

Mr. Griscom has done a good service in publishing this paper and we hope that it may serve to emphasize the importance of accuracy and care in field identification. If he has made "ten-thousand mistakes" as he says [!? Ed.] how many are others likely to make? The reviewer has made many but, probably like Mr. Griscom, he fortunately did not publish them! If more care be not taken and more observations of rarities kept in the seclusion of note books the usefulness and charm of field lists will disappear. It is impossible to identify *every* bird that one sees. Other points that Mr. Griscom emphasizes and which should be carefully considered are the possibilities of other results from field observation besides the forming of big lists, and the impossibility and undesirability of publishing local lists for regions already well known. Our ornithological journals already have more really good papers and notes than they have space for and local lists of the sort mentioned are of no service except to gratify their compilers.

In regard to the abandonment of personal collections of skins in most of the well studied sections of the United States to which Mr. Griscom refers, and which is the natural result of accurate field identification and the desire for bird conservation, we have often wondered why the oölogists do not also "play the game," and give the birds a chance, especially the rarer species and those threatened with extermination!—W. S.

Peters and Loveridge on East African Birds.—This paper¹ is based upon a collection made by Mr. Loveridge in the interests of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy in certain rain forest areas in Uganda and Kenya from November 1933 to June, 1934. A series of 530 skins representing 228 forms was secured, of which *Tyto capensis libratus* and *Zosterops silvanus* proved to be new and have been described (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 48, p. 77). The narrative and general zoological results will be presented in a final report.

The arrangement of the annotations in the present report is under definite headings—Breeding, Synonymy, Diet, Measurements, etc., usually only one (rarely more than three) being given under a single species. One heading "parasites" contains mention of Mallophaga or other parasites which may be of interest to entomologists and which would be easily overlooked, buried as they are in the body of the text.

The proof-reading seems to have been hastily done as we notice several errors in spelling; the generic name *Argya* is consistently misspelled "*Argyra*" throughout the paper, and the heading for *Nectarinia formosa centralis* seems to have disappeared. There is a bibliography and several half-tone illustrations of nests and habitats.

The paper is a welcome contribution to the ornithology of east Africa and we shall look forward with interest to the final report on the region.—W. S.

Recent Papers on Guatemalan Birds.—Messrs. M. A. Carriker and R. M. de Schauensee have recently reported² upon two collections of birds from Guatemala, in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia; one obtained by Samuel N. Rhoads and E. L. Poole during a trip to that country in 1915, and the other secured by the junior author in the highlands of the country in 1935. The former comprised 704 skins, the latter 408. From the former collection are described *Eumomota superciliosa sylvestris* (p. 418), *Geococcyx velox pallidus* (p. 426), *Ramphastos sulfuratus*

¹ Scientific Results of an Expedition to Rain Forest Regions in Eastern Africa. By James Lee Peters and Arthur Loveridge. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. LXXIX, No. 4, pp. 129–205. January, 1936.

² An Annotated List of Two Collections of Guatemalan Birds in the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. By M. A. Carriker and Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., LXXXVII, Pp. 411–455, December 27, 1935.

intermedius (p. 427); and from the latter, *Saucerottia beryllina motaguæ* (p. 421) and *Mitrephanes phaeocercus pallidus* (p. 435). There are many discussions of the relationships of the species and other annotations of interest.

Another paper¹ dealing with the birds of this country is Ludlow Griscom's report on the Richardson collection in the British Museum from the Sierra de las Minas. One new form is described, *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus richardsoni* (p. 816), and annotations are given on thirty-nine forms of the higher altitudes with a zonal discussion of the mountain range.—W. S.

Danforth on West Indian Birds.—Dr. Danforth has recently published several papers² on West Indian birds occupying the entire October, 1935, number of the 'Puerto Rico Journal of Agriculture.'

First comes an annotated list of 67 species of birds observed in Cuba on a trip taken in 1933 followed by remarks on the advisability of introducing Cuban birds into Puerto Rico. The Wood Duck, Jacana, Mourning Dove, Barn Owl and Solitaire are among those whose introduction would seem to be of economic benefit. The introduction of ground nesting species is impossible on account of the mongoose.

Another paper is a supplement to the author's 'Birds of the Virgin Islands' with annotations on some seventy species. A complete list of the 132 species known from the islands follows.

An annotated list of the fifty-four species known from the island of Barbuda is also presented and there is a description of a new Ground Dove from St. Kitts, *Columbigallina passerina nigrirostris* (p. 483), and a race of the Broad-winged Hawk from Puerto Rico by Danforth and J. Adger Smyth—*Buteo platypterus brunnescens* (p. 485)—W. S.

Recent Papers by Berlioz.—In a short paper³ on a collection of birds from the Belgian Congo, M. Berlioz presents notes on twenty-two species obtained by M. G. Babault mainly at M'Bwahi in the mountain forest west of Lake Kivu. Another collection obtained by Dr. R. Malbrant from the Chari River south of Lake Chad is also reported upon.⁴ It comprised some seventy forms but none regarded as new.

In another paper⁵ the author lists specimens of twenty-two species supposed to be extinct which are in the collection of the Paris Museum. We note that there are seven Passenger Pigeons, four Carolina Parakeets, nine Esquimo Curlew and two Ivory-billed Woodpeckers, the last correctly regarded as possibly not yet exterminated, also a mounted specimen and three eggs of the Great Auk and a male Labrador Duck. Students of West Indian birds will be interested in two specimens of the Cuban Macaw (*Ara tricolor* Bechst.).—W. S.

Collinge on Food of the Coot.—It is gratifying to learn that Dr. Collinge is able to continue his studies of British economic ornithology. His recent paper on Food and feeding-habits of the Coot (*Fulica atra* Linn.)⁶ is welcome not only as settling disputed features of this bird's activities in Great Britain but as suggesting parallel conclusions for the American Coot, not yet seriously studied. Coots consume much green vegetation and grind it finely so that analysis of their stomach contents is no

¹ The Birds of the Sierra de las Minas, Eastern Guatemala. By Ludlow Griscom, *Ibis*, October, 1935. Pp. 807-817.

² Journal of Agriculture of the University of Puerto Rico. XIX, No. 4, October, 1935.

³ Étude d'une Collection d'Oiseaux du Congo Belge. Par J. Berlioz. Bull. Mus. Paris, VII, No. 3, 1935. Pp. 159-164.

⁴ Étude d'une Collection d'Oiseaux du Tchad (A. E. F.) Par J. Berlioz. Bull. Mus. Paris, VI, No. 6, 1934. Pp. 490-496.

⁵ Notice sur les Spécimens Naturalisés d'Oiseaux Éteints Existants dans les Collections du Muséum. Par J. Berlioz. Arch. du Mus. d'Hist. Nat. XII, 1935. Pp. 485-495.

⁶ The *Ibis*, Jan. 1936, pp. 35-39, 1 table.