

consecutively under a uniform title. The number of the 'Novitates' will answer the same purpose, of course, if it is always quoted.—W. S.

**Hellmayr on the Birds of "Silla de Caracas."**—This paper<sup>1</sup> deals with the birds of a section of the coastal mountains of northern Venezuela supplementing a contribution by Hellmayr and Seilern, published in 1912, on the avifauna of the "Cumbre de Valencia" which lies a little to the westward. The principal basis of the present report is the extensive collection made by S. M. Klages, who also procured the material for the former study.

This paper is entirely technical in character, consisting of an annotated list of species with a catalogue of the specimens, discussions of their plumages and relationships, and in many cases a synopsis of all of the forms belonging to the group under consideration. The new forms seem all to have been described in previous papers in other periodicals. The author apparently did not have an opportunity to see the proof sheets as the text abounds in typographical errors which have been largely corrected, in manuscript, in the copy sent for review. This important paper forms the second of a series entitled "Beitrage zur Ornithologie von Venezuela" and the present installment covers only the families Turdidae to Tanagridae, in essentially the order of the A. O. U. 'Check-List.'—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Griscom and Dwight.**—A recent paper<sup>2</sup> by Mr. Ludlow Griscom describes sixteen new birds obtained by the author and his associates on an expedition to western Panama undertaken under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History during the spring of 1924, and a few from Costa Rica, which a study of the Panama series showed to be undescribed.

The new forms belong to the genera, *Trogonurus*, *Aulacorhynchus*, *Scytalopus*, *Margarornis*, *Pseudocolaptes*, *Atalotriccus*, *Troglodytes*, *Catharus*, *Planesticus*, *Phainoptila*, *Emberizoides*, *Atlapetes*, *Pseliophorus*, and *Chlorospingus*.

In another paper<sup>3</sup> Mr. Griscom gives an account of the expedition upon which this material was obtained, illustrated by excellent halftones from photographs of the country. His associates were Messrs. Rudyerd Boulton, George A. Seaman, J. Manson Valentine and R. R. Benson. The reports throw much light on the avifauna of a hitherto unexplored mountain region lying between Volcan de Chiriqui and the Pico Calovevora.

A paper<sup>4</sup> on new birds from Costa Rica by Dr. Jonathan Dwight and

<sup>1</sup> Beitrage zur Ornithologie von Venezuela, Von C. E. Hellmayr II. Die Vögel der Silla der Caracas. Arch. für Naturg. 90 Jahrgang, May, 1924, Abt. 1, Heft. 2. pp. 132-204.

<sup>2</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Panama and Costa Rica. By Ludlow Griscom, Amer. Museum Novitates, No. 141, October 31, 1924, pp. 1-12.

<sup>3</sup> Bird Hunting Among the Wild Indians of Western Panama. By Ludlow Griscom. Natural History, Vol. XXIV, No. 4, 1924, pp. 509-519.

<sup>4</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Costa Rica. By Jonathan Dwight and Ludlow Griscom. Amer. Museum Novitates, No. 142, November 3, 1924, pp. 1-5.

Mr. Griscom is based on the collections made for Dr. Dwight by Mr. Austin Paul Smith which were also used by Mr. Griscom in his Panama studies. Four species and subspecies are here named belonging to the genera, *Crypturus*, *Micromonicha*, *Myiochanes* and *Phoenicothraupis*.—W. S.

**Pearson's 'Hérons of the United States.'**—Under the above title<sup>1</sup> Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, president of the National Association of Audubon Societies, has prepared a Bulletin of the Society dealing with all of the species of Herons found in our country.

Dr. Pearson's pamphlet gives one an excellent outline of the life history of each of the species, and of the distribution and plumages of these interesting birds, which have unwittingly, and to their sorrow, played such a prominent part in the campaign for bird protection. Even yet the insistent demand of fashion for egret plumes makes the task of the wardens not only difficult but perilous and the saving from extinction of some of the rarest species is by no means an assured thing.

Many persons desire to know more about these persecuted birds and this publication will meet their needs admirably. Four colored plates from paintings by Louis Aggasiz Fuertes add to the value and interest of the pamphlet. Some if not all of these have already appeared in the Audubon Department of 'Bird-Lore' as has much of the text although for the present purposes it has been amplified and brought up to date.—W. S.

**Grinnell's 'Bibliography of California Ornithology.'**—Dr. Grinnell has in this publication<sup>2</sup>, taken up the bibliography of Californian ornithology at the point at which he left it in his previous volume—January, 1908—and carried it on to the end of 1923. Besides listing all of the titles for the included years he has added 133 which were overlooked in preparing the first installment, so that the grand total now reaches 4071.

The scrupulous care that has been exercised in the compilation has resulted in the most accurate and complete bibliography that has yet appeared for any State in the Union, and those who contemplate the making of a bibliography may well follow Dr. Grinnell's model. This class of work is one that, if worth doing, is worth doing well, for any error in a bibliography, like one in a dictionary, is likely to be copied over and over again, for years to come, by those who have not the opportunity or inclination for personal verification. We congratulate Dr. Grinnell upon a difficult and thankless task well done.—W. S.

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<sup>1</sup> *Hérons of the United States*. Bulletin No. 5. By T. Gilbert Pearson, LL.D. National Association of Audubon Societies, 1974 Broadway, New York. 1924—pp. 1-38. Price 50 cents.

<sup>2</sup> *Bibliography of California Ornithology*, Second Installment to end of 1923. By Joseph Grinnell. Contribution No. 421 from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California. Cooper Ornithological Club, Pacific Coast Avifauna Number 16. Berkeley, California. Published by the Club, September 15, 1924, pp. 1-191 (W. Lee Chambers, Eagle Rock, Los Angeles Co., California. Price \$6.00).