

island and its adjacent islets, the first collection being presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and those obtained on the later trips to the U. S. National Museum. These latter were partly worked over for publication by the late Bradshaw H. Swales and his name appears as joint author of the present volume.

In addition to the notes accompanying the collections of Dr. Abbott and Dr. Wetmore, upon which the report is mainly based, all previous literature has been studied and the collections in the museums at Cambridge, New York, Philadelphia, and Chicago have been examined so that the report becomes in reality a monograph of the avifauna of this most interesting island. The discovery by Dr. Abbott of such unlooked for birds as *Brachyospiza* and *Loxia* in the interior of Haiti attracted not a little attention to this region and several ornithologists were led to visit it, notably James Bond who made investigations in the interest of the Philadelphia Academy with excellent results, those of his last trip being published too late to be included in this work.

In form Dr. Wetmore's report is a model for such publications. The account of each species begins with a list of vernacular names and a full synonymy of papers relative to its occurrence on the island, followed by an extended account of its life history and a list of recorded localities where it has been found. Of especial interest is the inclusion of the fossil birds described from the bone deposits in the caves of the island.

There is, too, an interesting historical introduction with an account of the physical features of the island with lists of the characteristic birds of the several regions as well as of transients and winter visitants from North America.

Many illustrations from photographs give a good idea of the several habitats while some half-tones from paintings by Allan Brooks depict several of the most interesting birds. While there is a table of contents and an excellent bibliography there is no list of plates although such a list would be a desirable addition to these 'Bulletins.'

Dr. Wetmore is to be congratulated upon an admirable piece of work and a worthy successor to his 'Birds of Porto Rico.'—W. S.

Mrs. Nice's 'Birds of Oklahoma.'—We have come to regard Mrs. Nice as our authority on the birds of Oklahoma and now that her "habitat" has been moved eastward to Ohio it is gratifying to have her observations covering over ten years of intensive study placed on permanent record.

The report¹ opens with an interesting historical review of Oklahoma ornithology beginning with the accounts of Edwin James, a member of Major Long's Expedition of 1820, when Paroquets, Egrets, and Ivory-billed Woodpeckers were present in abundance. The physical features of the state are then considered with a general account of the bird life. We

¹ *The Birds of Oklahoma*. Revised Edition. By Margaret Morse Nice. Vol. III, Biological Survey, No. 1, Publ. Univ. Oklahoma. Norman, Univ. Oklahoma Press, 1931. Pp. 1-224.

learn that the fauna of the eastern half is exclusively eastern in its character, that of the central area showing a decrease in eastern elements but with few really western forms, while at the extreme end of the "Panhandle" western birds predominate. Of the entire list 50% of the breeding species are eastern forms, 28% western, 8% middle western and 15% widely distributed species.

There is a good bibliography and an excellent annotated list of itineraries and reports on field work in Oklahoma, many of them manuscripts. A page is devoted to attracting and protecting birds, and there is an account of migration in the state and a series of Christmas censuses.

The list proper which comprises most of the report is excellently prepared with full annotations as to abundance, character of occurrence, habitats, etc., with migration and nesting dates, definite records of occurrence of the rarer species, and a brief summary of food.

Several outline maps and four half-tone plates constitute the illustrations. The nomenclature is that of the forthcoming A. O. U. 'Check-List,' with the original numbers placed at the front of the names. While these numbers are preserved in the new Check-List (at the end of the names) for the benefit of oölogists, who depend upon them for the identification of eggs, they seem to serve no purpose in a faunal list such as the present, especially as the new classification throws them completely out of sequence.

Mrs. Nice deserves the thanks of all ornithologists, especially those of the Middle West for her excellent report which will long be our standard authority on the birds of the state.—W. S.

Spiker's Birds of Peterboro Swamp and Labrador Pond, N. Y.—A recent 'Bulletin' of the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station consists of a "Biological Reconnaissance of the Peterboro Swamp and the Labrador Pond Areas," in Madison Co., N. Y., with the object of determining their suitability as permanent game refuges which might serve as a reservoir for the maintenance of small game and its spread into adjoining territory.

The report has been prepared by Charles J. Spicer and follows the excellent plan of previous publications of the same kind issued by the Experiment Station. The general character of each area is described with photographs illustrating the various habitats; then follows a summary of the present mammal and bird faunas with notes on each species, and finally a consideration of the game species, their present, past, and probable future—if the area is preserved. The birds observed during the several visits of the author to the Peterboro Swamp numbered 114 with 107 for the Labrador Pond area.

There is also presented an excellent consideration of the economic value of birds and of the control of raptors and rodents. While the author finds

¹ A Biological Reconnaissance of the Peterboro Swamp and the Labrador Pond Areas. By Chas. J. Spiker. Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin, Vol. 6, No. 1, March 19, 1931. Pp. 1-151.