

deSchaunsee on New Siamese Birds.—Mr. Rodolphe M. deSchaunsee, who has recently returned from a trip to northern Siam, where he collected birds for the Philadelphia Academy, has described¹ three forms that his studies of the collection show to be unnamed; *Niltava williaminae* (p. 469), *Myiophoneus stonei* (p. 469) and *Leioptila melanoleuca laeta* (p. 470)—W. S.

Huber on New Tachyphonus.—Mr. Wharton Huber in a further study of the collection made by himself and J. Fletcher Street, in 1922, in Nicaragua in the interests of the Philadelphia Academy, has described² as new *Tachyphonus delatrii longirostris* (p. 471) from the Great Falls of the Pis Pis River. The race is larger than typical *delatrii* with a noticeably longer bill.—W. S.

McAtee and Beattie on Gourds for Bird Houses.—In this leaflet³ are many facts about gourds, which are known to have been in use as water flasks as early as 2200 B. C. Their use as bird houses is familiar to anyone who has visited our southern states where groups of them are supported on poles for the use of the Martins, a custom that has been further made memorable in Audubon's plate of this bird.

Mr. McAtee suggests their use also for Wrens, Nuthatches, Titmice, smaller Woodpeckers, the Flicker, Crested Flycatcher, Bluebird and Starling.—W. S.

Recent Papers by vanRossem.—Mr. A. J. vanRossem has been studying a series of specimens of *Sitta pygmaea* and finds⁴ that four geographical races can be differentiated: true *pygmaea* from the coast district of California north of Monterey; *leuconucha* from the mountains of northern Lower California and southern California; and two which he describes as new: *S. p. melanotis* (p. 176) from the Rocky Mountain district and *S. p. chihuahuae* (p. 177) from Chihuahua, Mexico.

In another paper⁵ he points out that if the genus *Oreothlypis* be merged with *Vermivora*, as seems desirable, the name *gutturalis* for the Calaveras Warbler will be rendered unavailable by the prior *Compsothlypis gutturalis* Cabanis, an *Orepthlypis*, and he proposes for the former *Vermivora rufipilla ridgwayi* (p. 179).—W. S.

¹ Descriptions of three New Birds from Northern Siam. By Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sciences Phila., Vol. LXXXI, pp. 469-470. August 12, 1929.

² A Northern Form of *Tachyphonus delatrii* from Nicaragua. By Wharton Huber. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sciences Phila., Vol. LXXXI, pp. 471-472. August 12, 1929.

³ Gourds for Bird Houses and other Purposes. Leaflet 36, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. pp. 1-4. May, 1929.

⁴ The Races of *Sitta pygmaea* Vigors. By A. J. vanRossem. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. 42, pp. 175-178. June 25, 1929.

⁵ A New Name for the Calaveras Warbler. By A. J. vanRossem. *ibid.* p. 179. June 25, 1929.