

Another paper¹ by the same authors reviews the Blue Grosbeaks (*Guiraca caerulea* subsp.) of which five races are recognized. Neither of the names by which our bird of the southwestern United States has been known prove applicable. *G. c. eurhyncha* of Coues is evidently based on the southern Mexican bird, although he gave only "Mexico" as his type locality and our authors have apparently been unable to locate his type, as they make no reference to it. Unfortunately they too have failed to designate a definite type locality which should have been done under the circumstances. The type specimen of *Pitylus luzula* another name that has been attributed to our bird is pretty definitely shown to have come from San Carlos, Salvador, and our authors restrict this name to the resident Blue Grosbeak of Central America. The California form is recognized as distinct under Grinnell's name *salicaria* and our southwestern form thus left nameless. For it they propose *G. c. interfusa* (p. 4), selecting a specimen from Ft. Lowell, Arizona as their type.

Nelson's *chiapensis* is considered as a synonym of *eurhyncha*.—W. S.

Lewis on the Production of Eider Down.—Mr. Harrison F. Lewis has recently published for the Canadian Government an interesting report² on the Eider Duck and the commercial possibilities of developing the Eider down industry in Canada, an industry which is now practically restricted to Iceland.

The Canadian National Parks Service is using every effort to interest the people resident in the region where the Eider Ducks breed, in the protection of the bird and the development of the down industry, and this pamphlet is issued as part of this propaganda. Those who attended the Ottawa meeting of the A. O. U. will recall Mr. Lewis's practical demonstration of the method of cleaning the down which is fully described in the pamphlet before us.

We learn further that the first gathering of the down is made about the time when the bird begins to set. She will replace what is taken with the down remaining on her breast and no further gathering should be made until the young leave the nest. A further gathering of the best of the remaining down is then made immediately.

Descriptions and figures of the cleaning frames are presented and details about heating and cleansing the down are explained. The report is a valuable economic paper and we sincerely hope that it will result in the saving of this splendid bird from further decimation as well as in the development of an additional industry which has great possibilities for profit. Mr. Lewis is to be congratulated on his work in behalf of the Eider and upon a well prepared report.—W. S.

¹ A Revision of the Geographical Races of the Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*) By Jonathan Dwight and Ludlow Griscom. Ibid. No. 257, March 14, 1927. pp. 1-5.]

² Producing Eider Down. By Harrison F. Lewis. Canadian National Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada, where copies of the report may be obtained.