

There are also interesting reports from the bird refuges and big game reservations and on the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Regulations. Incidentally we learn that 1079 permits for scientific collecting were granted during the year, 988 for bird banding and 2360 for possession etc., of migratory water-fowl for propagation.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Lönnberg.**—In 'British Birds' for October, 1924, there is a discussion of the proper nomenclature of the Brant by Einar Lönnberg and in the Swedish journal 'Fauna och Flora' he has recently published a number of papers dealing with birds. Among these may be mentioned one on the bird fauna of northern China, in the volume for 1923, and in 1924 is the description race of *Tetrao wrogallus*, *T. u. karelicus* from Finland, an account of the occurrence of *Charadrius apricarius oreophilus* in Sweden, and an historical account of changes in the Swedish avifauna. All of these are in the Scandinavian language.—W. S.

**Report on the Fiji-New Zealand Expedition of the University of Iowa.**—A narrative account of this, the fourth expedition sent out by the University of Iowa, has just been published, making a portly volume of 369 pages profusely illustrated by photographs of scenery, specimens, etc., and admirably printed.<sup>1</sup>

The party of six from the scientific staff of the University was under the leadership of Prof. C. C. Nutting and the expedition lasted from May 19 to September 1922, one month being spent in Fiji and about the same time in New Zealand.

The report is a running narrative by Prof. Nutting of a popular and personal character with numerous quotations, descriptions and bits of history. Two chapters by Prof. Dayton Stoner, who was a member of the party, contain references to the bird life of the two localities, the former consisting largely of a reprint of the author's paper on the Mynah, published in 'The Auk' for April, 1923, while the latter contains many brief notes on the New Zealand birds observed and a reprint of the author's article on the Kiwi of the Wellington Zoölogical Garden.

The paucity of birds in each country seems to have impressed the members of the party as well as the stringent measures for their protection in New Zealand and a corresponding laxity in the enforcement of conservation rules in Fiji. In both islands, introduced species are the most conspicuous, and it would seem that, unless some effective means of exterminating these be adopted, the hope for the preservation of the remnant of the native bird fauna is slim.

Prof. Stoner was also the entomologist of the expedition and an entomological characteristic is evident in his reference to Flycatchers as

<sup>1</sup> Fiji-New Zealand Expedition by C. C. Nutting, R. B. Wylie, A. O. Thomas, Dayton Stoner, Collaborating. Published by the University, Iowa City. Univ. of Iowa. Studies in Nat. Hist. First Series No. 82. Sept. 1, 1924. pp. 1-369. pl. I-LVIII.

"Muscapids," and Honey-eaters as "Meliphagids." The coining of such "vernaculars" in the case of insect groups which have no English equivalents may be excusable but their introduction into the already encumbered nomenclature of ornithology should not be encouraged. Moreover if, according to Mathews, we must now use the family name Melithreptidae, we presume "Meliphagid" would have to become "Melithreptid!"

For the naturalist or traveller about to visit either of the countries here treated this volume will prove both interesting and instructive.—W. S.

**Mathews' 'The Birds of Australia.'**—The present part<sup>1</sup> of this monumental work completes the eleventh volume, and covers several genera of Honey-eaters (Melithreptidae) which were formerly included in the genus *Ptilotis*. While we note no new subspecies in this part there appears to be a new subgeneric name proposed on page 543—*Territornis* for *Ptilotis albilineata* White, but the name is proposed in such a manner as to leave one in doubt whether it has not been previously published somewhere else.

The author states in the preface that one more volume will finish the work and judging from his 'List' there are about sixty species still to consider. We wish him all speed with the final parts.—W. S.

**Fleming on a New Gull.**—An examination of specimens of *Larus dominicanus* undertaken by Mr. Fleming, while not sufficiently thorough to determine how many races should be recognized, shows that the form inhabiting the South Shetland Islands is distinct and he therefore names it *L. d. austrinus* (p. 139)<sup>2</sup> type from Deception Island.—W. S.

**Miller and Griscom on New Nicaraguan Birds.**—In this paper<sup>3</sup> eleven new forms of Nicaraguan birds are described which were obtained by the authors on their expedition to that country in 1917 or by W. B. Richardson in 1908 and 1909.

The new forms belong to the genera: *Nyctiphrynus*, *Abeillia*, *Hylocistetes*, *Pachyrhamphus*, *Patytriccus*, *Mitrephanes*, *Empidonax*, *Myiochanes*, *Myiarchus*, *Heleodytes*, and *Thryothorus*.—W. S.

**Proceedings of the Linnaean Society of New York.**—The present number<sup>4</sup> of the 'Abstracts of Proceedings' of the Linnaean Society of New

<sup>1</sup> The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Vol. XI, Part 9. December 22, 1924.

<sup>2</sup> A New Form of *Larus dominicanus* Lichtenstein. By J. H. Fleming. Proc. Biological Society, Washington, Vol. 37 pp. 139-140, December 29, 1924.

<sup>3</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Nicaragua. By W. DeW. Miller and Ludlow Griscom. American Museum Novitates, No. 159, Feb. 16, 1925. pp. 1-9.

<sup>4</sup> Abstract of the Proceedings of the Linnaean Society of New York, For the Four Years Ending March 25, 1924. Nos. 33, 34, 35, containing Notes on the Winter Bird Life of Southwestern Texas. By T. Gilbert Pearson. November 1, 1924, pp. 1-141.