

Taka-Tsukasa's 'The Birds of Nippon.'¹—The fifth part of Volume I of this handsome work is before us, continuing the Bibliography and the Gallinaceous birds. *Tetrastes bonasia*, *Falci pennis falci pennis*, *Tetrao urogallus* and *Lyrurus tetras* are considered in this installment. There are two color plates and several photogravures of habitats. The notable excellence of paper and typography of the work is fully maintained.—W. S.

Pinto on the Birds of Goyaz.—This publication² is a report on a collection of birds made by the author on an expedition through the southern parts of the state of Goyaz, Brazil, during the year 1934. A brief revue of ornithological work in the state and an itinerary illustrated by several photographs of scenery is followed by a comparative list of the birds found on the Rio des Almas and at Inhumas and a well annotated list of the collection numbering 261 species. Of these the following are described as new: *Conopophaga lineata hellmayri* (p. 81), *Synallaxis brachyura jaraquana* (p. 89), *Cranioleuca semicinerea guyana* (p. 91) *Ostinops decumanus australis* (p. 149), all from the vicinity of the Rio das Almas.

Proceedings of the Linnaean Society of New York.³—The latest number of the Linnaean Society Proceedings presents as a frontispiece a portrait of one of its most active members the late Warren F. Eaton and very fittingly the major part of the brochure is devoted to his account of the Birds of Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey, an excellent contribution to our knowledge of the ornithology of that portion of the state.

Charles A. Urner presents a further analysis of the shore-bird flight on the Jersey coast covering the years 1932 to 1934.

Walter Sedwitz has a list of Half-hardy Birds that Wintered through 1933-1934 in the New York City Region and Joseph J. Hickey a review of the year 1934 in the same region.

The publication speaks well for the activity of the Society and the keenness of its members.—W. S.

School Bulletin of the University of the State of New York.—The Bird Day issue of this publication contains a notable series of ornithological articles.

The Uses of Bird Sound Photography. By A. R. Brand.

The Hermit Thrush. By A. A. Saunders.

In Warbler Time. By Guy A. Bailey.

How Fast Does a Barn Swallow Grow? By Dayton Stoner.

The Eastern Least Bittern. By Allen Frost.

The Rise and Fall of a Tern Colony. By Roy Latham.

In Quest of the Piping Plover at Sandy Point. By Hazel R. Ellis.

Also papers on Duck Hawk, Gulls, Yellow Warbler and Cowbird, Bird-banding, Bird Sanctuaries, etc., all well illustrated. Such a publication should prove a great aid to bird education and conservation.—W. S.

Framing the Birds of Prey.—Davis Quinn of the Emergency Conservation Committee has prepared a new edition of the pamphlet on Hawk preservation issued several years ago. The present edition has been greatly revised and improved and the whole subject of Hawk food and habits and man's continued disregard for the findings of scientific ornithologists is clearly set forth.

¹ The Birds of Nippon. By Prince Taka-Tsukasa. Volume I, Part 5. The Bibliography Order Gallii. H. F. & G. Witherby, Ltd., 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. I. Yokendo, 7 Motozono-Cho, Kojimachi-Ku, Tokyo. 15th November, 1935. Pp. lx-lxvi, 239-290.

² Contribuição à ornithologia de Goyaz. Notas críticas sobre uma coleção de aves feitas no sul do estado. Revista Mus. Paulista, XX, pp. 1-172. 1936.

³ Proc. Linn. Soc. N. Y., for the year ending March 1935. No. 47. Price 75 cts.

It is properly charged that the Sharp-shinned Hawk is negligible as a danger to game birds. Its bird food consists of small song birds and it is without doubt nature's implement in killing off the weaker or diseased individuals so as to preserve the stock of these birds at a high state of development. As Mr. Quinn says "these little Hawks are not killed because destructiveness to game; they are certainly not killed for food; they are not killed because it requires any special skill to hit them. They are killed just for the "fun" that certain human beings take in killing a beautiful and inoffensive creature which asks nothing of man except to be allowed to live!

In the same connection we may quote W. H. K. whose verse from "Punch" Mr. Quinn has used as an introduction:

"Because a bird or beast is rare
Some sportsman marks it down to kill;
And counting any game as fair
Contrives to make it rarer still.
O *homo sapiens*, who must
At any cost your trigger pull,
I sometimes think *your* species just
A little bit too plentiful!"

While mentioning many details as to Hawk persecution there is an important omission for which it is hard to account i. e. the shameful shooting of Hawks at Cape May Point, N. J. and incidentally the good work of the National Association of Audubon Societies has been doing in policing part of the area and in instructing gunners as to which Hawks may be shot and which may not. The *permission* to shoot Sharp-shins is chargeable to the New Jersey legislature. Mr. Quinn could easily have secured information about Cape May Hawk shooting from Mrs. Edge, of the Emergency Committee, or many others who know about it, and it seems a shame not to have condemned these New Jersey "sportsmen" along with the others. The "Pigeon Hawk" depicted in the illustration is unfortunately and evidently not a Pigeon Hawk.—W. S.

Ali on 'Economic Ornithology in India.'¹—The author comments on the disparity of attention given to systematic and economic ornithology, respectively, in India, and suggests the importance of federal investigation of bird economics. Reference is made to work in the United States and approval is expressed of the volumetric method of stomach analysis. The harmful and beneficial activities of birds are classified and discussed with mention of Indian examples. For instance, 15 per cent of the rice crop in southeastern Khandesh is consumed by Rosy Pastors. On the other hand, thousands of these birds are eaten by the people. The spread of *Lantana* by birds, the symbiotic relationships of Sunbirds and Flowerpeckers with mistletoe, and the fertilization of various flowers by birds are examples of bird-plant relationships discussed. The production of fertile seeds by the silk cotton tree, the species most used for match manufacture in India, is said to depend mainly on cross-fertilization by birds. The direct economic value of birds also is stressed; waterfowl netting in some localities provides almost free sustenance for the local population for several months in the year; egret "farming" is mentioned. Such uses of birds have their dangerous aspects and it is surprising that they have not already become evident in a country with so dense a population as India. An interesting review, bringing to attention novelties to students of economic ornithology in other lands.—W. L. M.

¹ Current Science, 4(7), Jan. 1936, pp. 472-478.