

through and we trust that those can be found who will prepare terse articles based upon his book with easily grasped facts and arguments, and spread them in the sportsmen's journals and the daily press throughout the country.—W. S.

Jones on 'Insect Coloration and the Relative Acceptability of Insects to Birds.'—After Mr. W. L. McAtee's several able attacks on the theory of protective coloration, it is interesting to find something¹ on the other side of the question although the author accepts most of Mr. McAtee's conclusions and says: "Belief in the protective value of a character is not invalidated by evidence that it is occasionally disregarded by many enemies, or totally disregarded by a few, for it may still be one of the many factors in the equilibrium of survival." From this viewpoint he sees no irreconcilable conflict between the stomach examinations employed by Mr. McAtee and the experiments which he describes.

Mr. Jones' interesting experiments consisted in spreading various dead insects on bird feeding shelves, being careful to avoid any advantage in position, etc., and carefully recording the preferences displayed by the birds, eleven species of which fed there. The results of his experiments are given in detail and his conclusions are that insect acceptability to birds is relative and its causes complex; that coloration has material influence, and that in general brighter colored insects are the less acceptable; that there is a prevalence of so-called "warning coloration" among insects which feed on poisonous or acrid plants but that the relative unacceptability of many insects must depend upon other factors. Mr. Jones has also carried on interesting experiments on the acceptability of various dead insects to ants.—W. S.

Fauna of the National Parks.—This excellent publication² discusses the problems confronting the National Parks Service with regard to the conservation of the natural fauna and flora. The conditions at the time of settlement of the West and the changes already wrought by man before the parks were established are described as well as the efforts that have been made to re-establish the former conditions.

The point is emphasized that the arbitrary boundaries of the parks often exclude areas absolutely essential to the existence of their animal inhabitants, as for instance the lack of winter ranges for certain species which must as a result go outside the park at this season if they would survive. The problems of protecting the vegetation from the animals and the methods of control of the latter are discussed and there is an interesting

¹ *Insect Coloration and the Relative Acceptability of Insects to Birds.* By Frank Morton Jones, Sc.D. *Trans. Ent. Soc. London*, LXXX, pp. 345-386, pl. 18-28. December 31, 1932.

² *Fauna of the National Parks of the United States. A Preliminary Survey of Faunal Relations in National Parks.* By George M. Wright, Joseph S. Dixon, Ben H. Thompson. *Contribution of Wild Life Survey Fauna Series No. 1.* May, 1932. Washington, 1933. Pp. 1-157, figs 1-56. Price 20 cents, U. S. Govt. Printing Office.

summary of some of the principal forms of terrestrial vertebrates characteristic of the several parks. The authors have prepared a valuable report and one that will be interesting and instructive to all who have at heart the welfare of our national parks. It is well illustrated with numerous half-tone cuts.—W. S.

Bond's 'My Bird Boarders.'—Mr. Frank Bond has for some years maintained a feeding shelf for birds in Cleveland Park, Washington, D. C. and in the present little booklet¹ he has presented the results of his observations upon the various species that have come to his "cafeteria." His accounts of his visitors not only form attractive reading but add to our knowledge of the behaviour of birds whose biographies we had thought were already completed. Forty-six species have come under Mr. Bond's observation at his feeding station and he has added to the interest of his accounts by presenting a number of original drawings.—W. S.

La Touche's 'Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China.'—Part IV of Vol. 2 of this important work² has just appeared covering the gulls and terns, plovers, jacanas, cranes, etc., and part of the sandpipers. It maintains the high standard set by the previous parts and the reviewer, having had occasion recently to make extensive use of Mr. La Touche's work, can testify from personal experience to its excellence. It is invaluable to anyone working on the Chinese avifauna.—W. S.

Swann and Wetmore on the Birds of Prey.—Part XI of this monograph³ has appeared. It completes the genus *Aquila* and covers allied genera of eagles such as *Spizaetus*, *Circaetus* etc. The two plates by Grönvold depict *Hieraetus pennatus* and *Lophotriorchis kienerii*.

This excellent work is being carried on by Dr. Alexander Wetmore from the manuscript left by the late H. Kirke Swann with the addition of some further data, but the general plan and arrangement of species is as Mr. Swann left them. We are glad to see that satisfactory progress is being made with its publication.—W. S.

Other Publications.

Bailey, A. M., Brower, C. D. and Bishop, Louis B.—Birds of the Region of Point Barrow, Alaska. (*Program of Activities*, Chicago Acad. Sciences, IV, No. 2, April, 1933, pp. 15-40, price 25 cts.)—A fully annotated list of some 125 species with several half-tone cuts from photographs.

Bailey, A. M. and Dickinson, F. R.—Camera Hunting in the Haunts of the Golden Eagle. (*Natural History*, May-June, 1933.)—Beautifully illustrated.

¹ My Bird Boarders. By Frank Bond. Foreword by Dr. Theodore S. Palmer. The Green Lamp League. International Building, Washington, D. C. Pp. 1-104.

² A Handbook of the Birds of Eastern China. By J. D. La Touche. Vol. II, Part 4. Pp. 289-400, pls. XX-XXII. April, 1933. Price 7s. 6d. net per part. Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London, E. C. 4.

³ A Monograph of the Birds of Prey (Order Accipitres). By H. Kirke Swann. Edited by Alexander Wetmore. London. Wheldon & Wesley, Ltd., 2, 3 & 4 Arthur Street, New Oxford Street, W. C. 2. Part XI, May 1933. Pp. 65-160.