

Noronha and was gone for thirty-one months. Reports on the collections obtained will appear later.—W. S.

**Delacour and Jabouille on the Ornithology of French Indo-China.**—Mm. Jean Delacour and Pierre Jabouille have published an account<sup>1</sup> of their second expedition to French Indo-China consisting of a well annotated list of 443 species and subspecies of birds collected in the provinces of Tranninh in Laos, and Thua-thien and Kontoum in Annam, in 1925 and 1926. Mr. Willoughby P. Lowe coöperated with the authors on behalf of the British Museum and a preliminary report on the expedition appeared in 'The Ibis' for January, 1927. There are eight half-tone plates of scenery and six colored plates of new species and subspecies obtained by the expedition, which have already been described in the 'Bulletin' of the British Ornithologists' Club.

We note that seven males of the rare Edwards' Pheasant were secured. The report is a most valuable contribution to the ornithology of this interesting region of which M. Delacour is making a speciality.—W. S.

**McGregor on Philippine Birds.**—In a paper<sup>2</sup> entitled 'New or Noteworthy Philippine Birds, V.' Mr. McGregor describes two new forms *Phodilus riverae* (p. 518) from Samar, and *Prionochilus parsonsi* (p. 520) from Luzon, and also two new subgenera of *Prionochilus*, *Polisornis* (p. 522) with *P. anthonyi* McGregor as type, and *Bournsia* (p. 525) with *P. aeruginosus* Bourns as type.

There are a number of notes on other species, also a colored plate of *Gallicolumba keayi* (Clarke) and photographs of the head of *Pithecophaga jefferyi*.—W. S.

**Huey on Birds of Lower California.**—Mr. Laurence M. Huey has published an annotated list<sup>3</sup> of birds seen or collected at San Felipe in northeastern Lower California during a month's exploration in the spring of 1926, in the interests of the San Diego Society of Natural History. One new form *Dryobates nuttallii longirostra* (p. 27) is described.

There are notes on some ninety forms and several photographs of typical scenery of this excessively arid region.

In another paper<sup>4</sup> Mr. Huey discusses the zonal status of the Sierra

<sup>1</sup> Recherches Ornithologiques dans les Provinces du Tranninh (Laos) de Thua-thien et de Kontoum (Annam) et quelques autres regions de l'Indochine Francaise. Par Jean Delacour et Pierre Jabouille. Archives d'Histoire Naturelle publ. par la Societe Nationale d'Acclimatation de France. III. Paris, 1927. pp. i-xii 1-216.

<sup>2</sup> New or Noteworthy Philippine Birds, V. Philippine Journal of Science, Vol. 32, No. 4, April, 1927.

<sup>3</sup> Birds Recorded in Spring at San Felipe, northeastern Lower California, Mexico, with the Description of a New Woodpecker from that Locality, Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist., V, No. 2, pp. 11-40. Pls. 2 and 3. July 14, 1927.

<sup>4</sup> A Discussion of the Zonal Status of the Sierra San Pedro Martir, Lower California, Mexico. By Laurence M. Huey. Trans. San Diego Soc. of Nat. Hist., V, No. 1, pp. 1-10. pl. 1, February 20, 1927.

San Pedro Martir, citing various unusual conditions of distribution and summarizing his conclusions to the effect that the position of these mountains between two areas of varying desert character and two large bodies of water of different temperature, tends to replace the effects of altitude with the effects of aridity.—W. S.

**Wetmore on Fossil Birds from Colorado, and a New Bird from Haiti.**—Dr. Wetmore has recently described several new species of fossil birds from the collection of the Colorado Museum of Natural History<sup>1</sup> obtained from the Oligocene of Weld Co., Colo. They are as follows: *Phasmagyps patritus* (p. 3), related to the Black Vulture; *Palaeogyps prodromus* (p. 5), a small Condor but not closely related to the California Condor; *Palaeocrex fax* (p. 9), a large Gallinule with affinities with the Cranes; *Bathornis veredus* (p. 11), a giant Thick-knee apparently the first fossil species of the group that has been described. For it Dr. Wetmore establishes a subfamily *Bathornithinae*.

Recent explorations by Dr. Wetmore in the island of Haiti and San Domingo<sup>1</sup> have yielded among other interesting data a new species of Thrush which he has named *Haplocichla swalesi*.<sup>2</sup> It was obtained at an altitude of 6000 ft. in the Massif de la Selle. While structurally like *H. aurantia* of Jamaica it is entirely different in color.—W. S.

**Riley on East Indian Birds.**—In recent papers on East Indian birds Mr. J. H. Riley has described three forms from the Mentawi Islands:<sup>3</sup> *Muscadivores aeneus vicinus* (p. 95), *Microtarsus melanoleucos proximus* (p. 96) and *Orthotomus sepium concinnus* (p. 96). Also a new Owl from Engano Island,<sup>4</sup> *Otus umbra enganensis* (p. 93). All these forms came to light in a restudy of the collection made by C. Boden Kloss and a party from the Raffles Museum, all of which was submitted to the U. S. National Museum for comparison and study.—W. S.

**Cormorants Again on Trial.**—In his 'Observations on the Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) on Lake Manitoba,'<sup>5</sup> J. A. Munro reports on another of the repeated investigations demanded by fishermen of the destructiveness of these birds. In general notes on the district, Mr. Munro lists the common birds and fishes. The study of the Cormorants included general field observations, visits to breeding colonies, and examinations of stomach contents. About a fourth of the food consisted of commercial fishes, but this was offset by consumption of an

<sup>1</sup> Fossil Birds from the Oligocene of Colorado. By Alexander Wetmore. Proc. Colo. Mus. Nat. Hist. VII, No. 2, July 15, 1927, pp. 1-14.

<sup>2</sup> A Thrush New to Science from Haiti. By Alexander Wetmore. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 40, pp. 55-56, June 30, 1927.

<sup>3</sup> Spolia Mentawiensia—Three New Birds from the Mentawi Islands. By J. H. Riley. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 40, pp. 95-96, June 30, 1927.

<sup>4</sup> Description of a New Owl from Engano Island. By J. H. Riley. Ibid. pp. 93-94, June 30, 1927.

<sup>5</sup> Can. Field-Nat., 41, No. 5, May, 1927, pp. 102-108.