

## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Stresemann's 'Aves' in Kükenthal and Krumbach's Handbuch der Zoologie.**<sup>1</sup>—Since the review of the first section of this excellent work of reference<sup>2</sup> three additional parts have appeared, carrying the text to 432 pages, with further sections to follow. The second part continues the account of the nervous system, taking up immediately the organs of special sense with a very complete account of the avian eye. There follows a description of the digestive tract, with consideration of the liver and pancreas, and an account of the respiratory system with special attention to peculiarities of the air-sacs and the trachea. The circulatory system is described in detail with a brief statement regarding body temperatures, which might profitably have been amplified from recent studies in the subject in view of the detail used elsewhere. Under the urino-genital system there is some discussion of the double ovary in certain species, a description of various types of eggs, and detailed notes on embryonic growth, followed by observations on the post-embryonic development of young birds of various types, peculiarities of nestlings, mouth markings, observations on sex chromosomes and inheritance, and experiments in producing changes in secondary sexual characters of male and female, with detailed description of normal characters of this type for many species.

Mating displays conclude this portion and extend into part four, followed by descriptions of nests and nest construction, number of eggs, incubation, the care of young, and parasitism. The last pages begin a statement on the age attained by birds which is to be concluded in the following section.

The work, though detailed, is presented in a highly interesting and attractive form, with abundant illustrations to make clear the various questions treated in the text. The material is drawn from a wide range of literature and contains frequent reference to contemporaneous ornithological writings throughout the World. The system of citation of other authors it is assumed refers to a bibliography to appear at the close of the completed volume.

The work is one that will be of great utility to those sufficiently familiar with the German language to utilize it easily.—A. W.

**Phillips' 'Shooting Stands of Eastern Massachusetts.'**—Dr. John C. Phillips has made another valuable contribution to the history of wild

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<sup>1</sup> Handbuch der Zoologie. Gegründet von Dr. Willy Kükenthal, herausgegeben von Dr. Thilo Krumbach. Siebenter Band, Zweite Hälfte, Sauropsida: Aves, by E. Stresemann. Lieferung 2, December 15, 1927, price 12 Rm.; Lieferung 3, August 15, 1928, price 12 Rm.; Lieferung 4, December 20, 1928, price 10 Rm. Published by Walter de Gruyter and Co., Berlin and Leipzig.

<sup>2</sup> Auk, 1928, pp. 114-115.