

RECENT LITERATURE

The Handbook of British Birds by Witherby and others, the first volume of which was noticed in 'The Auk' for July, 1938, now reaches its second volume.¹ It includes the Sylviidae, or Old World Warblers, the Turdidae, here very properly regarded as a distinct family, through the wrens, swallows, swifts, nightjars, rollers, woodpeckers, and cuckoos to the owls. The treatment follows that adopted in the first volume: for each species or race, the standard English name and Latin name are given, with brief synonymy, followed by a condensed, almost telegraphic, statement of the habitat, field characters, general habits, voice, display and posturing, breeding, food, migration and distribution in the British Isles and 'abroad,' concluding with a precise and detailed description of the plumages and comparisons with related races of the Continent. Each paragraph is initialed by the responsible author. This orderly arrangement facilitates the ready finding of basic facts concerning the one hundred and twenty-seven forms included in this part. The treatment embodies the latest information available, both as to nomenclature and the facts of life history. The volume opens with the difficult genus *Phylloscopus* of which twelve forms occur in the British Isles. On these small warblers, which like our genus *Empidonax*, look much alike but are most easily separable by characters of wing formula and voice, Dr. Ticehurst who has long been making a special study of the group, has contributed the results of his researches, now in press. The benefit of Eliot Howard's reading of the sections on display and the most recent researches of Edgar Chance on the habits of the Cuckoo are also acknowledged. Various changes of nomenclature are explained in footnotes, and include the adoption of the generic term *Martula* in place of the familiar *Delichon* for the House Martin, of *Aegolius* for Tengmalm's Owl and of the name *Nyctea scandiaca* in place of *N. nyctea* for the Snowy Owl. It is a great convenience to have the characters of the families and genera defined but no attempt is made to construct keys to the included species.

Among points of special interest to American readers are perhaps: the map and general statement of the British range of the Nightingale, a bird sought out by all visitors; the occasional 'ringing' of trees by the Great Spotted Woodpecker after the manner of our sapsuckers; the definite statement that the Cuckoo in foisting its egg upon the nests of birds having a small entrance, does so by expelling it directly through the entrance, at times unsuccessfully, however, and in such cases without paying further attention to the egg; a brief account of the successful introduction of the Little Owl into Great Britain; a photograph of a feather of a young Barn Owl showing two sets of down (protostyle and mesostyle). No mention is made of the periodicity of Snowy Owl visitations, which perhaps has not been definitely made out in the area covered. While older records of Purple Martin and Tree Swallow, Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers and Flicker are ruled out as possible escapes from captivity, it is interesting to see that both our eastern cuckoos are admitted to the British List. No less than some fourteen records for the Yellow-billed and two for the Black-billed Cuckoo are allowed, all of autumnal birds and most of these in October.

The twenty-eight colored plates, like those of the first volume, continue the series by the Dutch artist, Koekkoek, and even though the figures are small, they are

¹ *The Handbook of British Birds | Volume II | Warblers to Owls | By H. F. Witherby, F. C. R. Jourdain, N. F. Ticehurst, and B. W. Tucker. 8vo, pp. i-xiii, 1-352, 30 pls., 41 text-figs., 6 maps, October 19, 1938; H. F. & G. Witherby, Ltd., 328, High Holborn, London. Price 21 shillings net.*

nevertheless very clear and well reproduced, showing the various plumages of certain species or the summer and winter adults of others. Many helpful outline drawings illustrate the wing formulae of various difficult species, and there are six distributional maps showing the ranges of certain birds in southwestern Great Britain. A chart of song seasons is also included. This fine volume fully sustains the excellence of the first one not only in its authoritative and up to date treatment of the included species but also in the breadth of view and the vast amount of the facts presented.—G. M. ALLEN.

Ritter's 'California Woodpecker and I'.—From the title of this book¹ one is led to expect much, yet it is neither a real monograph on the woodpecker nor a biography of its distinguished author, who here leaves his own field of zoological eminence to enter upon that of ornithology. The first part, consisting of some 140 pages, is devoted to an account of the remarkable habits of the bird,—in particular, its food-storing activities,—while the remaining and greater portion is a somewhat lengthy comparison of avian equipment and actions with those of man.

The author's own observations of the California Woodpecker extend over a number of years, during which he has watched the birds at work in summer rearing their young or later gathering acorns and storing them one by one, either in individual holes drilled in the bark of a tree or in deep channels of the bark or even in weather-cracks of telephone poles. These stores are drawn upon during the winter and spring, while in summer the birds depend in part upon other fruits and insects. These woodpeckers are further remarkable in that they live in more or less well-defined groups, each of which preëmpts a patch of oak woods and cooperates in gathering their favorite food and storing it, in guarding these supplies against squirrels and jays, and at the nesting time in raising their broods. Although in general, all this is now well known, the author has nevertheless much to add from his own observations that is of value and suggestive interest, as in the study of 'maladaptiveness' of certain habits such as the occasional storing of pebbles instead of nuts or the dropping of acorns into cavities from which the birds are unable to retrieve them. He shows further that the woodpeckers are discriminative, making smaller holes for the lodgment of the slender species of acorns and wider ones for those of larger size. The remarkable way in which the species has thus hit upon a method of solving its survival problem calls forth astonishment, yet on the other hand it is possible that too great a dependence upon one type of food may in cases prove a dangerous specialization. We are given almost no details of the extent to which the stores are levied upon nor of how far they serve to carry the group through to the next season. It is not clear that the occasional storing of pebbles is really 'maladaptive' or if it is done by inexperienced birds or whether it merely represents an essential habit indulged in at times when acorns are scarce. The communal family arrangements and the parts played by each sex are but lightly touched upon.

The three concluding parts of the book deal only casually with the woodpecker but are devoted to a philosophical consideration of the implications to be drawn from the differences between the woodpecker as a type of bird and man as a type of mammal. The power of locomotion, the limitation of the fore limbs for flight in birds, the degree of specialization of the brain and nervous system, muscular and chemical activities, the locus of the mind, the mental equipment of the two types and the human advantage in its specialization of the cerebral cortex, all are discussed at

¹ Ritter, William Emerson. *The California Woodpecker and I | a study in comparative zoology in which are | set forth numerous facts and reflections by | one of us about both of us.* 8vo, xiii + 340 pp., illustr., 1938; University of California Press, Berkeley, California. \$3.50.

length. Much of this seems fairly obvious though often difficult to express in such unchallengeable language, and finally leads the author to an expression of the moral application of his premises. From the standpoint of the ornithologist, one confesses to a certain disappointment in this study. It is clear that the extraordinary habits of this woodpecker are deserving of a much more thorough investigation, the difficulties of which are especially many, involving some method of marking the birds and observing single groups continuously for long periods so that their individual conduct can be followed.

The volume is of handsome appearance, printed in clear open type. A colored plate by Major Brooks, showing a group of the woodpeckers at their home tree, seems a trifle stiff; other figures are from photographs of storage trees and objects stored. A bibliography, including many titles on the general functions of living things, and a very thorough index of subjects, conclude the work. Hopefully, it should serve as a stimulus to some trained ornithologist to produce a more detailed study of these birds, and this after all, may be what the author chiefly had in mind.—G. M. ALLEN.

Hoffmann's 'Birds of the Pacific States' has just appeared in a new printing,¹ indicating that previous imprints have been exhausted and that there is a steady demand for this attractive and convenient handbook of the birds of the West Coast. The new imprint bears the original date of 1927, and there has been no attempt to make changes, even in matters of nomenclature wherein the later-issued A.O.U. 'Check-list' of 1931, may differ. But the discrepancies are not too serious and need not interfere greatly with the proved usefulness of this handbook. But for Hoffmann's untimely death a few years ago, he would undoubtedly have wished to make such changes and no doubt to have added notes here and there. The brief but excellent descriptions and emphasis on field marks, the notes on occurrence, and condensed statement of general habits give in a nutshell the essential facts that the field observer will find useful in making acquaintance with Pacific Coast birds, while the abundant text illustrations and the ten colored plates by Major Allan Brooks excellently supplement the printed matter. Hoffmann's experience in teaching and his powers of discrimination in the field combined to make this and his corresponding book on New England birds, published earlier, of great practical value as field guides, while the convenient size makes of both handy companions. Eastern ornithologists visiting California for the A.O.U. meeting in San Francisco this summer, will do well to slip this book into their traveling bags.—G. M. ALLEN.

McAtee's 'Wildfowl Food Plants.'—This neat little volume² is designed to supply precise information on the important food plants utilized by wildfowl in the United States and has been prepared in response to a wide demand from game managers, refuge owners and others interested in attracting or raising these birds. The introductory chapter deals briefly with the productivity and food value of aquatic plants, while here and throughout the book are many notes showing the extent to which these are taken by various species of ducks and geese. The remainder of the book is really botanical, giving an account, family by family, of all the food plants known to be eaten by these birds with special emphasis on the appearance, habitat and relative value of the more important of the species, such as wild rice, wild celery, the wapato, pondweeds and others. All but two of the seventeen half-tone plates illustrate the habit and chief food parts of valuable species.

¹ Hoffmann, Ralph. *Birds of the Pacific States*. sm. 8vo, xx + 353 pp., 10 colored plates, many text-figs., 1927; Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Massachusetts. \$3.50.

² McAtee, W. L. *Wildfowl Food Plants | their value, propagation, | and management*. 8vo, ix + 141 pp., illustr., 1939; Collegiate Press, Inc., Ames, Iowa. Price \$1.50.

Following chapters discuss limitations on the growth of aquatic plants such as depth, turbidity, shading and water pollution, with practical suggestions for planting in different types of environment, directions for the construction and maintenance of ponds in tidal estuaries, salt and fresh marshes, or stream valleys, and methods for controlling undesirable plants and animals in such situations. A final chapter presents a compilation of the many vernacular names of the food plants discussed in earlier pages. There is a list of some thirty-seven titles of literature cited and an excellent index.

The book is substantially bound in stout cloth covers, but the highly surfaced paper on which it is printed interferes with easy reading and is likely to give trouble if moistened in field or laboratory use. The author's wide experience in many parts of the country, both outdoors and in, should ensure the practical value of this handbook for all who have to do with the problems of propagating or attracting wildfowl.—G. M. ALLEN.

Wallace on Bicknell's Thrush.—In this carefully prepared monograph¹ the author gathers together all available facts concerning this smaller race of the Gray-cheeked Thrush and adds to this summary many new and welcome observations of his own, the result chiefly of two summers spent in the bird's haunts high on Mt. Mansfield, Vermont.

The work is presented in three divisions. Part 1 takes up once more the involved nomenclature of the Gray-cheek group based on a study of many specimens from all parts of the species' range. The author concludes that there are "two forms, or phases" of the Gray-cheeked Thrush on its far-northern breeding grounds: "a continental and a Newfoundland form." The former or Northern Gray-cheeked Thrush breeds from Labrador to Alaska and eastern Siberia. The latter is confined apparently to Newfoundland as a breeding bird and is distinguished by its brown back, lacking the gray suffusion of the mainland form; he refrains, however, from giving it a distinctive Latin name, but instead regards it as a "brown phase" of the Gray-cheek, because the smaller race, Bicknell's Thrush, also presents a brown and a gray phase which occur without obvious geographic segregation. Careful restudy of the type of Lafresnaye's *Turdus minimus* shows that it is, after all, not a Bicknell's but a winter specimen of the more northern Gray-cheeked Thrush. Hence the name replaces *aliciae* and *bicknelli* is once more reinstated as the proper name for the smaller southern bird.

In the second part of the work the summer distribution of Bicknell's Thrush is worked out, based on a re-examination of all available specimens. It ranges from the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Cape Breton and Seal Island, Nova Scotia, and southward to the higher mountains of New England and New York. There follows a detailed discussion of its migration, State by State, with its status as a winter resident in the Greater Antilles. A careful study of birds taken in winter in northern South America seems to show that all are to be referred to the larger Gray-cheeked Thrush, so that the two forms have distinct winter quarters.

The third section is a life-history study, particularly as carried out at Mt. Mansfield, with accounts of the arrival of the birds in spring, their food habits, song and its duration, the remarkable habit of flight singing now for the first time made out, the courtship, nesting habits, incubation, development of the young, and post-nesting behavior. Of thirteen nests observed, only a quarter of the total number of eggs produced young to the fledgling stage. The sequence of plumages and feather

¹ Wallace, George J. Bicknell's Thrush, its taxonomy, distribution, and life history. Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 41: 211-402, January 1939.

development is followed in some detail (inadvertently the term 'apterylae' is used for 'apteria'). An excellent summary, with a comprehensive bibliography, and a tabulation of measurements and migration data conclude the account.

Those who have camped in the misty haunts of this mountain sprite, have been stirred by the beauty of its song, and know the difficulty of observing the bird because of its impenetrable haunts of scrub and its crepuscular habits, can appreciate the painstaking persistence needed to work out the major facts of its life history here so well presented.—G. M. ALLEN.

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- LOWE, WILLOUGHBY P. The bird collections in the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 65-75, Jan. 1939.—Two new forms are described: a hummingbird, *Docimastus ensiferus caerulescens*, and a trogon, *Trogon rossi*, both from “South America.”
- LYNES, HUBERT. Subspecific classification of Celebes aggregates of *Cisticola exilis* and *C. juncidis*. *Ornith. Monatsber.*, **46**: 166-168, 1938.
- MACKWORTH-PRAED, C. W., AND GRANT, C. H. B. Systematic notes on East African birds.—Part XX. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 764-767, Oct. 1938.
- MACKWORTH-PRAED, C. W., AND GRANT, C. H. B. Systematic notes on East African birds.—Part XXI. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 152-156, Jan. 1939.
- MACLULICH, D. A. Birds of Algonquin Provincial Park. *Contr. Roy. Ontario Mus. Zool.*, no. 13, 47 pp., 1938.—Breeding of Eastern Evening Grosbeak at Cache Lake, Joe Lake and Brule Lake in the Park, 1932-34, recorded.
- MATHEWS, GREGORY. Overlooked names of European birds. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 760, Oct. 1938.—Additional synonyms.
- MATHEWS, GREGORY M. Zoology of the Voyage of H. M. S. ‘Erebus’ and ‘Terror’. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 760-761, Oct. 1938.—Publication dates of parts on birds.
- MAYR, ERNST. Notes on a collection of birds from South Borneo. *Bull. Raffles Mus.*, Singapore, no. 14, 46 pp., Sept. 1938.
- MAYR, ERNST. Birds on an Atlantic crossing. *Proc. Linn. Soc. New York*, no. 49, p. 54-58, Oct. 15, 1938.
- MEINERTZHAGEN, R. On the birds of northern Afghanistan.—Part II. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 671-717, Oct. 1938.—Many field notes.
- MEINERTZHAGEN, R. Winter in arctic Lapland. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 754-759, Oct. 1938.—A picture of winter bird life north of the Arctic Circle.
- MEISE, W. Ueber *Locustella ochotensis* und *certhiola*. *Ornith. Monatsber.*, **46**: 168-173, 1938.
- MILLER, ALDEN H., AND FISHER, HARVEY I. The pterylosis of the California Condor. *Condor*, **40**: 248-256, text-fig. 65-69, Nov. 1938.
- MOORE, ROBERT T. Discovery of the nest and eggs of the Tufted Jay. *Condor*, **40**: 233-241, text-fig. 61-64, Nov. 15, 1938.—In southeastern Sinaloa.
- MOREAU, R. E. A contribution to the biology of the Musophagiformes, the so-called Plantain-eaters. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 639-671, pl. 13, Oct. 1938.—Many notes on the young, which are completely clothed with down; the supposed wing-claw does not exist in all members of the group; the fourth toe can be brought back to form about a seventy-degree angle with the hind toe.

- MORENO, ABELARDO. 56° Congreso de la American Ornithologists' Union. *Memorias Soc. Cubana Hist. Nat.* "Felipe Poey," **12**: 333-343, Dec. 27, 1938.—An account of the Washington meeting.
- MORRISON, ALASTAIR. Three new birds from the Department of Huancavelica, central Peru. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 774-775, Oct. 1938.—New races of *Upucerthia*, *Asthenes*, *Leptasthenura*.
- MURPHY, ROBERT CUSHMAN. The need of insular exploration as illustrated by birds. *Science*, **88**: 533-539, Dec. 9, 1938.—With examples of two methods of differentiation as shown by reed-warblers and flycatchers (*Pomarea*) in the Marquesas Islands.
- MURPHY, ROBERT CUSHMAN. Conservation III. *Bull. Garden Club of America*, pp. 34-38, Nov. 1938.
- MURRAY, J. J. Birds of Virginia. *The Commonwealth, the Mag. of Virginia*, **5**: 13-15, 5 text-figs., Dec. 1938.
- NICHOLSON, E. M. Report on the Lapwing habitat inquiry, 1937. *British Birds*, **32**: 170-191, Nov. 1, 1938; **32**: 207-229, Dec. 1, 1938.
- PÄSSLER, RICHARD. Zusätzliche Bemerkungen über die Eier einiger brasilianischer, ecuadorianischer und nordamerikanischer Vögel. *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 215-219, Nov. 1938.—Brief color notes and measurements of eggs of tinamus, quails and rails.
- PALUDAN, KNUD. Zur Ornithologie des Zagrossgebietes, W.-Iran. *Journ. f. Ornith.*, **86**: 562-638, text-fig. 1-8, Oct. 1938.—Birds of western Iran.
- PEARSE, THEOD. A remarkable influx of Ravens into the Comox district, Vancouver Island, B. C. *The Murrelet*, **19**: 11-13, July 11, 1938.
- PONCY, ROBERT. Observations concernant le Corbeau corneille (*Corvus corone* L.). *Der Ornith. Beobachter, L'Ornithologiste*, **35**: 138-139, 1938.
- PONCY, ROBERT. Notes ornithologiques prises au printemps 1938 sur les bords du Lac Léman. *Der Ornith. Beobachter, L'Ornithologiste*, **36**: 4-8, Oct. 1938.—Notes on waterbirds chiefly.
- PONCY, ROBERT. Danse nuptiale? de la Sterne Pierre garin, *Sterna hirundo* (L.). *Der Ornith. Beobachter, L'Ornithologiste*, **36**: 8-9, text-fig., Oct. 1938.—With diagrams of a supposed nuptial display of two birds.
- PUTZIG, P. Vom Storchzug 1938. *Der Vogelzug*, **9**: 187-189, Oct. 1938.—Review of the migration data secured from a questionnaire concerning the stork migration of 1938 in Europe.
- PUTZIG, P. Weitere Versuche über die Beziehungen der Keimdrüse zum Zugverhalten. *Der Vogelzug*, **9**: 189-200, Oct. 1938.—Concludes that in night-migrating birds, the "migratory urge" is not a simple function of the glands. Birds which cross the equator may be influenced as to the glands by proper dosage of light.
- RANSOM, WEBSTER H. Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) recorded in the State of Washington. *The Murrelet*, **19**: 16, July 11, 1938.—One taken on the Skagit River, November 16, 1935, first record for the State.
- RINGLEBEN, H., AND SCHÜZ, E. Schrifttum der Wiederfunde paläarktischer Ringvögel 1934 bis 1938. *Der Vogelzug*, **9**: 222-243, Oct. 1938.—Summary of literature and records of recoveries of birds banded in central Europe.
- ROBEN, PAUL. Brutstudien an pommerschen Vögeln. *Ornith. Monatsber.*, **46**: 163-166, 1938.
- ROWAN, WILLIAM. Light and seasonal reproduction in animals. *Biol. Reviews*, **13**: 374-402, 1938.—A valuable summary of recent work done on the effect of light on gonadal development, especially in birds; with a bibliography of some 128 titles.

- ROWAN, WILLIAM, AND BATRAWI, A. M. Comments on the gonads of some European migrants collected in East Africa immediately before their spring departure. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 58-65, pl. 2, Jan. 1939.—Gonads of eight species taken in March and April in Tanganyika, show with the exception of a single ovary of *Lanius collurio*, various stages of spring recrudescence.
- RÜPPELL, WERNER. Brut- und Revierstudien an *Lanius collurio* L. (1). *Ornith. Monatsber.*, **46**: 161-163, 1938.—A male bred in place of its birth.
- RUTTER, R. J. Philadelphia Vireo breeding in Muskoka. *Canadian Field-Nat.*, **53**: 11, Jan. 1939.
- RYVES, B. H. Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Cornwall. *British Birds*, **32**: 236, Dec. 1, 1938.—A bird shot about October 7, 1938, near Newquay on the coast of Cornwall is the fifteenth record for the British Isles. All previous dates have been in October and November.
- SALT, W. RAY. Notes on the warblers of the Rosebud district, Alberta. *Canadian Field-Nat.*, **52**: 134-135, Dec. 1938.
- SAUNDERS, ARETAS A. Studies of breeding birds in the Allegany State Park. *Bull. N. Y. State Mus.*, no. 318, 160 pp., 77 figs., Dec. 1938.—With many notes on song, time of its cessation, nesting, habitat preferences of birds observed in July and August.
- SCHINZ, JULIE. Erster Bericht über die beiden Ala-Schutzgebiete Schmerikon und Wurmsbach, Kt. St. Gallen 1929-1938. *Der Ornith. Beobachter, L'Ornithologie*, **36**: 1-4, Oct. 1938.—Bird life on these Swiss sanctuaries.
- SCHMAUS, MARTIN. Der Einfluss der Mausejahre auf das Brutgeschäft unserer Raubvögel und Eulen. *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 181-184, Sept. 1938.—In years when meadow mice and wood mice were abundant in Germany, the hawks and owls laid more eggs and raised more young than in lean years.
- SCHWEINSTEIGER, HORST. Die Brutpflege der Weissen Bachstelze in der Geranienkiste. *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 210-211, Nov. 1938.—White Wagtail nesting in a geranium box.
- SCHWEPPEBURG, GEYR VON. Wer baut bei *Hippolais icterina*? *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 206-209, Nov. 1938.—The female Garden Warbler apparently does the nest building.
- SCLATER, W. L. A note on some American orioles of the family Icteridae. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 140-145, Jan. 1939.—New forms are: *Icterus graduacauda richardsoni* from Chimalpa, Oaxaca; *Notiopsar curaeus reynoldsi* from Tierra del Fuego; and *Oreopsar bolivianus*, a new genus and species from Sucre, Bolivia.
- SICK, HELMUT. Einiges vom Karmingimpel, *Carpodacus e. erythrinus* (Pallas). *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 176-181, Sept. 1938.—Life-history notes on this finch in Germany.
- SNYDER, L. L. Two birds with one stone. *Canadian Field-Nat.*, **53**: 11-12, Jan. 1939.—Adult male Magnolia Warbler feeding a young Nashville Warbler.
- SOUTHERN, H. N. The spring migration of the Willow-warbler over Europe. *British Birds*, **32**: 202-206, Dec. 1, 1938.—As the accompanying map shows the northward migration follows rather closely the isothermal line of 48 degrees Fahrenheit.
- STANFORD, J. K., AND TICEHURST, CLAUD B. On the birds of northern Burma.—Part IV. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 599-638, Oct. 1938.—Many notes on habits, distribution, plumage.
- STANFORD, J. K., AND TICEHURST, CLAUD B. On the birds of northern Burma.—Part V. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 1-45, Jan. 1939.
- STEAD, E. F. The supposed flightless duck from Campbell Island. *Trans. Roy. Soc. New Zealand*, **68**: 100-101, pl. 20, 1938.

- STEAD, EDGAR F. "Eclipse plumage," possibly a universal factor in the sequence of moult in ducks. *Trans. Roy. Soc. New Zealand*, **68**: 102-104, 1938.
- STEAD, E. F. Further observations on moult in the duck family. *Trans. Roy. Soc. New Zealand*, **68**: 105-106, 1938.
- STEINFATT, OTTO. Nestbeobachtungen bei der Sperbergrasmücke, *Sylvia nisoria*. *Der Ornith. Beobachter, L'Ornithologiste*, **35**: 122-126, 1938.—Care of young birds.
- STEINIGER, FRITZ. Ist eine tierpsychologische Betrachtung der sogenannten "tierischen Hypnose" berechtigt? *Journ. f. Ornith.*, **86**: 516-528, Oct. 1938.
- STOLPE, M., AND ZIMMER, K. Die flugmechanische Bedeutung des Daumenfittichs am Vogelflügel. *Journ. f. Ornith.*, **86**: 485-496, text-fig. 1-10, Oct. 1938.—Function of the bastard wing (alula) in flight.
- STONER, DAYTON. Longevity in the Bank Swallow. *Bird-banding*, **9**: 173-177, 2 text-figs., Oct. 1938.—Probable life-span is from two to three years, rarely as much as four years, but in one instance six years.
- STONOR, C. R. Notes on the breeding habits of the Common Screamer (*Chauna torquata*). *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 45-49, pl. 1, Jan. 1939.—In the London Zoological Gardens. Use of spurred wings in nest defense.
- STRAUSS, ERICH. Vergleichende Beobachtungen über Verhaltensweisen von Rabenvögeln. *Zeitschr. f. Tierpsychol.*, **2**: 145-172, 23 text-figs., Oct. 1938.—Comparative notes on captive corvids.
- STRAUSS, ERICH. Versuche an gefangenen Rabenvögeln. *Zeitschr. f. Tierpsychol.*, **2**: 172-197, 12 text-figs., Oct. 1938.—Behavior of captive corvids.
- STUPKA, ARTHUR. Additional notes on Pine Siskins in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. *The Migrant*, **9**: 93-94, Dec. 1938.—Large numbers wintered at higher altitudes in 1937-38, departing in April, although with evidence that a few may have nested since juvenal birds were seen in mid-June.
- THOMAS, J. F. Food of nestling swallows. *British Birds*, **32**: 233-236, Dec. 1, 1938.—A list of insects, mostly Diptera, fed by *Hirundo rustica* to its young in Great Britain.
- TICEHURST, C. B. On a character of immaturity in the Anatidae. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 772-773, Oct. 1938.—An appearance of striae or cross-hatching at the tip of the bill in immature ducks.
- TICEHURST, CLAUD B. Systematic notes on Indian birds.—I. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 156-158, Jan. 1939.
- TICEHURST, C. B., AND WHISTLER, HUGH. Autumn impressions in Algeria. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 717-746, Oct. 1938.—The Algerian Crossbill is regarded as a recognizable race; a female taken October 11 was within a day or two of laying eggs. A new Meadow Bunting, *Emberiza cia callensis*, is described from Braga. Many field notes.
- TIMMERMANN, G. Zur Fortpflanzungsbiologie des Birkenzeisigs (*Carduelis flammaea* [L.]). *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 21-206, Nov. 1938.—Breeding habits in northern Iceland.
- TREUFENFELS, H. VON. Beobachtungen am Weidenlaubvogel (*Phylloscopus c. collybita*). *Beitr. z. Fortpflanzungsbiol. d. Vögel*, **14**: 185-188, Sept. 1938.—Breeding notes. In 1934, seven out of fifteen nests found were subsequently destroyed.
- TUFTS, R. W. Summer Tanager in Nova Scotia. *Canadian Field-Nat.*, **52**: 122-123, Nov. 1938.
- TWINING, HOWARD. The significance of combat in male Rosy Finches. *Condor*, **40**: 246-247, Nov. 15, 1938.—Sierra Nevada Rosy Finch has no fixed territory. De-

- fense reactions are displayed by a mated male only when another male approaches his mate.
- TYZZER, E. E., SELLARDS, A. W., AND BENNETT, B. L. The occurrence in Nature of "equine encephalomyelitis" in the Ring-necked Pheasant. *Science*, **88**: 505-506, Nov. 25, 1938.—Suggestive of birds carrying this infection.
- VAN ROSSEM, A. J. A new race of becard from northeastern Mexico. *Condor*, **40**: 262-263, Nov. 15, 1938.—*Platypsaris aglaiae gravis* from Tamaulipas.
- VAN ROSSEM, A. J. A Colorado Desert race of the Summer Tanager. *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.*, **9**: 13-14, Nov. 21, 1938.—Describes as new *Piranga rubra hueyi*, from Imperial County, California.
- VAN ROSSEM, A. J. Descriptions of three new birds from western Mexico. *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.*, **9**: 9-12, Nov. 21, 1938.—New races are: *Sula leucogastra albiceps*, *Herpetotheres cachinnans excubitor*, and *Jacana spinosa lowi*.
- VAN ROSSEM, A. J., AND HACHISUKA, The Marquess. A new race of Cliff Swallow from northwestern Mexico. *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.*, **9**: 5-6, Nov. 21, 1938.—Describe as new *Petrochelidon albifrons minima*.
- VAN ROSSEM, A. J., AND HACHISUKA, The Marquess. A dimorphic subspecies of the bush-tit from northwestern Mexico. *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.*, **9**: 7-8, Nov. 21, 1938.—Describe as new *Psaltriparus minimus dimorphicus*, from southeastern Sonora, in which the males are black-faced and the females mixed black and grayish brown.
- VAN TYNE, JOSSELYN. The Yucatan form of West Indian Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*). *Occas. Papers Mus. Zool., Univ of Michigan*, no. 385, 3 pp., Oct. 28, 1938 (mailed Nov. 4).—Describes as new *P. f. citata* from Chichen Itza, Yucatan.
- VOGT, WILLIAM. Preliminary notes on the behavior and ecology of the Eastern Willet. *Proc. Linn. Soc. New York*, no. 49, p. 8-42, 4 figs., Oct. 15, 1938.
- VOGT, WILLIAM. Conservation works—and pays. *The Rotarian*, **53**: no. 5, 24-27, Nov. 1938.—Bird protection, especially as to stopping the killing of birds by plume hunters.
- WAGNER, HRLM. OTTO. Beobachtungen über die Balz des Paradiesvogels *Paradisaea guihelmi* Cab. *Journ. f. Ornith.*, **86**: 550-553, text-fig. 1-9, Oct. 1938.—Figures illustrate poses in the 'dance' of this Bird of Paradise.
- WALKINSHAW, LAWRENCE H. Life history studies of the Eastern Goldfinch. *Jack-pine Warbler*, **16**: 3-11, 14-15, Oct. 1938.
- WETMORE, ALEXANDER. Canaries and other cage-bird friends. *Nat. Geogr. Mag.*, **74**: 775-806, Dec. 1938.—With many text-figures and a series of colored plates by Allan Brooks showing the breeds of canary and many species of popular cage-birds, especially of the weaver finches.
- WHITE, C. M. N. Notes on Australian birds. *Ibis*, (14) **2**: 761-764, Oct. 1938.—Contrary to Mathews, it is maintained that only two or perhaps three races of *Rhipidura rufifrons* are recognizable in Australia. *Microeca cucui* probably not recognizable. A new Talegalla, *T. fuscirostris occidentis*, is described (p. 763) from Setakwa River, Dutch New Guinea.
- WHITE, C. M. N. A contribution to the ornithology of Crete. *Ibis*, (14) **3**: 106-136, Jan. 1939.—Faunal affinities on the whole with Asia Minor and Cyprus.
- WILCOX, LEROY. A flight of Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) on Long Island, N. Y. *Proc. Linn. Soc. New York*, no. 49, p. 60-63, Oct. 15, 1938.
- WILLIAMS, LAIDLAW. Comparative notes on the Christmas census made at San Francisco and on the Monterey peninsula. *The Gull*, San Francisco, **20**: 45-46, Dec. 1938.

WYNNE-EDWARDS, V. C., AND OTHERS. Notes on birds, 1937-1938. 21st Ann. Rept. Prov. Quebec Soc. Protect. Birds, 4-8, 1938.—Many unusual notes of birds near Quebec, including two American Egrets in September and a number of Wood Thrushes singing in May and June.

YAMASHINA, Marquis Y. Die Lebensweise einiger wenig bekannter Sylviiden aus Ostasien. Journ. f. Ornith., 86: 497-515, text-fig. 1-10, Oct. 1938.

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE A. O. U.

THE Fifty-seventh Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held in Berkeley, California, June 19 to 23, 1939. Headquarters will be at the University of California where the business sessions on June 19 and the public meetings on June 20 and 21 will be held. On June 22, sessions for the presentation of papers will be continued at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Shortly following the appearance of this notice, titles and abstracts of papers for the program should be submitted to the Secretary, Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks. For Friday and Saturday, June 23 and 24, field trips are planned which it is hoped will give opportunity to eastern bird students to see something of Pacific Coast bird life. Since 1915, when the Union last met in the San Francisco Bay region, the Bay Bridge, connecting San Francisco and Berkeley, and the Golden Gate Bridge have been completed. New buildings have been erected at the California Academy of Sciences and at the University of California where the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology now occupies new quarters. The 1939 San Francisco World's Fair opened in February of this year and reduced fares to the coast have been announced by railway companies. Thus, it is hoped that many members will find inducement to attend the Fifty-seventh Meeting.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California.*