

Birds, their Care and Propagation.—The present volume,¹ covering the Passeres, is the first part of a work proposed several years ago and intended to cover the care and breeding of all birds known to have been kept by aviculturists, with some account of the several species. Chapters of the work have appeared each month simultaneously in the 'Avicultural Magazine' and 'L'Oiseau' and these chapters are now gathered together and issued in book form.

Many of the articles are by M. Jean Delacour, chairman of the joint committee of the Société Nationale d'Acclimatation and the Avicultural Society of London which was charged with the preparation of the work. Others are by such well known authorities on aviculture as Butler, Decoux, Legendre, Meade-Waldo, Seth-Smith and Shore-Bailey, each author writing upon the groups with which he has had the greatest experience. The introduction by M. Delacour treats of methods in aviculture, cages, aviaries, parks, etc.—in fact everything that keepers of birds should know.

The illustrations are numerous including all of those appearing in the journals above mentioned and others from some of the chairman's publications as well as photographs of his aviaries and grounds.

The work will prove of the greatest value to all interested in aviculture and will doubtless stimulate others to take up this fascinating pastime which attracts so much attention in England and France.

The present volume is entirely in French and we presume that a similar volume in English is in preparation.—W. S.

Holt and Sutton on South Florida Birds.²—This annotated list of 123 species combines the results of trips by E. G. Holt in January and February, 1924, and by George M. Sutton in March and April of the same year, to practically the same region in southern Florida, including the Royal Palm State Park, 'Gator Lake, Flamingo, Elliot's and Serberling's Keys, Coconut Grove and the Tamiami Trail for fifty miles west of Miami.

The paper consists entirely of field notes and no information is presented as to the extent of the collections obtained or their disposition although Mr. Holt was at the time connected with the Cleveland Museum while Mr. Sutton represented the Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh.

The notes on the Wood Ibis colony and incidental remarks on the habits and actions of various species are interesting contributions to the life histories of Florida birds, while the beautiful colored plate of the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow from a painting by Mr. Sutton will give many

¹ Les Oiseaux, leur Entretien, Leur Elevage. Manuel publié sous les auspices de La Société Nationale d'Acclimatation de France et l'Avicultural Society de Londres par un Comité mixte sous la direction de Jean Delacour. Vol. I Passereaux. Paris, Au Siège de la Société: 198, Boulevard Sain-Germain. 1925, pp. 1-384.

² Notes on Birds Observed in Southern Florida. By Ernest G. Holt and George Miksch Sutton. Annals of the Carnegie Museum, XVI, No. 3-4, 1926, issued April 10, 1926, pp. 409-439, pl. XXXIX-XLIV.

ornithologists an opportunity to appreciate the distinctness of this rare species, of which but few will ever see specimens. No mention is made of the locality where this bird was found nor of the number of specimens obtained for obvious reasons. There are other illustrations from photographs which add to the interest of the publication.—W. S.

La Touche's Handbook of the Birds of East China.—Part III of this work¹ maintains the high standard of the previous installments and covers the families Pericrocotidae, Artamidae, Dicuridae, Sylviidae, Regulidae, Oriolidae, Eulabetidae, and Sturnidae. We note but one new form described in the present part, *Cisticola exilis courtoisi* (p. 237) from South Yunnan, but as usual there is much valuable comment on the relationship and distribution of the various species.

Some of the groups here covered are difficult ones, notably the Sylviidae, and the full descriptions of the plumages of the 57 forms which occur in East China will be particularly welcome though it seems a pity that the author could not have included a key for their determination instead of referring to available keys in other works, which may not happen to be at the disposal of the reader.

Several photographic reproductions of characteristic scenery illustrate this installment of the work to which is added a valuable sketch map of east China.—W. S.

Duck Protection.—We have before us several publications dealing with the necessity for further limitation of the bag limit for game birds and water fowl in the United States as well as with the present abundance of Ducks.

Two of these unfortunately are anonymous and we are therefore in doubt just what weight to attach to them. Why anyone enough interested in game protection to write pamphlets for publication should wish to withhold his name we are at a loss to understand. The first publication² issued by "The National Committee of One Hundred" is a strenuous attack upon the present federal bag limit and the policies of the advisory committee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This publication is so full of extravagant statements and black letter type that it gives one the impression that its claims are not capable of presentation in a moderate and more convincing form.

Next there is a dignified pamphlet³ issued by the National Association of Audubon Societies which purports to give the facts in the case and which puts the whole matter in a different light.

¹ A Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China. By J. D. D. La Touche Part III. May, 1926, pp. 193-292, pl. VIII-IX and map. Price 7s. 6d. net per part. Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet St., London, E. C. 4.

² Wasting America's Game Birds. "National Committee of One Hundred." New York, January 5, 1926. pp. 1-61.

³ Federal Power and Duck Bag Limits: Facts. A Study. National Association of Audubon Societies, Bulletin 6. 1974 Broadway, N. Y. Price 25 cents. 1926.