

each trinomial seems sufficient indication of the relationship of the races. After all, it is the recognizable units that we are listing, and the ranking of them as species or subspecies is in many instances purely a matter of personal opinion.

Mr. Stuart Baker in his new edition of the 'Birds of India' while retaining the binomial heading to each group of races prints it in the same type as the races themselves and gives no range under it, an advance toward the attitude of the American Committee which latter we think must sooner or later be generally adopted in check-lists, as it already has in some.

Mr. Sclater's excellent list gives us 4439 species and subspecies of birds for Africa arranged in 681 genera. We owe him a debt of gratitude for such a helpful work, especially at the present moment when so much effort is being expended in working out the details of the avifauna of the "dark continent" while only those who have been compiling a check list can appreciate what an amount of work such a volume entails.—W. S.

Hachisuka's 'Contributions to the Birds of the Philippines.'—

This work, in two parts, is printed in English and forms a special publication of the Ornithological Society of Japan. Part I¹ includes a description of the physical features of the Philippines and the climate, rainfall, and humidity; a history of the ornithology of the islands, with an extensive annotated bibliography; and a discussion of avifaunal distribution. The bibliography of 235 titles occupies sixty-one pages and is a valuable aid to anyone studying Philippine ornithology.

Part II² contains a list of species with annotations on those with which the author is better acquainted. Although the activities of the author in the islands is not very clearly set forth, he appears to have made an expedition to Mount Apo in Mindinao, and to have had full access to the collections of the Bureau of Science, during his stay. New forms are described in the genera *Phapitreron*, *Leucotreron*, *Muscadivores*, *Macropygia*, *Streptopelia*, *Kakatoe*, *Tamynathus*, *Loriculus*, *Penelopides*, *Hemiprocne*, *Callocalia*, *Centropus*, *Chrysocolaptes*, *Dendrobiastes*, *Rhipidura*, *Macronus*, *Cisticola*, *Pardiliparus*, *Callisitta*, and *Alauda*. A new genus *Apoia* (p. 205), is erected for *Zosterops goodfellowi* and a new subfamily Hypocryptodiinae for *Hypocryptodius cinnamomeus* (p. 206).

The work is well printed and forms an important addition to the literature of Philippine ornithology.—W. S.

Collin's Index Ornithologicus.—No. 2 of this pretentious work³ is before us and is devoted almost entirely to the Sanderling (*Crocethia alba*).

¹ Contributions to the Birds of the Philippines. No. 1. By Masauji Hachisuka. Supplementary Publication No. XIII. The Ornithological Society of Japan. December, 1929, pp. i-x + 1-137 (+ 1-5 in Japanese.)

² No. 2, January, 1930. pp. 141-222.

³ Index Ornithologicus sive Nomenclator Avium tum viventium tum fossilium. By Alb. Collin. Anno I, No. 2. Kotka, Finland, March 10, 1930. pp. 1-2. Price 25 cts., subscription (six numbers) \$1.50.

The elaborate plan adopted in part 1 is continued and we have approximately 1,000 references to mention of this bird, but with the exception of the list of illustrations, they are arranged according to the scientific name employed and not according to subject matter. Consequently if one is seeking information on the nest and eggs of the bird, he must waste time in looking up hundreds of references which he finds relate to other details in the bird's history. If the references were arranged according to subject like those in the several 'Auk' indexes the work would be of vastly greater value.—W. S.

Howell's 'Birds of Alabama.'¹—The edition of this excellent work¹ (see Auk, 1924, p. 489) was exhausted within a short time after its appearance and a second edition has now been prepared. This is simply a reprint but the type is slightly different and consequently the pages, while the same in number, do not exactly correspond. It is noted too, that in the original, while the bibliography was properly so called in the heading on p. 363, it is referred to as a "biography" in the page captions. In the new edition, however, it is termed a "biography" throughout, which is at least consistent though the author we suspect is not responsible.

The appearance of the typography is superior to that of the first edition and the volume will, we are sure, continue to enjoy a wide popularity and serve as an aid to all interested in the bird life of the South.—W. S.

Patch's 'Holiday Meadow.'²—This attractively bound nature study book written for children contains chapters each devoted chiefly to the biography of a bird, mammal, insect, spider, or plant. Two of the chapters relate to birds, one treating of Meadowlarks and the other of Snowflakes. The latter is especially interesting as describing a successful method of winter feeding which kept the birds coming to the vicinity of a farmhouse from which many interesting observations on them were made. In substance and style the book seems well fitted for its purpose, the entertainment and instruction of children.—W. L. M.

German Studies on the Food of Hawks and Owls.³—In this discussion of the food of twenty-seven European birds of prey, many of them counterparts of American species, the work of a group of six German workers headed by O. Uttendorfer, begun in 1894 is brought up to date. Most of the previous reports upon the progress of these investigations have been published from time to time in the 'Ornithologische Monatsschrift.'

¹ *Birds of Alabama.* By Arthur H. Howell. Department of Game and Fisheries of Alabama. Second Edition, pp. 1-384, 31 text figures. 1928.

² *Holiday Meadow.* By Edith M. Patch. Decorations by Wilfrid S. Bronson, pp. 1-165, numerous half-tone illustrations. The Macmillan Company, New York, 1930.

³ Uttendorfer, O. in collaboration with H. Kramer, Sr., Dr. H. Kramer, J. Meissel, W. Petry and D. Wiemann, *Studien zur Ernährung unserer Tagraubvogel und Eulen*, Abh. Naturf. Gesell. Gorlitz, v. 31, no. 1, pp. 1-210, pl. 1-40, 1930.