

and other students of migration should be greatly increased and perhaps some of the "mystery" of the subject eventually dispelled.—W. S.

**Todd's 'Review of the Wood Warblers of the Genus *Basileuterus* and its Allies.'**—This paper<sup>1</sup> is a careful detailed study of a rather difficult group and will prove of great help to the student of neotropical birds. Mr. Todd explains why he finds it necessary to recognize the genera *Myiothlypis* (for *nigrocristatus*), *Idiotes* (for *ruffrons*) and to propose a new genus, *Phaeothlypis* (p. 8), for *fulvicauda* and its allies.

He also shows that the genus *Basileuterus* Cabanis is really, according to a strict interpretation of the rules, a synonym of *Helmitherus* Rafinesque by virtue of *Sylvia vermivora* Vieillot being the only species cited. He however proposes to take as the type *B. auricapillus olivaceus*, which bears a remarkable resemblance to *Helmitherus vermivorus* and was, he thinks, the bird that Cabanis had in mind, and so retain the time-honored name which has been fortunate in escaping any synonyms.

The author recognizes six forms of *Phaeothlypis* belonging to three species; thirty-two of *Basileuterus* arranged in twenty-four species and five of *Idiotes* all subspecies of *ruffrons*.

New forms described are *P. semicervina annexa* (p. 15) Pomara, northern Peru; *B. castaneiceps chapmani* (p. 32) Chaupe, northern Peru; *B. coronatus notius* (p. 33) Yungas, Bolivia; *B. c. elatus* (p. 35) Chunchi, Ecuador; *B. c. regulus* (p. 36) Paramo de Rosas, Venezuela; *B. signatus flavovirens* (p. 45) Incachaca, Bolivia.

Through the cooperation of other institutions Mr. Todd had before him for study no less than 2615 specimens which gives some idea of the thoroughness of his investigation.—W. S.

**Mathews' 'Systema Avium Australasianarum.'**—The present list<sup>2</sup> of the birds of the Australian Region represents the results of the years of research that Mr. Mathews spent upon the subject during the publication of his monumental 'Birds of Australia' as well as such information as he has accumulated since the completion of that work. As is well known, as the years went by and his several lists of Australian birds were published, his views, both as to subspecies and genera, underwent many a change and we now have his latest presentation of the subject. In form and typography this volume of the 'Systema Avium' conforms closely to Sclater's 'Systema Avium Ethiopicarum' but instead of limiting the synonymy to the original place of publication Mr. Mathews cites quite a number of references for many of the forms, moreover no English names are given for any of the species or subspecies.

<sup>1</sup> A Revision of the Wood-Warblers Genus *Basileuterus* and its Allies. By W. E. Clyde Todd, Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, Vol. 74, Art. 7, pp. 1-95, 1929.

<sup>2</sup> Systema Avium Australasianarum. A Systematic List of the Birds of the Australian Region. By Gregory M. Mathews, F. R. S. E., M. B. O. U. Prepared in conjunction with Special Committees of the British and American Ornithologists' Unions. Part I, pp. 1-426. June 13, 1927. Weldon and Wesley Ltd., 2-4 Arthur Street. New Oxford Street, W. C. 2. 1927.