and to which he brings his wide and varied knowledge of the animal kingdom. Briefly he regards sustained monotonous sounds ("keep away" sounds he terms them) as repellant, as the roar of the surf, the rattle of rattlesnakes and the buzzing of bees. Then there are the alarm cries so frequent in birds ("come to me" cries) in protecting their nests and young. These he regards as protective in as much as they at once attract the attention of other enemies which may be also enemies of the attacking creature, which will flee for safety upon their approach and give the victim a chance of escape. The repeated chirps of small active birds ("here I am" cries) are also protective as they call attention to the spot where the bird was when the cry was given but which it immediately left, thus continually confusing the pursuer, while the complicated songs of birds are claimed to have a similar bewildering effect upon their most frequent enemies, the Hawks, which habitually travel rapidly and do not therefore get the songs clearly and definitely located. Other confusing calls are the nocturnal utterances of Whip-poor-wills and similar species and these give rise to counter confusing cries of their enemies ("I'm after you" calls) which from their indefinite location in the dark bewilder their prey and throw them off their guard. It is inconceivable in our author's opinion that bird song is not part of the delicate protective adjustment that we recognize in nature in form, structure and color.

Minor functions of animal sounds Dr. Clark considers are to act as a sex stimulus and to keep migrant flocks and families together.

There is much food for thought in this paper and it will be read with interest by those who enjoy speculations as to the meaning of color, voice, etc., and doubtless the slight weight that he gives to bird song in connection with mating activities will be met by strenuous objection.

There is one paragraph that we think warrants serious consideration, not only in discussions of animal behaviour and development, but also in matters of conservation, where many of our policies are one-sided and may inadvertently aid in the very destruction against which we think that we are guarding, i.e.: "Every creature in the world is so beset with enemies that it leads the most precarious sort of an existance. Any false step means death. Any transgression of the rigid limitations within which life for it is possible, whether by individual variation in form or structure, or by unfortunate accident, means the prompt elimination of the individual so transgressing." How many individuals or species do we destroy or threaten with destruction by forcing upon them just such transgressions?—W. S.

McLellan on 'Birds and Mammals of the Revillagigedo Islands.'—This report[1] covers an expedition of the Californian Academy of Sciences

[1] Expedition to the Revillagigedo Islands, Mexico, in 1925, VI. The Birds and Mammals. By M. E. McLellan, Assistant Curator, Department of Ornithology amd Mammalogy, Proc. California Acad. Sciences, Fourth Series, Vol. XV, No. 11, pp. 279–322, May, 1926.

to the Revillagigedo and Tres Marias Islands undertaken in the spring and early summer of 1925, under the leadership of Dr. G. Dallas Hanna. Mr. Frank Tose chief taxidermist of the museum and his assistant Mr. J. T. Wright made the collection of birds and mammals here reported upon and the former prepared the field notes. No less that 548 bird skins and 29 mammals were obtained, the birds representing 112 species and subspecies and the comments, on the specimens, and notes on the life histories form a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the fauna of these interesting islands.

Dr. Hanna has published a general report[1] on the expedition and in his narrative are some additional notes on birds which are referred to in footnotes in Mr. McLellan's paper. Dr. Hanna's report also contains numerous illustrations many of them from photographs of living birds.—W. S.

Grinnell and Wythe on 'Birds of the Berkeley Campus.'[2]—This is not another local list but a four-page pocket checking list printed on cardboard and intended for use in recording daily lists on walks in the vicinity of the campus. Of the 135 kinds of birds now definitely recorded from the area 38 are resident, 21 summer resident, 37 winter visitants, 20 transients and 19 vagrants. The list is another of the numerous pocket card lists now so generally in use and so useful for keeping our local records.—W. S.

Mathews' 'The Birds of Australia.'—This great work[3] is rapidly pushing ahead to completion. and we now have before us Part 7 of Volume XII in which are considered, the Orioles, the Drongos, Starlings, Bower Birds and their close allies the Australian Cat Birds. No new forms are described in this installment.—W. S.

Van Oort's 'Birds of the Netherlands.'—We are in receipt of the complete text of Volume II of this great work[4] and the concluding plates of Volume III. The latter include the various plumages of the Black-backed Gull, the Herring Gull, Kittiwake, Ivory Gull and Sabine's Gull. There are also a number of Owls including the Short-eared, Snowy, Hawk and Barn Owls, likewise the Belted Kingfisher which has occurred in Holland as a straggler. The wealth of figures, illustrating all plumages from the downy young up, are of particular interest. The text as we have said before is unfortunately in Dutch but the work contains so much information on North American species that it should be in all our scientific libraries.

Volume I contains 244 pages of text and 87 colored plates covering the water birds with the exception of the Gulls, Shore-birds etc. and is issued

[1] Ibid. General Report. By G. Dallas Hanna., ibid, No. 1, pp. 1–113, March 30, 1926.

[2] Issued by the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Univ. of Calif.

[3] The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Volume XII, Part 7, pp. 265–320.

[4] Ornithologia Neerlandica. Birds of the Netherlands. By Dr. E. D. Van Oort.