

(p. 182) *Cana*; *Saltator maximus iungens* (p. 184) *Cana*; *Tersina viridis griseescens* (p. 186) La Concepcion, Santa Marta. A third specimen of *Praedo audax* Nelson is discussed and the genus considered identical with *Aphanotriccus*.

Hadley, Alden H.—The Legal Status of Hawks and Owls; A Statistical Study. (Trans. 15th Nat. Game Conference, pp. 41–48.)

Mr. Hadley, on behalf of the National Association of Audubon Societies, sent out, to game commissioners of states in which protection is given to certain Hawks and Owls, a questionnaire asking if they considered the law capable of enforcement; whether magistrates showed a disposition to enforce it and whether convictions had been obtained. Thirty-nine replies were received; only three considered the law capable of being enforced; eleven were sympathetic and twenty-five emphatically against such a law.

Inasmuch as most Game Commissions are today, unfortunately, the enemies of the Hawks and Owls a questionnaire to such organizations does not seem to amount to much as an index of public opinion, but as all matters of bird protection are in the hands of Game Commissions whether they refer to game or non game birds there seems no hope for our raptorial species. It is all very well to claim that it is a matter of education, but the birds will be exterminated before we can educate the public, especially when Game Commissions are educating them in the other direction. It would seem therefore that the case of the Hawks and Owls is hopeless.

Harper, Francis and Harper, Jean S.—Animal Habitats in Certain Portions of the Adirondacks. (New York State Museum Handbook, No. 8, 1929.) This is an interesting and valuable summary of the characteristic species of trees, plants, birds and mammals of the various habitats of the Adirondack Mountains. It will be especially valuable for comparison with other regions in the East.

Johnsen, Sigurd.—Dratskiftet hos liryphen (*Lagopus lagopus*) in Norge. (Bergens Museums, Arbok 1929.)—This is a most elaborate discussion of the plumage changes in this Ptarmigan with a series of colored and plain plates showing the various stages. The author is not convinced that the white winter plumage is purely protective and points out that it is heavier and the down more extensive while the minute air globules which produce the white color also make it warmer. There is a good bibliography, and an English summary.

Lincoln, F. C.—What Constitutes a Record. (Bull. Aud. Soc. New Hampshire. Vol. 8, No. 2. December, 1928.)—This is an oft discussed question and even though Mr. Lincoln feels that a "record" should be based on an actual specimen obtained, we do not think that the matter is closed. Sight records will continue to be published in reputable journals and we fear that the compilers of lists will be unable to formulate any hard

and fast method by which they may decide which to accept and which to reject. The editor of such a journal is in the same predicament and even though he exercises what he considers to be the utmost discretion he will inevitably err in accepting some erroneous "records." However, the reputation and ability of the observer is after all our best basis for judgement. If, for instance, Mr. Lincoln, with his wide experience, should see a rare bird, such as a Wilson's Phalarope, in the country about Washington, where it is unrecorded, and should send an account of his observation to 'The Auk' we should unquestionably accept it, but if some beginner unfamiliar with shore birds should submit a similar observation we should decline it with thanks.

Sight records must, we fear, involve the personal equation and certain other considerations. We must not forget, moreover, the part that binoculars play in practically putting a bird in arms' reach which formerly was far away, and also the greatly increased opportunity of correctly identifying birds which the numerous popular books and accurate pictures of today offer. At the same time the over ambitious amateur should be extremely careful. If he sends one fantastic "record," that cannot be substantiated, to a reputable journal, his future contributions are likely to be looked upon with suspicion for some years to come. With all their incentives the competitive "daily lists" and the "life list" seem to be deadly menaces to accurate observation.

Metcalf, Maynard M.—Parasites and the Aid they Give in Problems of Taxonomy, Geographical Distribution and Palaeontology. (Smithson. Misc. Collns. Vol. 81, No. 8, pp. 1-36, February 28, 1929.)—The presence of the same species of mallophaga on related European and American species of birds, and of closely related or identical forms on various species of Ratitae are cited in the general discussion of the subject, usually from papers by Vernon L. Kellogg and Launcelot Harrison.

Meylan, O.—Notes sur les Oiseaux des environs de Genève. (Bull. de la Societe Zool. de Geneve, Vol. IV, Fasc. 1, February, 1929.)—An annotated list of the birds of Geneva with dates of observation and notes on habits.

Mitchell, Charles A. and Duthie, R. C.—Tuberculosis in Crows. (Amer. Review of Tuberculosis, Vol. XIX, No. 2, 1929.)—Account of an epidemic in western Ontario and experiments to see if infection is likely to be carried by the birds to other animals.

Peters, Harold S.—Mallophaga from Ohio Birds. (Ohio Jour. Science, Vol. XXVIII, No. 4, July, 1928.)—An account of the habits of these "lice" and methods of preserving and studying them. There are today about 1700 described species representing some 70 genera, of which 94 species and 24 genera have been found on Ohio birds. A list of these species and their hosts is appended. The importance of the study