

similar reports. In such prolonged accounts, too, the essential original matter is so buried that it is not nearly so readily found as in previous, less voluminous, publications of the Station, which often had their data separated under convenient headings.—W. S.

Loeppenthin's 'Birds of Northeastern Greenland.'—This excellent work,¹ in German with a résumé of its contents in English, describes at some length the avifauna of East Greenland between the parallels 73° and 75.30° of north latitude. There is first an account of the author's personal experiences on the Danish "Godthaab" expedition of 1930, on which he was the zoologist, illustrated by half-tones from photographs, and then a fully annotated list of the birds of the region, including forty species of which eight are "vagrants," fourteen rare summer residents, five fairly common summer residents, and thirteen common summer residents.

Information is here presented which should receive serious attention when a new A. O. U. 'Check-List' is gotten out. In the author's opinion there is a distinct, large, race of Merganser (*Mergus serrator major*) on the west coast of Greenland though the bird of the east coast is true *serrator*; similarly the Eider of the east coast is *Somateria mollissima islandica*, that of the west *S. m. borealis*; the eastern Ptarmigan is *Lagopus mutus groenlandicus* and the western one *L. m. reinhardti* though curiously enough he mentions *rupestris* as also occurring there; the breeding Dunlin of east Greenland he says is "*Calidris*" *alpina arctica* and adds that no Dunlins breed in west Greenland; *Phalaropus f. fulicarius* is the west Greenland Red Phalarope but he refers the eastern ones to *P. f. jourdaini* and with the Wheatears the western form is *Oenanthe o. leucorrhoea* while the eastern is *O. o. shioleri* Salomonsen.

All Greenland Knots he regards as of the North American race which, however, he is not inclined to recognize as distinct, while all Lapland Longspurs form a distinct Greenland race *Calcarius lapponicus subcalcaratus* Brehm, all Greenland Snow Buntings are *Plectrophenax nivalis subnivalis* and all Ringed Plovers, *Charadrius hiaticula psammotroma*.

He would refer west coast Gyrfalcons to *Falco rusticolus holboelli* while northern and eastern birds are *candicans*, and *obsoletus* is now and then recorded but he wisely adds "the question [of the Gyrfalcons] is not quite settled"!

The East Greenland swan records apply to *Cygnus cygnus islandicus* while the Long-tailed Jaegers of arctic America and Greenland he has described as a distinct light-bellied race, *Stercorarius longicaudus pallescens*. It would seem doubtful however, if this difference is really a geographic one as in the allied *S. parasiticus* and *S. pomarinus* there are dark and light phases of plumage occurring side by side and the reviewer forty years ago

¹ Die Vögel Nordostgrönlands Zwischen 73° 00' und 75° 30' N. Br. Samt Beobachtungsergebnissen von der Dänischen Godthaab-Expedition 1930. Von Bernt Løppenthin, Meddelelser om Grønland Bd. 91 Nr. 6. Pp. 1-127. 1932.

described a dark breasted *longicaudus* from West Greenland. (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1892, pp. 147-148.)

Mr. Löppenthin records the occurrence of *Rissa tridactyla tridactyla* in Greenland, a fact that was not mentioned in the A. O. U. 'Check-List,' while we notice that the occurrence of *Cepphus grylle mandti* in Greenland is not definitely stated in the latter work although implied and of course well known.

He claims that the A. O. U. 'Check-List' is wrong in referring the Greenland records of White-fronted Goose to *Anser a. albifrons*, saying that they belong to *A. a. gambeli*, but we think he is not familiar with the most recent discussions regarding these birds.

There is a good bibliography and a map and this publication together with those of Pederson, 1926 and 1930 and Bertelsen, 1932 give one an excellent idea of the avifauna of this isolated and barren coast.—W. S.

Hand-List of Japanese Birds.—In commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Ornithological Society of Japan, the Society has published a new Hand-List¹ of the birds of Japan, including Korea, Sakhalin and Formosa. It is almost entirely in English. The Committee in charge of the work consisted of Mr. Hachisuka, Dr. Kuroda, Prince Taka-Tsukasa, Dr. Uchida and Mr. Yamashina. The arrangement is much like that of the A. O. U. 'Check-List', species and subspecies being treated alike, but there are no references to place of publication of genera and no mention of type species. Some synonymy is given under the species but apparently includes only names based upon Japanese forms. The sequence begins with the Passeres and ends with the Gallinaceous birds which is quite at variance with other modern check-lists.

No less than 856 species and subspecies are listed, referred to 311 genera. There is an appendix consisting of a list of the 'Birds of Micronesia under Japanese Mandatory Rule' which includes the Mariana, Palau, Caroline and Marshall Islands. This list totals 169 species and subspecies, referred to 85 genera.

The nomenclature conforms in the main to that of the A. O. U. 'Check-List' in regard to such species as are common to the two, the differences being for the most part questions of the generic limits of the ducks, linnets, etc. We note, however, that *Bucephala* of Baird is retained for the Golden-eye and Bufflehead which are regarded as strictly congeneric while *Macrorhamphus* is used for the Dowitcher.

The work is well printed with an excellent index and is a credit to all concerned.

As a side issue in the preparation of this 'Hand-List' Dr. Kuroda has

¹ A Hand-List of the Japanese Birds Revised, Issued for the Commemoration of the 20th Year of the Foundation of the Ornithological Society of Japan, 1932. Pp. i-iv + 1-211. (A list of corrigenda (misspellings) accompanies the List.) Copies of the List to be secured from the Society c/o Zool. Inst. Sci., Imperial Univ., Tokyo.