

Huber on Birds of the Bear River Marshes.—Mr. Wharton Huber spent the summer of 1927 on the Bear River Marshes of Utah, collecting specimens of Ducks and other birds for the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and in the present paper¹ presents a popular account of the trip for the Academy's 'Yearbook.' The habits of the various species are described and some observations are made on the Duck sickness which affects Ducks at this locality.

The paper is illustrated by several excellent photographs of Avocets, Stilts, Willets, Pelicans, etc.—W. S.

Leffingwell on the Pheasant.—This initial publication² of the Charles R. Conner Museum of the State College of Washington includes much of Mr. Leffingwell's work on the Pheasant that was carried on at Cornell University. It treats the distribution and all phases of the life-history, and contains more original observations than any other American paper on the bird. The section on food habits, however, seems especially condensed and we trust that the author's investigations of the Pheasant will be published elsewhere in extended form. Some of the leading American publications omitted from the bibliography are:

Beebe, William. True Pheasants, in Pheasants, their Lives and Homes. Garden City, N. Y. 1926, vol. 2, pp. 39-66.

Burnett, W. L. A study of the Food Habits of the Ringed-neck Pheasant in Colorado. Circ. 31, Colo. Agr. Exp. Sta., Feb., 1921, pp. 5-21.

Field, George W., Graham, George H., and Adams, William C. Special report of the Board of Commissioners on Fisheries and Game * * * relative to the habits of those birds commonly known as pheasants. Mass. House Doc. No. 2049, Jan. 1914, 14 pp.

Gordon, Seth E. Rearing Ringneck Pheasants. Bull. 8, Pa. Board of Game Commissioners. 1925, 16 pp.

Job, H. K. Pheasant rearing, in Propagation of Wild Birds. Garden City, New York, 1923, pp. 75-90 and 276-280.

McAtee, W. L. Introduced Pheasants, in Some Common Game, Aquatic, and Rapacious Birds in relation to man. Farmers' Bul. 497, U. S. Dept. of Agric. 1912, pp. 11-12.

McAtee, W. L. Ring-necked Pheasant, in Propagation of Game Birds. Farmers' Bul. 1521, U. S. Dept. of Agric. 1927, pp. 13-35.

Maxson, Asa C. Feeding Habits and Food of the Ring-necked Pheasant. Circ. 31, Colo. Agr. Exp. Sta., Feb. 1921, pp. 23-30.

Oldys, Henry. Pheasant raising in the United States. Farmers' Bul. 390, U. S. Dept. Agr., 1910, 40 pp.

¹ The Bear River Expedition. By Wharton Huber. Year Book of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1927, pp. 5-12.

² Leffingwell; Dana J., The Ringed-neck Pheasant—its History and Habits, Occasional Papers, No. 1, April 1928, 35 pp., 6 photographs.

Quarles, E. A. American Pheasant Breeding and Shooting. American Game Protective Assoc., 1916, 136 pp.

Simpson, 'Gene M. Pheasant Farming. Corvallis, Ore., 1927, 96 pp.—W. L. M.

Encouraging Bird Enemies of Orchard Insects.—Mr. T. T. Odell reports¹ upon attempts to increase the number of birds in pear orchards near Geneva, N. Y., as a means of control of the pear psylla. The experiment was largely a failure as the only birds responding to efforts to increase them were Flickers and Bluebirds, neither of which were found to feed upon the pear psylla. The birds feeding most freely on the pest, namely, the Chickadee, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Red-breasted Nuthatch, could not be induced to nest in the orchards, during the period of this experiment.

The Myrtle Warbler, and White-breasted Nuthatch also were found to feed upon the pear psylla. No fewer than 200 psyllas were found in the contents of a single stomach of the Chickadee, and 150 in that of a Kinglet. Data are presented on 15 stomachs representing 11 species of birds, and notes are given on pellets of a pair of Screech Owls that wintered and nested in the orchard. Birds were rather prominent among the food items. In spite of discouraging results to date the author believes that if proper methods are used over a period of years worth while results can be accomplished. The Geneva Agricultural Experiment Station hopes to continue the work.—W. L. M.

Barros on Food of Chilean Birds.—In a four page leaflet² the author calls attention to the economic importance of birds and to the desirability of investigations of them in his region. He presents also observations on bird food based on examinations of a few stomachs each of five species, namely, *Egretta thula*, *Nothoprocta perdicaria*, *Podiceps americanus*, *Podiceps caliparoeus*, and *Aechmophorus major*.—W. L. M.

Economic Ornithology in Recent Entomological Publications.—Several entries under this head are here presented for the interest they have for ornithologists. Cane Grubs.—H. E. Box like other investigators of the subject gives credit³ to bird enemies of these pests of sugar cane which cause an annual loss of three million dollars to cane growers of Porto Rico. He gives special credit to Blackbirds (*Holoquistus lugubris*) and strongly advocates the planting of more royal palms "as the crowns of these trees are the favorite nesting sites for blackbirds, and it is believed that an increase in the number of palms will in time lead to the augmentation of the numbers of these useful birds."

¹ The Food of Orchard Birds with special reference to the Pear Psylla, Bul. 549, N. Y. (Geneva) Agr. Exp. Sta., 19 pp., 2 pls., 3 figs., Dec. 1927.

² Barros, Rafael, Apuntes Para el Estudio de la alimentacion de las aves de Chile, Rev. Chilena Hist. Nat., 31, 1927, pp. 262-265.

³ Journ. Dept. Agr. Porto Rico, 9, No. 4, October 1925, pp. 310-311.