

Each species is treated in order, with more or less on the feeding and nesting habits of each. Especially full treatment is given of the European "Sparrow Hawk" (*Accipiter nisus* L.), the Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis* L.), and of the Falcon (*Falco peregrinus* L.). Like the American Accipiters, the European ones prey mainly upon birds. At 176 nests of *Accipiter nisus* were found pellets containing the remains of 12,987 birds of 112 species—an average of about 73.5 birds per nest—a figure which would mean more had the observation periods of the nests been more uniform. Finches (including *Passer domesticus*), Skylarks (*Alauda arvensis*), and the Thrush (*Turdus musicus*), are among the heaviest losers to this raptor.

The data upon the European representative *Circus cyaneus* L. of our Marsh Hawk are disappointingly meager in view of the present debate upon the value of this species. However, the investigations of the food of this species by several other German authors are reviewed, and lead the present authors to plead for the protection of this species. While birds, including the partridge (*Perdix perdix*) seem to form a constant part of the food of the species, the number of mice and other rodents taken is so large as to throw the balance in favor of *Circus*, in the opinion of the authors. It appears that cannibalism among young in the nest occurs occasionally in this species as well as in *Circus aeruginosus*. In *Circus pygargus* (Montagu's Harrier) is noted the custom of the male giving the prey to the female, which then takes it to the nestlings. *Circus pygargus* and *C. aeruginosus* seem to be even more worthy of protection than does *cyaneus*.

As for the Owls, their food corresponds closely with that of the American representatives of the respective species.

The methods of research are somewhat at variance with those used by the Biological Survey in the preponderant weight which is given to pellet instead of stomach examinations, although a goodly number of the latter are given for some species. Throughout the article are interspersed various notes of interest on the general habits and abundance of the different raptors in the districts of Germany. Not the least attractive feature is a series of plates showing what actually confronts the determiner of the food items of the group.—A. S. HYDE.

**Abstract of Proceedings of the Linnaean Society, N. Y.**—This pamphlet<sup>1</sup> covering the years 1927–1928 presents the results of the local field work of this active organization.

Besides the paper on birds of Union County, there are reports on the ornithological year 1926 in the New York City region by Ludlow Griscom and another for the year 1927 by Griscom and Warren F. Eaton. Also the reports of the secretary.—W. S.

**The Illinois Audubon Bulletin.**—The neat little publication of the Illinois Audubon Society for 1930 contains several articles of much interest. Photographing in a vanishing marsh by J. C. Plagge and W. O. Dawson,

<sup>1</sup> Abstract of the Proceedings of the Linnaean Society of New York for the Two Years ending March 27, 1928. Nos. 39 and 40, pp. 1–103. February 10, 1930.

presents several admirable photographs especially one of the Wilson's Snipe. There are also accounts of the nesting of the Starling in the Chicago area and of the visit of Evening Grosbeaks as well as many notes on birds and bird protection. The society has become affiliated with the Chicago Academy of Sciences and will become the section of popular ornithology.—W. S.

**Golf Clubs as Bird Sanctuaries.**—A recent publication<sup>1</sup> of the National Association of Audubon Societies is devoted to a plea that golf club grounds may be maintained as bird sanctuaries. This is a very happy and practical idea and it has already been put in practice by quite a number of clubs but the present publication will undoubtedly result in almost universal response.

The pamphlet while clearly setting forth the idea and importance of the plan presents in a small space all that one requires to know in carrying out the plan. Bird houses, bird shelters, feeding platforms and trees and shrubs to attract birds, are all considered, and a wealth of attractive illustrations of these devices and of the birds which may be attracted to a sanctuary add greatly to the force of the Society's arguments. Everyone who is connected with a Golf Club or other ground which may be converted into a sanctuary should secure one of these publications and go to work.

Hawks and Owls are listed among the enemies of lesser birds and while it is explained that indiscriminate shooting of supposed bird-enemies is entirely undesirable the warning might be made a little stronger in view of the widespread idea that every Hawk is a menace while many of them are really working with the conservationist and bird protector in killing off the rats and mice.—W. S.

#### Shorter Papers.

**Bailey, H. H.**—The Prairie Warbler in South Florida. (*Bull. No. 3. The Bailey Museum of Natural History, Miami, Florida.*)—The south Florida bird is described as *Dendroica discolor collinsi* (p. 1). The publication dated "11-16-1926" was received by "The Auk," April 14, 1930. The name of the man after whom the bird is named is not given but the English name Collin's Warbler does not accord with the Latin name "collinsi"; which spelling is correct we are unable to determine.

In another Bulletin (No. 4) April 1, 1930, Mr. Bailey separates White Ibises with long bills as *Guara alba longirostris* (p. 1) but indicates no difference in range so that if really different they should be regarded as species. He also proposes to separate some Sandhill Cranes from Michigan as "*Megalornis-c.-woodi*," Bald Eagles from southeastern Florida as "*Haliaeetus-floridana*" and the Red-eyed Vireo of the Alleghanies of Virginia as "*Vireosylva-o-scotti*." In commenting on Blue Jays he differs from Oberholser as to the South Carolinian bird which he finds to agree with the northern form and not with that of Florida. He also insists that Blue Jays migrate.

<sup>1</sup> Golf Clubs as Bird Sanctuaries Published by the National Association of Audubon Societies. 1974 Broadway, N. Y.