Sandwich, Cape Cod, Mass., a Junco was banded, March 31, by Mrs. George H. Burbank. On April 26, a cat brought in this bird in Buckland, in the extreme western part of the same state.

Mr. R. E. Horsey, of Rochester, N. Y., reported that Common Tern, No. 104872, was found August 13, at Stop 22, Manitou Line, near Rochester alive, but it soon died. The bird was banded by Edwin Beaupre, near Kingston, Ontario.

On June 17, Messrs. Fletcher, Floyd and Mackaye banded 104 Black-crowned Night Herons (fledglings) at Sandy Neck, West Barnstable

Mass. Three of these banded birds were heard from later in the summer. The first, August 7, at Kennebunkport, Me., about 120 miles north of Sandy Neck; the second, August 20, at Fryeburg, Maine, 200 miles north of Cape Cod and well inland; while the third was picked up September 4, near Marblehead, Mass., about 60 miles north from its place of banding.

Black-crowned Night Heron 201635, banded by Mr. S. G. Emilio at Ipswich Beach, July 30, was found injured at North Andover, on September 25. This town is about 20 miles west of Ipswich.

Mr. J. Howard Edwards, of Boston, shot nine banded Black Ducks, among others, at Tunk Pond, Maine, November 6 and 7. These birds were banded by Joseph Pulitzer, of Bar Harbor, Maine.

Black Duck, No. 10505, banded by Mr. Robie W. Tufts, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, June 21, at Seal Island, was killed at Goose Bay, Yarmouth Co., N. S., November 8.

A Bronzed Grackle, banded September 11, by Mr. Charles B. Floyd, Auburndale, Mass., was found wounded at Elizabeth, N. J., November 7. Later it recovered and flew away with others of its kind.

Professor W. C. Vinal of Providence, R. I., banded a Flicker at Wellfleet, Mass. This bird was found dead in a chimney of a closed summer cottage, November 5, at North Eastham, Mass.

At Holyoke, Mass., Mr. A. C. Bagg trapped a Tree Sparrow, on December 3, which had been banded on February 11, last. It had entered the trap last winter thirteen times, the last date being March 24.

Compiled by Alice B. Harrington,
Recording Secretary.

WITH THE WIDE spread interest in bird study and the broad knowledge of the subject possessed today by the reading public one would suppose that the editors of our magazines and newspapers would be alive to the importance of treating their scientific publications with the same care and regard for accuracy that characterizes articles dealing with other subjects, but we still find articles which are either downright amusing or published with utter disregard for the evidence demanded in the presentation of scientific matter which is to be given any serious consideration whatever. Men and women well informed on ornithology are to be met on every hand today and why their assistance at least in an advisory capacity is not made use of by our editors it is hard to understand.

In the 'Chicago Evening American' for December 4, 1922, there appears in the editorial column under the caption "What is going on" a glowing account of the wonderful southward night migration of Tanagers, Thrushes, Vireos, Orioles, etc. which the writer states was then in progress although as a matter of fact the temperature at Chicago was barely ten degrees above zero with a 32 mile gale of wind blowing at the time, and the migrating host which is described had passed some three months before. The writer evidently got his inspiration from an article in some other paper which had been published at a more seasonable date.

In the September issue of 'Scribner's Magazine,' also in the editorial columns, is an article dealing with "consistency" in which is a casual statement that the writer had observed, a year before, the mating of a Robin and a Brown Thrasher which was "attended with complete success." The young he adds were duly hatched and "both parents showed the customary devotion to their brood."

A mating such as this between birds of such different families, has not so far as we are aware been recorded, certainly no hybrid between a Robin and Thrasher has ever been seen or described. Anyone with the slightest scientific knowledge would know that a discovery such as this warranted the most detailed study and record, yet here it is allowed to rest for a year only to be mentioned casually, in a literary magazine.

There is often a wide difference between what we see and what we think we see and inference often plays a part in such a case. That a reputable magazine should publish such a statement without corroborative data is the point that surprises us.

IN A NUMBER of the copies of the October Auk, the plates were blurred and others were printed, which are enclosed herewith.