

THIRTY-SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN
ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH
AMERICAN BIRDS

THE present Supplement covers changes in names accepted by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature since the publication of the A.O.U. "Check-list of North American birds" (1957, fifth ed.), and is restricted to taxa mentioned in that edition. The cases treated fall into two groups: changes for purely nomenclatural reasons, many of them required by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1961), and changes involving taxonomic decisions. The changes are intended to conform to the treatment currently believed correct by the great majority of active systematists. It should be noted that *the present list covers but part of the changes that will be required in the next edition* of the A.O.U. Check-list, for it includes only those cases the Committee regarded as almost noncontroversial. This is indicated by the fact that the Committee was unanimous, or almost unanimous, in favoring the changes, at its meetings held in Seattle, Washington, August to September 1971, after preliminary correspondence and discussion. To assist authors, the Committee also adopted a statement of policy regarding English names (here included). This statement contains certain presently effective changes of English names, given by way of illustration. Other changes of English names, required or deemed desirable as a consequence of the taxonomic decisions made, are mentioned where the change of scientific name is treated in this Supplement.

Page references on the margin are to pages of A.O.U. "Check-list of North American birds" (1957, fifth ed.). Citation of the publication where a name was first introduced is given only if the citation does not appear in the said A.O.U. Check-list, or in the appropriate volume of the Peters et al., "Check-list of birds of the world," or of the Cory, Hellmayr, and Conover, "Catalogue of birds of the Americas." Reference to a publication indicates a work (not necessarily the first) where the change is supported, usually with reasons given.

Richard C. Banks became a member of the Committee in September 1971, replacing Harrison B. Tordoff, resigned; neither participated in the decisions leading to the Supplement.

EUGENE EISENMANN, Chairman

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A. CHANGES FOR PURELY NOMENCLATORIAL REASONS

I. Required by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

a. *Under Code Arts. 26, 27, 32(c) (i)*—as to compound names, requiring omission of hyphens in all but one situation, and of diacreses and other marks.

- Page 4 *Podiceps grisegena holböllii* becomes *P. g. holbollii*.
 26 *Phaëthon* becomes *Phaethon*.
 42 *Ardea herodias sancti-lucae* becomes *A. h. sanctiluciae*.
 90 *Somateria mollissima v. nigra* becomes *S. m. v-nigra*.
 97 *Mergus serrator schiøleri* becomes *M. s. schiøleri*.
 101 *Elanoïdes* becomes *Elanoides*.
 110 *Buteo lagopus s.johannis* becomes *B. l. sanctijohannis*.
 112 *Aquila chrysaëtos* becomes *A. chrysaetos*.
 129 *Bonasa umbellus umbelloides* becomes *B. u. umbelloides*.
 216 *Catharacta skua lönnerbergi* becomes *C. s. lonnbergi*.
 243 *Anoüs* becomes *Anous*.
 299 *Aëronautes* becomes *Aeronautes*.
 314 *Colaptes chrysoïdes* becomes *C. chrysoïdes* (see also p. 415 below).
 330 *Picoïdes* becomes *Picoides*.
 375 *Cissilopha san-blasiana* becomes *C. sanblasiana*.
 418 *Telmatodytes palustris dissaëptus* becomes *T. p. dissaëptus*.

b. *Under Code Art. 30(a) (1) and (3)*—as to agreement with gender of generic names, particularly those with latinized terminations to Greek words.

- 10 *Daption capensis* becomes *Daption capense* (see Auk 1962, 79: 493).¹
 88 *Camptorhynchus labradorium* becomes *C. labradorius*.
 117 *Caracara lutosus* becomes *C. lutosa* (see Auk 1962, 79: 493).
 188 *Heteroscelus incanum* becomes *H. incanus*.
 208 *Eurynorhynchus pygmeum* becomes *E. pygmeus*.
 251 *Brachyramphus marmoratum* becomes *B. marmoratus*.
 252 *Brachyramphus brevirostre* becomes *B. brevirostris*.
 253 *Synthliboramphus antiquum* becomes *S. antiquus*.
 253-4 *Ptychoramphus aleutica*, *P. a. aleutica* and *P. aleutica australe* become, respectively, *P. aleuticus*, *P. a. aleuticus* and *P. a. australis*.
 381 *Gymnorhinus cyanocephala* becomes *G. cyanocephalus* (see Auk 1962, 79: 493).
 416-7 *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillum*, *C. b. brunneicapillum*, *C. b. affine*, and *C. b. purum* become, respectively, *C. brunneicapillus*, *C. b. brunneicapillus*, *C. b. affinis* and *C. b. purus*.
 459 *Bombycilla garrula* becomes *B. garrulus* (specific name is a noun in apposition, see Auk 1962, 79: 493).

c. *Under Code Art. 29 and Appendix Table 2*—as to formation of family-group names from the stem of the type-genus.

- 192 Subfamily CALIDRIDIINAE becomes CALIDRIDINAE.

¹ Corrections citing Auk 79 were made by the previous A.O.U. Check-list Committee and were embodied in the *second printing* (1961) of the A.O.U. Check-list (fifth ed.). They are included here for completeness, because often overlooked by owners of the first printing.

d. *Under Code Art. 11(c)*—requiring that scientific names to be available must have been published in a consistently binominal work.

Page 248 *Plautus* Gunnerus is rejected and replaced by *Alle* Link 1807, Beschreib. der Nat. Samml. Univer. Rostok 2: 46; the scientific name of the Dovekie becomes *Alle alle* (see Wetmore and Watson 1969, Bull. Brit. Ornithol. Club 89: 6-7). An application is pending before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, approved by the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature, to suppress *Plautus* (or *Plotus*) of whatever authorship, thus preserving *Pinguinus* as the valid generic name for the Great Auk (see Amadon et al. 1970, Bull. Zool. Nomencl. 27: 110-112).

II. Directed by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by exercise of the Plenary Power, Code Art. 79.

- 5-6 *Podiceps caspicus* becomes *P. nigricollis* C. L. Brehm 1831 (see Opinion 406, Op. and Decl. Intern. Comm. Zool. Nomencl. 13: 121). *P. caspicus californicus* becomes *P. nigricollis californicus*.
- 546 Subfamily RICHMONDENINAE becomes CARDINALINAE Sushkin 1925, Auk 42: 260; type-genus *Cardinalis* Bonaparte 1838 (see Opinion 784, Bull. Zool. Nomencl. 1966, 23 pt. 5: 201).
- 546-7 *Richmondena* is replaced by *Cardinalis* Bonaparte 1838, Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1837: 111; type-species by subsequent designation *Cardinalis virginianus* Bonaparte 1838 (Gray 1840) (= *Loxia Cardinalis* Linnaeus 1758) (see Opinion 784, loc. cit.). *Richmondena cardinalis* becomes *Cardinalis cardinalis* (Linnaeus) and the generic name of each subspecies is similarly changed. As *Cardinalis* is of masculine gender, masculine endings must be restored as follows in the subspecific names: *floridanus*, *superbus*, *igneus*.

B. CHANGES FOR TAXONOMIC REASONS

- 24 *Loomelania* is merged in *Oceanodroma*; *Loomelania melania* becomes *Oceanodroma melania* (see O. L. Austin, Jr. 1952, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 107: 399; Bourne in Palmer 1962, Handbook N. Amer. Birds 1: 239).
- 40 *Ardea occidentalis* is considered conspecific with *A. herodias*, a polymorphic species in the West Indies and Caribbean area; the population of the Florida Keys, on additional morphological grounds, is entitled to subspecific rank with the name *A. herodias occidentalis* (see Mayr 1956, Auk 73: 71; Meyerrieks 1957, Auk 74: 469; Bond 1961, 6th Suppl. to Check-list of birds of the West Indies (1956): 7). The English species name remains Great Blue Heron, with "Great White Heron" available for the white morph.
- 47-8 *Leucophoyx* is merged in *Egretta* (Bock 1956, Amer. Mus. Novit. no. 1779; Wetmore 1956, Birds of the Republic of Panamá pt. 1: 91; Dickerman and Parkes 1968, Auk 85: 438-9). *Leucophoyx thula* becomes *Egretta thula*, and the generic name of each subspecies is similarly changed.
- 67-8 *Chen hyperborea hyperborea* is considered the white morph of a polymorphic population whose dark morph has been known as *C. caerulescens* (see Cooke and Cooch 1968, Evolution 22: 289). As *caerulescens* has

- priority over *hyperborea*, the species name becomes *Chen caerulescens*; *C. hyperborea hyperborea* and *C. hyperborea atlantica* become, respectively, *C. caerulescens caerulescens* and *C. caerulescens atlantica*. The English species name remains Snow Goose, with "Blue Goose" available for the dark morph.
- Page 70 *Casarca* is merged in *Tadorna* (but probably deserves subgeneric rank¹); *C. ferruginea* becomes *Tadorna ferruginea* (see Delacour and Mayr 1945, Wilson Bull. 57: 3; Johnsgard 1965, Handbook of waterfowl behavior).
- 75-6 *Anas carolinensis* is considered a subspecies of *A. crecca* and becomes *A. crecca carolinensis* (see Delacour and Mayr op. cit., Johnsgard op. cit.; Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959, Birds of Alaska: 160). The English species name for the enlarged species *A. crecca* becomes Green-winged Teal, with "Eurasian Green-winged Teal" and "American Green-winged Teal" available for the component subspecies groups.
- 78-9 *Mareca* is merged in *Anas* (but possibly given subgeneric rank); *Mareca penelope* and *Mareca americana* become respectively *Anas penelope* and *Anas americana*. "Widgeon" is to be spelled "Wigeon" (see Delacour and Mayr op. cit., Johnsgard op. cit.).
- 79-80 *Spatula* is merged in *Anas* (but possibly deserves subgeneric rank); *Spatula clypeata* becomes *Anas clypeata*. The "blue-winged ducks," *A. discors* and *A. cyanoptera* (formerly placed in the genus *Querquedula*), would also be included in the subgenus *Spatula*, if recognized. (See Delacour and Mayr op. cit.; McKinney 1970, Living Bird 9: 29-64.)
- 91 *Lampronetta* is merged in *Somateria*; *Lampronetta fischeri* becomes *Somateria fischeri* (see Delacour and Mayr op. cit., Johnsgard op. cit.).
- 93-4 *Oidemia* is merged in *Melanitta* (but possibly deserves subgeneric rank); *Oidemia nigra* becomes *Melanitta nigra* and the generic name of the subspecies is similarly changed. The English name is changed to Black Scoter. (See Delacour and Mayr op. cit.; Johnsgard op. cit.)
- 106 *Buteo harlani* is considered a subspecies of *B. jamaicensis*, *B. jamaicensis harlani* (see Van Tyne and Sutton 1937, Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Michigan no. 37: 20; Godfrey 1966, Birds of Canada: 89-90; Brown and Amadon 1968, Eagles, hawks and falcons of the world: 606).
- 147 *Alectoris graeca* becomes *A. chukar*; the Chukar is considered specifically distinct from *A. graeca* (Rock Partridge) of southern Europe (see Watson 1962, Ibis 104: 353; Vaurie 1965, The birds of the Palearctic Fauna. Non Passeriformes: 268).
- 171 *Eupoda* is merged in *Charadrius*; *Eupoda montana* becomes *Charadrius montanus* (Bock 1958, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 118: 27; Jehl 1968, San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist. Mem. 3: 13-14).
- 173-4 *Squatarola* is merged in *Pluvialis*; *Squatarola squatarola* becomes *Pluvialis squatarola* (Bock op. cit., Vaurie op. cit.: 386, Jehl op. cit.: 15-16).
- 174-7 Subfamily ARENARIINAE is removed from family Charadriidae to Scolopacidae, and includes only the genus *Arenarius*; the genus *Aphriza* is

¹ Consideration of subgeneric status will be required ultimately in many cases. As subgeneric status does not affect the scientific name of a species or subspecies, and consistency within families is desirable, decision as to subgenera is deferred until the generic and specific classification of all included taxa of a family has been determined.

moved to subfamily CALIDRIDINAE (see Jehl 1968, Condor 70: 206; Peters 1934, Check-list of birds of the world 2; Wetmore 1965, Birds of the Republic of Panamá pt. 1: 408).

- Page 190-1 *Totanus* is merged in *Tringa*; *Totanus melanoleucus*, *Totanus flavipes*, and *Totanus totanus* become respectively *Tringa melanoleuca*, *Tringa flavipes*, and *Tringa totanus*; *Totanus nebularia* of the Hypothetical List, p. 646, becomes *Tringa nebularia* (see Vaurie op. cit.: 409; Jehl 1968, San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist. Mem. 3: 17-19).
- 193-200 *Erolia* is merged in *Calidris*; *Erolia maritima*, *Erolia ptilocnemis*, *Erolia acuminata*, *Erolia melanotos*, *Erolia fuscicollis*, *Erolia bairdii*, *Erolia minutilla*, *Erolia ruficollis*, *Erolia ferruginea*, and *Erolia alpina* become, respectively, *Calidris maritima*, *Calidris ptilocnemis*, *Calidris acuminata*, *Calidris melanotos*, *Calidris fuscicollis*, *Calidris bairdii*, *Calidris minutilla*, *Calidris ruficollis*, *Calidris ferruginea*, and *Calidris alpina*, with corresponding changes in the names of subspecies: *Pisobia cooperi* of the Hypothetical List, p. 647, becomes *Calidris cooperi* (see Holmes and Pitelka 1964, Auk 81: 377; Vaurie op. cit.: 393-404; Jehl op. cit.: 23, 43, 49).
- 202-3 *Ereunetes* is merged in *Calidris*; *Ereunetes pusillus* and *Ereunetes mauri* become respectively *Calidris pusilla* and *Calidris mauri* (see Holmes and Pitelka op. cit., Vaurie op. cit.: 404, Jehl loc. cit.).
- 207 *Crocethia* is merged in *Calidris*; *Crocethia alba* becomes *Calidris alba* (Holmes and Pitelka loc. cit.; Vaurie op. cit.: 404, Jehl loc. cit.).
- 222 *Larus argentatus thayeri* is considered specifically distinct from *Larus argentatus* and becomes *Larus thayeri*, with the English name Thayer's Gull (Macpherson 1961, Arctic Inst. N. Amer. Tech. Pap. no. 7; N. G. Smith 1969, Ornith. Monog. no. 4: 10-33).
- 262 *Zenaidura* is merged in *Zenaida*; *Zenaidura macroura* becomes *Zenaida macroura*, with corresponding changes in the names of subspecies (see Goodwin 1958, Auk 75: 330; Bond 1940, Check-list of birds of the West Indies: 53; Mayr and Short 1970, Publ. Nuttall Orn. Club no. 9: 50).
- 264-5 *Columbigallina* is merged in *Columbina*; *Columbigallina passerina* becomes *Columbina passerina*, with corresponding changes in the names of subspecies. *Columbigallina talpacoti* of the Hypothetical List, p. 647, becomes *Columbina talpacoti* (see Goodwin 1959, Auk 76: 510; Johnston 1961, Auk 78: 373).
- 312-4 *Colaptes cafer* and *Colaptes chrysoides* are considered conspecific with *Colaptes auratus*; the latter becomes the species name to be included as the binomen of all component subspecies (see Short 1965, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 129: 307-428; Phillips et al. 1964, Birds of Arizona: 68-69; cf. Johnson 1969, Wilson Bull. 81: 225-230). The English name for the enlarged species *Colaptes auratus* becomes Common Flicker; "Yellow-shafted Flicker," "Red-shafted Flicker," and "Gilded Flicker" remain available, respectively, for the *auratus*, *cafer*, and *chrysoides* subspecies groups.
- 343-4 *Empidonax traillii* is divided into two species: *Empidonax traillii* (Audubon), the generally more southern and western bird, of more open country, whose vocalization has been interpreted as "fitz-bew," and *Empidonax alnorum* Brewster, the generally more northern bird, of the

boreal forest region, whose vocalization has been interpreted as "fee-bee-o." Audubon named *traillii* on the basis of an apparently mated pair (not preserved) taken along the Arkansas River prairie, in Arkansas, where only the "fitz-bew" song-type breeds. Brewster (1895, Auk 12: 171) described *E. traillii alnorum* from the boreal forest region (type locality, Upton, Maine). The species *E. alnorum* includes those populations listed in the last A.O.U. Check-list under *E. traillii traillii* breeding chiefly in the boreal forest region of eastern United States, Alaska, and Canada. The species *E. traillii* includes both those populations listed under *E. traillii traillii* breeding in the Great Plains, the prairies and the more open habitats of eastern United States (to which the sub-specific name *traillii* is here considered applicable) and the populations listed under *E. traillii brewsteri*, breeding in western United States north to southern British Columbia (see Stein 1963, Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc. 107: 21-50, map Fig. 5; L. L. Snyder 1953, Contrib. Royal Ontario Mus. Zool. Palaeon. no. 35; Eisenmann 1970, Wilson Bull. 82: 107-8; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 59). The English name for the species *Empidonax traillii* (as here restricted) will be Willow Flycatcher, and for the species *Empidonax alnorum* will be Alder Flycatcher; where circumstances do not permit specific identification "Traill's Flycatcher" remains available for the complex.

- Page 396 *Psaltriparus melanotis* is considered a black-eared morph found in some populations of *Psaltriparus minimus*; *P. melanotis lloydi* becomes *P. minimus lloydi*. The English species name for all forms becomes Bushtit (see Raitt 1967, Auk 84: 503; Phillips et al. op. cit.: 111-113).
- 431-3 *Turdus confinis* is considered a subspecies of *Turdus migratorius* and becomes *T. migratorius confinis*. The English species name for *Turdus migratorius* becomes American Robin (Ripley 1964, Check-list of birds of the world 10: 227; Mayr and Short op. cit.).
- 436-41 *Hylocichla guttata*, *Hylocichla ustulata*, *Hylocichla minima*, and *Hylocichla fuscescens* are transferred to the genus *Catharus*; they become respectively *Catharus guttatus* (with subspecies¹ *guttatus*, *nanus*, *salvini*, *sequoiensis*, *polionotus*, *auduboni*, *faxonii*, and *crymophilus*); *Catharus ustulatus* (with subspecies *ustulatus*, *incanus*, *swainsoni*, and *clarescens*); *Catharus minimus* (with subspecies *minimus* and *bicknelli*); and *Catharus fuscescens* (with subspecies *fuscenscens*, *fuliginosus*, and *salicicola*) (see Dilger 1956, Auk 73: 313; Ripley 1964, Check-list of birds of the world 10: 170-175; Phillips et al. op. cit.: 127-131).
- 477 *Coereba bahamensis* is considered a subspecies of *Coereba flaveola*, to be called *Coereba flaveola bahamensis*. The English species name becomes Bananaquit (see Hellmayr 1935, Catalogue of birds of the Americas pt. 8: 284, 311; Lowery and Monroe 1968, Check-list of birds of the world 14: 89).
- 485-6 *Parula graysoni* is considered a subspecies of *Parula pitiayumi*, and becomes *P. pitiayumi graysoni*. The English species name of the enlarged *Parula pitiayumi* becomes Tropical Parula (with "Socorro Parula" available for *graysoni*); the English species name of *Parula americana*

¹Subspecies mentioned are those of the last A.O.U. Check-list, and are listed merely to indicate which require a change of ending to conform with the masculine gender of *Catharus*; a decision by the present Committee on the validity of the subspecies or their number is not to be implied.

becomes Northern Parula (see Blake 1953, *Birds of Mexico*: 474-5; Eisenmann 1957, *in* Griscom et al., *Warblers of America*: 104; Lowery and Monroe 1968, op. cit.: 11).

- Page 491-3 *Dendroica auduboni* is considered conspecific with *Dendroica coronata*; the latter becomes the species name to be included as the binomen of all component subspecies. The English species name for the enlarged *Dendroica coronata* becomes Yellow-rumped Warbler; "Myrtle Warbler" and "Audubon's Warbler" remain available for the *coronata* and *auduboni* subspecies groups (see Phillips et al. op. cit.: 151-153; Lowery and Monroe op. cit.: 29-31; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 74; cf. Hubbard 1969, *Auk* 86: 398).
- 514 *Chamaethlypis* is merged in *Geothlypis*; *Chamaethlypis poliocephala* becomes *Geothlypis poliocephala*, and *Chamaethlypis p. ralphii* becomes *Geothlypis p. ralphii* (see Eisenmann 1962, *Auk* 79: 265; Lowery and Monroe op. cit.: 45; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 75).
- 533-5 *Icterus bullockii* is considered conspecific with *Icterus galbula*; the latter becomes the species name to be included as the binomen of all component subspecies. The English name for the enlarged *Icterus galbula* becomes Northern Oriole; "Baltimore Oriole" and "Bullock's Oriole" remain available for the *galbula* and *bullockii* subspecies groups, respectively (see Sutton 1938, *Auk* 55: 1-6; Sibley and Short 1964, *Condor* 66: 130; Blake 1968, *Check-list of birds of the world* 14: 160-161; Phillips et al. op. cit.: 169-70; but cf. Rising 1970, *Syst. Zool.* 19: 315).
- 537-8 *Cassidix mexicanus* is divided into two species: *Cassidix major* (Vieillot), including the more eastern and northern subspecies *major* and *torreyi*; and *Cassidix mexicanus* (Gmelin), including the southwestern subspecies, *nelsoni*, *monsoni*, and *prospidicola*, as well as those in Middle and South America (see Selander and Giller 1961, *Condor* 63: 29; Blake op. cit.: 188-189). The English species name of *Cassidix major* becomes Boat-tailed Grackle and that of *Cassidix mexicanus*, as here restricted, becomes Great-tailed Grackle.
- 561-2 *Carpodacus mcgregori* and *Carpodacus amplus* are considered subspecies of *Carpodacus mexicanus*; they become respectively *C. mexicanus mcgregori* and *C. mexicanus amplus* (see Blake 1953, *Birds of Mexico*: 568; Howell 1968, *Check-list of birds of the world* 14: 273; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 79). The English species name for the enlarged *C. mexicanus* remains House Finch.
- 586 *Passerculus princeps* is considered a subspecies of *Passerculus sandwichensis*, and becomes *P. sandwichensis princeps* (see Peters and Griscom 1938, *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.* 80: 145; cf. Paynter 1970, *Check-list of birds of the world* 13: 70). The English species name of the enlarged *P. sandwichensis* remains Savannah Sparrow; "Ipswich Sparrow" remains available for *princeps*.
- 592 *Passerherbulus caudacutus* is transferred to the genus *Ammospiza*; its name becomes *Ammospiza leconteii* (Audubon) (see Murray 1968, *Auk* 85: 586-93; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 83; but cf. Paynter 1970, op. cit.: 76).
- 593 *Passerherbulus henslowii* is transferred to the genus *Ammodramus*, and becomes *Ammodramus henslowii* (Murray loc. cit.; Paynter op. cit.: 77; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 83; but cf. Robins and Schnell 1971, *Auk* 88: 567).

- Page 597 *Ammospiza nigrescens* and *Ammospiza mirabilis* are considered subspecies of *Ammospiza maritima*; they become respectively *A. maritima nigrescens* and *A. maritima mirabilis* (see Beecher 1950, Ecology 36: 23; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 84; cf. Paynter 1970, op. cit.: 75 and errata sheet). The English species name of the enlarged *A. maritima* remains Seaside Sparrow; "Dusky Seaside Sparrow" and "Cape Sable Sparrow" remain available for *nigrescens* and *mirabilis*.
- 606-11 *Junco aikenii*, *Junco oregonus*, and *Junco insularis* are considered conspecific with *Junco hyemalis*; the latter name becomes the species name, to be included as the binomen of all component subspecies. (*J. caniceps*, currently under study, is maintained for the present as a separate species.) The English species name of the enlarged *Junco hyemalis* becomes Dark-eyed Junco; "Slate-colored Junco," "White-winged Junco," "Oregon Junco," and "Guadalupe Junco" remain available for the respective component subspecies groups (see Mayr 1942, Ecology 23: 378; Dickinson 1953, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. 109: 123; Phillips et al. op. cit.: 203-206; Paynter 1970, op. cit.: 63-67).
- 612 *Junco bairdi* (also other yellow-eyed populations of northern Middle America) is considered a subspecies of *Junco phaeonotus* and becomes *J. phaeonotus bairdi*. The English species name of the enlarged *Junco phaeonotus* becomes Yellow-eyed Junco; "Mexican Junco" and "Baird's Junco" remain available for the respective component subspecies groups (Mayr loc. cit.; Blake op. cit.: 599; Phillips et al. op. cit.: 206; Paynter op. cit.: 67-68).
- 637 *Rhynchophanes* is merged in *Calcarius*; *Rhynchophanes mccownii* becomes *Calcarius mccownii* (Sibley and Pettingill 1955, Auk 72: 423; Mayr and Short op. cit.: 87; Paynter op. cit.: 36).

GENERAL POLICY AS TO ENGLISH NAMES

One of the major functions of the successive editions of the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds has been to facilitate communication by providing a standard nomenclature of English as well as scientific names. With the growth of interest in neotropical birds the A.O.U. Check-list Committee decided to extend the coverage of the next Check-list to all of geographic North America, including Middle America and the West Indies. In response to inquiries and to avoid the confusion that might otherwise result, the Committee has approved the following statement of policy as to the English names to be adopted in the forthcoming Check-list.

For species that breed extensively in Canada and the United States (primarily birds of the American Arctic or North Temperate avifaunas) the general policy will be to preserve the names used in the 1957 edition of the A.O.U. Check-list. The Committee reserves the right to make changes in special cases. Examples of such changes already approved by the Committee (there will be others) are the following:

- a) To provide a specific modifier when the same group name is employed for

another Western Hemisphere species; e.g., Northern Fulmar, *Fulmarus glacialis*; Northern Shoveler, *Anas (Spatula) clypeata*; Red Knot, *Calidris canutus*; Common Yellowthroat, *Geothlypis trichas*; Gray Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis*.

b) To facilitate conformity with international usage, already supported by considerable American usage; e.g., Merlin, *Falco columbarius*; American Kestrel, *Falco sparverius*; Storm Petrel as the group name for all species of Hydrobatidae, i.e., Leach's Storm Petrel, Wilson's Storm Petrel, etc., to separate them from the many Procellariidae called "Petrel."

c) To avoid misleading taxonomic implications, where a better name already has wide acceptance; e.g., Wood Stork, *Mycteria americana*; Upland Sandpiper, *Bartramia americana*.

d) To prevent confusion with another species bearing the same name, where application of the name to the American bird is recent and a well-known alternate name exists, e.g., Montezuma Quail, *Cyrtonyx montezumae*.

e) To conform with usage in the breeding region of a species that is merely a migrant or wanderer to our area; e.g., Flesh-footed Shearwater, *Puffinus carneipes*; Short-tailed Shearwater, *Puffinus tenuirostris*; White-tailed Eagle, *Haliaeetus albicilla*.

f) To substitute for the modifier "Common," in certain cases where first adopted in the Check-list, a short but more meaningful modifier, already widely used; e.g., Great Egret, *Casmerodius albus*; Black Scoter, *Melanitta (Oidemia) nigra*.

For species breeding exclusively (or almost exclusively) south of the United States (essentially Middle American or neotropical) the general policy will be to adopt the English names in Eisenmann (1955, The species of Middle American birds) with modifications made in Meyer de Schauensee (1966, The species of birds of South America; 1970, Birds of South America). The English names in these works agree not only with those in recent books on South American birds, but generally with those adopted in Blake (1953, Birds of Mexico), Paynter (1955, Ornithogeography of the Yucatan Peninsula), Russell (1964, A distributional survey of the birds of British Honduras), Monroe (1968, A distributional survey of the birds of Honduras), Land (1970, Birds of Guatemala), Blake (Handbook of neotropical birds, part 1, in press), Peterson and Chalif (A field guide to Mexican birds, in press), as well as numerous papers. Recommended for endemics of the West Indies are the English names in Bond (1971, Birds of the West Indies) and for those of Hawaii the names preferred in Peterson (1961, A field guide to western birds). The A.O.U. Check-list will doubtless include some changes from the nomenclature used in the foregoing works, because of different taxonomic treatment, or for brevity, or for other reasons; but the foregoing references should be a helpful guide until the appearance of the next edition of the A.O.U. Check-list or such additional supplements to the last Check-list as may be published.

A limited number of reprints, with covers, of the Thirty-second supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list is available for \$1.25 each from the Treasurer of the A.O.U.