

late M. J. Nichol's list of Egyptian birds numbered 436 species we infer that this is a complete catalogue of the avifauna. There are numerous photographic illustrations in the text and four excellent colored plates from paintings by Grönvold, representing *Nectarinia metallica*, the races of *Galerida cristata*, *Pluvianus aegyptius* and *Rynchops flavirostris*.—W.S.

**Hopkinson's 'Records of Birds Bred in Captivity.'**<sup>1</sup>—This well gotten-up book comprises three parts, (1) a list of species which have bred in confinement, (2) a list of hybrids bred in confinement and (3) a summary of the two lists with concurrent numbering making cross reference easy. As can be seen at once the work is of the greatest interest and importance to aviculturists whose highest aim is to successfully breed the species kept in their avaries or grounds, and who are always anxious to know what has been done in this line by others. It is also a valuable book to those interested in hybridism and cross breeding.

The task of compilation has been great but appears to have been done thoroughly and with care and accuracy. No less than 816 species are recorded as having bred in captivity while there is an astonishing list of hybrids. Some of these are very interesting and some few very unlikely. But the author, while he has thought best to list every record published, has commented on all which are not fully authenticated. One example will show the thoroughness of this method. There is an alleged record of the breeding of an Australian Lyrebird and a Domestic Fowl published in the 'Avicultural Magazine,' the editor of which appends a note: "most extraordinary; we hope to hear more." Mr. Hopkinson adds: "I cannot find that more was heard and can only consider 'most extraordinary' too mild." We might suggest further that the "Lyre"-bird factor was the dominant one in the alleged hybrid!

Mr. Hopkinson deserves the thanks of all aviculturists for his careful compilation.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Grinnell.**—In a critical review of the Gnatcatchers of Lower California<sup>2</sup> Dr. Joseph Grinnell finds two unnamed forms. *Polioptila caerulea obscura*, heretofore used for the Blue Gray Gnatcatcher of the whole Pacific Slope, must be restricted to the bird of the Cape District of Lower California and the northern form, which is easily distinguishable, is named *P. c. amoenissima* (p. 494).

Similarly in the Black-tailed group the Cape form proves distinct and is named *P. melanura abbreviata* (p. 497) all of the Black-tailed forms proving to be subspecies and *P. m. margaritae* occurring on the mainland as well as on Santa Margarita Island.

<sup>1</sup> Records of Birds Bred in Captivity. By Emilius Hopkinson. H. F. and G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. 1, 1926. pp. i-ix, 1-330. Price 15 shillings net.

<sup>2</sup> A critical inspection of the Gnatcatchers of the Californias. By Joseph Grinnell Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. XV. No. 16, pp. 493-500, September 15, 1926.

In another paper<sup>2</sup> in conjunction with Harry S. Swarth the following new races are proposed: *Penthestes gambeli atratus* (p. 164); *Baeolophus inornatus affabilis* (p. 164) *Chamaea fasciata canicauda* (p. 169) all from the San Pedro Martir Mts., Lower California; *Psaltriparus minimus melanurus* (p. 169) from San Jose, Lower California and *Baeolophus inornatus sequestratus* (p. 166) from Eagle Point, Oregon. The relationships of these and allied forms are fully discussed.—W. S.

**Chapman on New Birds from South America.**<sup>2</sup>—Dr. Chapman describes eight additional species and subspecies of Neotropical birds in this paper based upon collections received at the American Museum from its South American collectors.

These belong to the genera *Grallaria*, *Ochthoeca*, *Stigmatura*, *Spizitornis*, *Empidochanes* and *Myiochanes*.—W. S.

**Nelson on New Mexican Birds.**<sup>3</sup>—It is a pleasure to find Dr. Nelson returning once more to Mexican ornithology which some years ago was his principal interest. Of the two birds described as new in the present paper one, *Creciscus ruber tamaulipensis* (p. 105) was collected by his assistant in former Mexican explorations, Major E. A. Goldman, on a recent trip to that country in March, 1926, at Alta Mira, Tamaulipas; while the other, *Craz globicera griscoi* (p. 106) from Cozumal Island, Yucatan, was obtained on one of their early joint explorations in 1901.—W. S.

**Bangs and Peters on a New *Berneria* from Madagascar.**<sup>4</sup>—A small form of *B. madagascariensis* from the eastern part of the island which they name *B. m. inceleber* (p. 43).—W. S.

**Kirke Swann's 'Monograph of the Birds of Prey.'**<sup>5</sup>—Part VI of this notable work,<sup>5</sup> the first since the death of the author, appears with the notice that it will be completed from Mr. Swann's manuscripts under the editorship and part authorship of a leading authority. This number continues the treatment of the genus *Buteo* including our American *B. borealis*, of which all of the described races are recognized, some of them in the face of rather severe objection especially *lucasanus* while *krideri* and *harlani* have been considered by several authors as albinistic and melanistic forms, with no definite geographic range. Three colored

<sup>2</sup> New subspecies of Birds (*Penthestes*, *Baeolophus*, *Psaltriparus*, *Chamaea*) from the Pacific Coast of North America. By Joseph Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth. Univ. of Calif. Publ. in Zool. 30, No. 5, pp. 163-175. September 16, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Brazil. American Museum Novitates. No. 231. October 16, 1926. pp. 1-7.

<sup>4</sup> Two New Birds from Mexico. By E. W. Nelson, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington. 39, pp. 105-108. August 25, 1926.

<sup>5</sup> Proc. New Eng. Zool. Club, IX, pp. 43-44, July 21, 1926.

<sup>6</sup> A Monograph of the Birds of Prey. By H. Kirke Swann. Wheldon and Wesley, Ltd. London. Part VI. September, 1926. Price 26 shillings net per Part.