

weaver-finches in captivity and will like to learn something of their habits in the wild as well as the experience of others in caring for them in their aviaries. Mr. Cayley is especially fitted to furnish this information authoritatively as he is both ornithologist and aviculturist, as well as an accomplished bird artist, and we congratulate him upon producing a valuable book of reference. We admire especially the plate of the Gouldian Finches and note that the peculiar dimorphism exhibited by this species—some being black headed and some red headed—has not yet been explained.—W. S.

Moody's 'Water-fowl and Game-birds in Captivity.'—This is another admirable book¹ for the aviculturist as well as for the game-breeder. It relates in detail the experience of the bird-keeper of the grounds of Mr. W. H. St. Quintin, at Scampston Hall, in England, where a remarkable number and variety of birds have lived and thrived in the open. The various chapters treat of Herons, Geese, Swans, Ducks, Sand-Grouse, Pheasants, Turkeys, Megapodes, Partridges, Quail, Grouse, Rails, Cranes, Bustards, Plover, Sandpipers, etc.

Each species is treated separately with accounts of its appearance, habits, disposition, breeding, hardiness, voice, sexual differences etc., etc., the information being given concisely under definite headings so as to be readily accessible. There are also chapters on aviaries, food, handling, shipment, etc.

It is interesting to learn that Flamingos survive the winter in England and do well where broad pools of shallow water are available, and that Mound-builders have bred there successfully and require only the shelter of an open shed in winter. While the latter select only leaves and similar material for their mound when at liberty, a male, confined in a closed shed, finding his supply of available leaves exhausted piled his water pan on the heap as well as a cabbage, a lump of rock salt, some sand, and numerous stones—in fact everything moveable that was within reach. The male bird alone built the mound.

There are many other incidents bearing on the behaviour of birds which will interest the general reader, but it is to the bird keeper with a large estate available that the book will most strongly appeal. A number of halftones illustrate this excellent work.—W. S.

Pearson on the Herons.—The second instalment² of the series of articles on North American birds being published in the 'National Geographic Magazine' is by Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson and deals with the herons, ibises, storks, spoonbill, and flamingo—birds upon which he is especially fitted to write through his long experience with them, in the work of pro-

¹ Water-Fowl | and Game-Birds in | Captivity | Some Notes on Habits & Management | By | Arthur F. Moody | Illustrated from Photographs | H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. Pp. 1-240. Price 10 shillings 6 pence net.

² The Large Wading Birds. By T. Gilbert Pearson. Nat. Geogr. Magazine, LXII, No. 4, pp. 440-469. October, 1932.

tecting their rookeries in the South and in planning and establishing sanctuaries for them. There is a general introductory account of these large wading birds which discusses their relationships and history as well as the efforts that have been made to save many of them from extinction. Following this are detailed sketches of the individual species found within the limits of the United States.

Eight beautiful full page colored plates¹ from paintings by Allan Brooks accompany Dr. Pearson's text and depict nineteen species of these heron-like birds, while a number of half-tones further illustrate the article. The most interesting of these is an aeroplane photograph of hundreds of flamingos on the Orinoco Delta.

This instalment is fully up to the high standard set by the first and the series when completed should form one of the most notable of the popular works on North American birds.—W. S.

Stoner on Birds of the Oneida Lake Region, N. Y.—The Roosevelt Wild Life Experiment Station has published several local avifaunas based on much intensive study and now another² appears dealing with the vicinity of Oneida Lake. The field work which forms its basis consisted of only 107 full days (May 1–August 15) in 1928 and an equal number of half days in 1929. Yet the results cover no less than 494 quarto pages (more than an entire year of the Auk!) with two excellent color plates by Sawyer of water or marsh birds and 118 half page illustrations of habitats, etc., from photographs.

There is an account of the geological history of the region and its climatology with detailed tables of temperatures, etc., for the years of the investigation, and daily maxima and minima; a summary of Merriam's life zones; detailed descriptions of a number of selected bird habitats with tables of birds observed in several of them; and eighteen full page tables of all birds observed on every day of the 1928 season with additional species seen in 1929. The main part of the volume is taken up with the list which is very fully annotated with quotations from various works supplementing the author's observations and in some cases with daily extracts from his field journals. There is also a list of birds banded during the author's studies and another of additional species observed by others in the period from May to August in previous years.

While the author is to be commended for the vast amount of information that he has managed to collect and incorporate in this report, the advisability of publishing, at such great length, observations of parts of two seasons, covering only three and a half months, seems open to question, especially as much of the general matter must of necessity be duplicated in other

¹ Ibises, Herons and Flamingos. Eight color plates from paintings from life. By Maj. Allan Brooks.

² Ornithology of the Oneida Lake Region: with Reference to the Late Spring and Summer Seasons By Dayton Stoner. Roosevelt Wild Life Annals, Vol. 2, No. 3–4, January 1932. Pp. 267–764.