

modern professors of the cult being even worse offenders than the original culprits, for with them assumed evidence of the common origin of two or more forms is considered as proof of specific identity even in the absence of present day intergradation. If this practice were applied to our North American check list the number of trinomials would be vastly increased.

I am very sorry indeed for this backward step in ornithological science, for I feel sure that instead of being an advance, it is a distinct retrogression. Trinomials are admittedly a *necessary* evil, but why impose them on an already sufficiently troublesome nomenclature when they are not only *not* necessary but doubtfully justified by the facts? We are dealing with forms as they are *today*, not as they may have been ages ago; and for one I can never agree to the naming of any of the Palearctic forms of *Penthestes* as subspecies of *P. atricapillus*; *Regulus satrapa* as a subspecies of *R. regulus*; *Falco regulus* as a subspecies of *F. columbarius*; *Astur atricapillus* as a subspecies of *A. gentilis*, or *Circus hudsonius* as a subspecies of *C. cyaneus*. Although I may have once held that view of their relationships that was many years ago. Now, I believe that trinomials should be used with caution, in short only when present day intergradation is clearly proven.

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Olney, Ill.

NOTES AND NEWS

WALTER BRADFORD BARROWS, a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union elected at its first meeting in 1883, died in East Lansing, Mich., February 26, 1923. He had recently passed his 68th birthday having been born January 10, 1855, at Wellesley Hills, Mass. Professor Barrows graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1876, and from 1879 to 1881 was instructor in chemistry and physics in the Colegio Nacional at Concepcion del Uruguay, in Argentina. After his return to the United States he served as instructor in science in 1881 and 1882, at the State Normal School at Westfield, Mass., and during the next four years as instructor in biology, at Wesleyan University. On July 1, 1886, he was appointed first assistant ornithologist in the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, in the Biological Survey, then known as the Division of Economic Ornithology and Mammalogy. He resigned on March 15, 1894, to accept the professorship of zoology and physiology in the Michigan Agricultural College at East Lansing, a position which he held until his death.

Professor Barrows was well known as an ornithologist. The results of his work in Argentina appeared in a series of papers on the 'Birds of the Lower Uruguay' in the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' for 1883, and in 'The Auk' for 1884. He also contributed a chapter on the 'Accipitres' to the volume on 'Birds' in the 'Standard Natural History, 1885. While connected with the Department of Agriculture his most notable publications were his bulletins on the 'English Sparrow' and the

'Common Crow.' In 1912 his magnum opus appeared under the title 'Bird Life of Michigan'—an excellent report accompanied by a voluminous bibliography. He was particularly interested in the distribution and life history of the birds of Michigan and especially in the local distribution and breeding habits of Kirtland's Warbler. Recently he became interested in bird banding and at the time of his death was making plans for active work in this field.

In accordance with a standing order of the Council, one of the Fellows, appointed by the President, will prepare a suitable memorial of Professor Barrows' life and work which will be presented at the next meeting of the Union.—T. S. P.

JUSTICE JOB BARNARD, an Associate of the American Ornithologists, Union since 1886, and a retired Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, died in his 79th year, at his home in Washington, D. C., February 28, 1923, after a brief illness following an attack of influenza. He was born at Maple Grove Farm in Porter Co., Ind., June 8, 1844, and received his education in the public schools of the County and in Valparaiso Male and Female College. During the civil war he saw service as a private in company K in the 73d Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered out in 1865, with the rank of sergeant, notwithstanding the fact that he was in command of his company during the last year of the war after the commissioned officers had been taken prisoners.

After the close of the war, he took up the study of law, at the University of Michigan, and graduated with the class of 1867. In the following September, he married Miss Florence A. Putnam of Berrien Springs, Mich., and settled at Crown Point, Ind. Here he practiced law until 1873, and served as town clerk, marshal, assessor, and city treasurer. He then removed to Washington, D. C., his future home, and for a time was an associate clerk in the District Supreme Court. From 1876 to Oct. 1, 1899, he engaged in the practice of law and was then appointed by President McKinley an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, an office which he filled until June 8, 1914, when he retired from the bench at the age of 70.

Judge Barnard was deeply interested in birds and wild life in general and was familiar with the common birds of the National Capital and with those about his summer home in Maine. He was one of the oldest Associates of the Union and attended the Washington meetings regularly and occasionally those held elsewhere. In 1906, he was elected president of the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia, and took an active part in its affairs until his death. Personally, he was very affable and public spirited and ready to assist in any way possible, a man of broad vision and wide interests, and a member of several educational and patriotic organizations. While he did not publish on birds he did much to encourage others and foster bird study and bird protection.—T. S. P.

WILLIAM BOWEN BOULTON, a life associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died suddenly at Morristown, New Jersey, on September 17, 1922, in the 64th year of his age. He was born in Philadelphia, July 20, 1859, and married Miss Louisa Kuhl Kelly, October 13, 1881. There were six children, of whom four are now living; William B. Boulton, Jr., Howard Boulton, Mrs. John G. Bates, and Mrs. Newbold L. Herrick.

From early manhood, Mr. Boulton took a keen interest in all matters relating to the conservation of animal life and other natural resources of the nation. Although much of his time was devoted to successful organization and executive work touching on matters relating to fire insurance, banks, and trust business, he never lost an opportunity to render all possible assistance in bettering conditions relating to game birds and species of value to farm interests.

Mr. Boulton belonged to a number of shooting clubs, was president of the Flanders Club of Long Island for a long period, and was a member of the Game Commission of New Jersey for six years. He was presiding officer of the National Game Conference of the American Game Protection Association for six years which gave him an opportunity of being of the greatest service in guiding public sentiment toward the betterment of migratory-bird conditions.

His rulings as presiding officer were marked always by admirable judgment, by fairness and impartiality, and by a delicate tact in smoothing out differences of opinion, while his genial courtesy and patient readiness to listen to all sides of any question tended always toward peace and good feeling. This was the general opinion of all members, and the fact was naturally presented in a resolution at the last conference.

When waterfowl and other migratory birds came under the control of the Federal Government he was among the first of sportsmen to approve and fully endorse the regulations which were being criticized by some of the short-sighted and selfish as too drastic and unnecessary. He has published comparatively little relating to subjects nearest his heart, but his superior advocacy, his wide acquaintance, and his marked ability have rendered such valuable service that it is extremely difficult even to estimate at this moment the great good that has been accomplished in betterment of bird-life conditions. The passing of such a well-informed, enthusiastic, noble and helpful friend is a terrible misfortune and in his death American sportsmen and other bird men have suffered a loss which is too great adequately to express.—A. K. F.

APPROPRIATE exercises in commemoration of the centennial of the birth of Spencer Fullerton Baird, founder of the U. S. National Museum and the U. S. Fish Commission, were held in Washington, D. C., on February 3. In the morning a wreath was placed on Prof. Baird's tomb in Oak Hill Cemetery, by a special committee appointed for the purpose, at 3 P.M., a meeting was held at the National Museum when various suggestions for a Baird Memorial were considered, and at 8 P.M. a public

meeting was held in the auditorium of the Museum with addresses on the life and work of Baird. Dr. W. H. Dall spoke on 'Baird the Man,' Dr. C. G. Abbott, Ass't Secretary, on 'Baird and the Smithsonian Institution,' Prof. Edwin Linton on 'Baird at Woods Hole,' Dr. David Starr Jordan on 'Reminiscences of Baird,' and Dr. C. Hart Merriam on 'Baird the Naturalist.' The National Baird Memorial Committee recommended (1) that Baird's name be given to the laboratory of the Bureau of Fisheries at Woods Hole, Mass., (2) that a fund be established under the Smithsonian Institution for promotion of research and exploration in the fields in which Baird was especially interested, and (3) that a museum of fisheries and oceanography be established in Washington, D. C., by act of Congress. The Secretary of the A. O. U. who was appointed by the President as its representative, was present at all the meetings.

THE Department of Conservation of Massachusetts is seriously considering whether it is worth while to continue the preservation of the Heath Hen on Martha's Vineyard and Mr. Wm. C. Adams, director of the department, has solicited an expression of opinion.

Since the work was begun some \$47,000 has been expended by the State in maintaining the island as a reservation for the Heath Hen, but if it is purely a matter of expense, there are surely Conservation and Audubon Societies which would relieve the State of the comparatively small annual cost.

The extermination of any species is a dangerous thing, and even those who are so intent in "sowing the seed" of extermination of "vermin" may yet "reap the whirlwind." The saving of the Heath Hen is not a local or State matter but is of interest to the whole country and the scientific world.

The birds from a nucleus of 75 when protection started have at times increased to 2000, but in other years have decreased and at present only about 150 remain. Expert investigation should be made to ascertain the cause of this fluctuation and then steps could be taken for a permanent increase. At any rate we hope the State will continue rigid protection just now when it is sorely needed or allow someone else to do it.

THE annual meeting of the New England Bird Banding Association was held on January 17, 1923, at the Boston Society of Natural History. The president, Edward H. Forbush, was in the chair, and the meeting was largely attended.

The following officers were elected for 1923: Dr. Chas. W. Townsend, Boston, Mass., President; Dr. Winsor M. Tyler, Lexington, Mass., 1st Vice-Pres.; Prof. Alfred O. Gross, Brunswick, Me., 2nd Vice-Pres.; Laurence B. Fletcher, Brookline, Mass., Secretary; Mrs. Alice B. Harrington, Lincoln, Mass., Recording Secty.; Charles B. Floyd, Auburndale, Mass., Treasurer. Directors for two years: Francis H. Allen, West Roxbury, Mass., Ralph Lawson, Salem, Mass., Prof. F. A. Saunders, Cambridge, Mass.

An amendment to the constitution was adopted providing for 'Sustaining Members,' at \$5.00 and up, which will enable persons interested in bird banding to become members regardless of whether or not they actually band birds.

Following the business of the meeting the members were addressed by Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin of Cleveland, Ohio, and Mr. F. C. Lincoln of the U. S. Biological Survey, both of whom talked briefly on their experiences in banding birds during the past year. A paper was read by Mrs. Elizabeth A. Herrick on her work in trapping birds on a second story roof with a trap constructed from an ordinary canary cage. Professor Alfred O. Gross, of Bowdoin College, gave a most interesting talk, illustrated with lantern slides, on his experiences with a family of Nighthawks and Mr. H. K. Job, of Connecticut, showed several reels of moving pictures made by him of the birds of the Magdalen Islands.—LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, *Secty.*

In the London 'Field' for Jan. 4, 1923, p. 29, H. F. Witherby states that "Readers of 'British Birds' have ringed 114,724 birds since 1909" when the scheme of marking birds was first started by that magazine.

ON March 21, Dr. Alex. Wetmore, of the Biological Survey, sailed from San Francisco for Honolulu in charge of an expedition to the Hawaiian Bird Reservation. This expedition organized through cooperation of the Biological Survey and the Bishop Museum of Honolulu will visit several of the islands in the Reservation, including Laysan, and expects to return in about three months.

NATURELAND is a popular natural history quarterly published in Manchester, England, under the editorship of Mr. Graham Renshaw, well known as a former editor of the 'Avicultural Magazine.' Judging from the four issues for 1922, it should prove very attractive to those interested in outdoor life. The contents while varied contain many articles on birds both wild and in captivity. These are by no means confined to British species and we note articles on the birds of Cyprus, and on the nesting of the Secretary Bird in Pretoria. The plates are interesting and well printed.

THE Delaware Valley Ornithological Club held its 33rd annual meeting at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, on January 4, 1923. Officers elected for the ensuing year are President, James A. G. Rehn; Vice-President, Geo. H. Stuart, 3rd; Secretary, Julian K. Potter, and Treasurer, Saml. C. Palmer.

Sixteen meetings were held during 1922, with an average attendance of 24. Among the communications presented were: 'Bird Notes from Montana and Saskatchewan' by Geo. H. Stuart, 3rd; 'The Earliest Published Illustrations of Birds,' by S. N. Rhoads; 'Through the Kentucky Mountains with Camera and Binoculars' by Witmer Stone; 'Bird Adventures Down South' by Saml. Scoville, Jr.; 'Bird Life in Nicaragua' by J. Fletcher Street and 'Through the Ten Thousand Islands to Cape Sable,

Fla.' by C. J. Pennock. The Club took several successful hikes, about 20 men participating, and has organized a Bird Banding Committee with Wharton Huber as chairman. 'Cassinia' temporarily suspended will be resumed with a double number 1920-21 to appear in May, 1923, the regular 1922 issue to follow.

HARRY MALLEIS, field assistant of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, left Washington, March 10, for the Lake Peten district and other points in Guatemala, with the plan to stop en route at Belize and at Turneffe Island, off the coast of British Honduras. The main object of the expedition is to procure a number of specimens of the Ocellated Turkey and the Curassow, with a view to attempting to acclimatize them on Sapalo Island, on the coast of Georgia, and to domesticate them. In addition to this work, scientific collections and observations will be made of the birds, mammals, reptiles, and batrachians.

THE Audubon Society of the Sewickley Valley, Pennsylvania, has issued an attractive little pamphlet under the title of 'The Cardinal' (No. 1, January, 1923), which it is hoped to issue semi-annually. This number contains a list of the birds of Sewickley by Bayard H. Christy. With the remarkable activity exhibited by the Audubon Societies of western Pennsylvania there should be no trouble in maintaining this excellent publication.

THE Baird Ornithological Club of Washington, D. C. held its Annual Meeting at the Cosmos Club on March 14, 1923. The incumbent officers were re-elected as follows: President, A. K. Fisher; Vice-President, Ned Hollister; Secretary, B. H. Swales.

A council was formed to consist of the officers and two additional members to which C. W. Richmond and T. S. Palmer were elected.

During the year the club held regular monthly meetings generally at the home of some one of the members. The meeting of February 20, 1923, was a memorial to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Spencer Fullerton Baird with special reference to his career as an ornithologist. Doctors W. H. Dall, C. Hart Merriam and Leonhard Stejneger gave extremely interesting reminiscences of their relations with Prof. Baird and the latter's standing as a naturalist and administrator.—B. H. Swales, Secretary.

As is well known most of Gould's types of Australian birds are in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, having been purchased from Gould by Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, formerly [president of the Academy, about the middle of the last century, and presented to the Academy along with the Rivoli and other collections secured by him about the same time. Some years ago Dr. Witmer Stone in conjunction with Mr. Gregory M. Mathews studied the Gould specimens critically and decided which of the several specimens representing most of the species, was the actual type, and a list of these was published in the 'Austral Avian Record.'

IN order to further facilitate the work of the Australian ornithologists, Mr. A. J. Campbell is sending to Philadelphia specimens of the forms that are considered to represent the Gouldian species and these are being compared with the types by Dr. Stone so that eventually there will be in Australia authentic specimens with which supposed new races may be compared. The handicap under which Australian ornithologists are compelled to work, with the type specimens of their birds mainly in America and England, can readily be appreciated and it is to be hoped that some similar arrangement may be made to secure for Australia authentic examples of the numerous forms described, often very briefly, by Mr. G. M. Mathews.