

replete with interest. The president, Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson, discusses bird sanctuaries which are steadily increasing in number from year to year, as well as his legislative work in behalf of the Brown Pelican in Florida and Texas and for the Game Refuge Bill in Congress while he has visited Alaska to secure first hand information regarding the slaughter of the Bald Eagles. See also 'Bird Lore' Jan. 1928.

The various field agents of the Association report their activities and there are reports from no less than sixty-six state and local Audubon societies and bird clubs. The Junior Audubon Clubs, the great hope of the future, now number 8,697 with a combined membership of 355,486. Then there is the treasurer's report showing nearly a million dollars of investments.

The report is most encouraging and the officers deserve great credit, and yet there are certain phases of bird protection that would seem to be almost hopeless although perhaps something could be done in this connection if all agencies realize the importance of immediate action.

Just as we begin to see a satisfactory return of breeding Sea-birds and Shore-birds along our eastern coast, where they had been all but exterminated, the craze for real estate development threatens to drain all of the marshes and ruin the beaches so that there will be no place left for the birds. Island reservations are excellent but there are but few islands available. There are still some available "points" of beach which could be made into sanctuaries but if not done at once it will be too late.

Quite as serious is the extermination of Hawks and Owls. In the effort to maintain our upland game, the breeding of game birds has been undertaken and on the game farms the ill-advised enthusiasm of the keepers and the encouragement of ammunition manufacturers everywhere is rapidly reducing our noble "birds of prey" until they are becoming rare in many sections of the country. It seems to us that a strenuous campaign of publicity in behalf of Hawks and Owls must be made at once if they are to be saved. Why too cannot the National Association and the State and local Audubon Societies voice a claim for the appointment of ornithologists on all state game commissions? The protection of all birds is delegated to the game commission in most states, and all legislation is referred to it. As there are far more citizens today interested in song birds than in game birds, and far more interested in preserving birds to watch and study than for shooting, why should they not have equal representation? We are in no way opposed to hunting but all birds should have a square deal and both classes of citizens should be represented on "game" commissions.
—W. S.

Lincoln on Returns from Banded Birds.—This paper¹ records returns obtained from banded birds by the U. S. Biological Survey, from

¹ Returns from Banded Birds 1923-1926. By Frederick C. Lincoln. Technical Bulletin No. 32, December, 1927. pp. 1-96. Price 20 cents. Sup't Documents, Gov't Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

July 1, 1923 to December 31, 1926. They number 10,338 while during the same period 234,692 birds were banded.

There is a brief introduction explaining the possibilities of the method and several illustrations of traps, etc., but most of the report consists of the tables of returns of some 180 species. Of some there is only a single return record while of others there are many—over 1000 for the Mallard. Repeats (recaptures near the place of banding within six months) are not recorded here except in special instances.

There are no comments except in the case of a few trans-Atlantic recoveries described in the preface, the idea being simply to present the facts so that they may be available for study, mapping, or any other use it may be desired to make of them.

Mr. Lincoln deserves our thanks for this painstaking compilation which will be a valuable aid to the study of migration and which puts in the hands of every bird bander the results obtained by all. A list of those cooperating with the Survey in banding work is added at the end of the report.—W. S.

Neunzig on Bird Keeping and Bird Breeding.—This exhaustive treatise¹ on "bird fancying" will be of especial interest to aviculturists. It is one of a series of works on rearing all sorts of animal forms for study, and treats the subject under various headings—bird cages, bird feeding, the care of birds, bird rearing, the care of young birds, bird trapping, etc. There are numerous illustrations of cages, feeding devices, and aviaries in the Berlin Zoological Garden, etc.—W. S.

Further papers by Collinge on the Economics of British Birds.—In "Some remarks upon the food of Flycatchers (Muscicapidae),"² birds accused of destroying honey bees, Dr. W. E. Collinge states that none of these insects were found in contents of 60 stomachs of the Spotted and Pied Flycatchers studied. He sums up the economic tendencies of these birds as expressed through their food habits as 80 per cent beneficial, 6 per cent injurious, and 14 per cent neutral. Doctor Collinge compares the food habits of the British Muscicapidae with those of the American Tyrannidae, another group charged with excessive bee-eating, as reported upon by Professor Beal.

In another paper on "Wild Birds and Home-Grown Food,"³ Doctor Collinge notes an estimate of damage by the House-Sparrow of £8,000,000 annually, and thinks that Rooks, Starlings, Wood Pigeons, Blackbirds, and other injurious species may be charged with twice as much, making a total of £24,000,000. The paper is a plea for local control of injurious birds and strict protection of beneficial ones.—W. L. M.

¹ Vogelpflege und Vogelzucht von Rudolf Neunzig. Handbuch der biologischen Arbeitsmethoden. Lieferung 247. Abt. IX, Methoden der Erforschung der Leistungen des tierschen Organismus, Teil I, 2. Hälfte, Heft 5. pp. 703-850. Urban & Schwarzenberg. Berlin N. 24 Friedrichstrasse 105b. Price 8 Marks.

² The Ibis, Jan. 1928, pp. 131-134.

³ Journ. Land Agents' Soc. 26, No. 11, Nov. 1927, pp. 656-660.