

Villamil was well populated with waders while we were there, and together with the Semipalmated Plover and Hudsonian Curlew on April 27 I saw Sanderlings (*Crocethia alba*)—20 or 25—and Least Sandpipers (*Pisobia minutilla*)—10 or 12—both of these being species that I did not encounter elsewhere.

The Common Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) was seen at Hood Island, April 19 to 22 (one flock of as many as ten birds), at Academy Bay, Indefatigable Island, May 5, on the west coast of Albemarle, May 22, and on Narborough Island, May 31. Birds shot in May are molting into summer garb but in a half-hearted manner; they apparently would never assume full breeding plumage. Wandering Tattlers (*Heterosceelus incanus*) were widespread. Some were seen on various occasions from our first landing at Wreck Bay, Chatham Island, April 18, until we reached North Seymour Island, June 12, four days before our departure from the Galapagos.

While we were south-bound from Acapulco two Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogastrer*) came aboard the *Zaca* on April 10, in latitude 10° 29' N., longitude 89° 53' W. They rested in the rigging for half an hour, then flew straight to the northwest. It required the evidence of a map to convince me that they were quite correctly headed for the coast of Mexico. Several Barn Swallows were seen on Hood Island, April 19. A Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon albifrons*) came aboard on April 13, in latitude 2° 30' N., longitude 91° 20' W. The Cliff Swallow has never been seen in the Galapagos Archipelago, but this northbound individual appeared such a short distance away as to justify the assumption that it had come from the islands. Several Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia*) were seen on Hood Island, April 19, flying up and down along the beach, together with the Barn Swallows.

Of the species here listed, the Stilt Sandpiper, Greater Yellow-legs, Cliff Swallow, and Bank Swallow are for the first time reported from the Galapagos. As it happens, no specimens were collected of any of these, but they were all clearly recognized and I have no hesitation in publishing the records.

Finally, let me add a slight contribution to a current discussion in the Auk regarding the color of the eye in certain grackles. In and about Acapulco, Mexico, there were Boat-tailed Grackles in abundance, many of them apparently nest building. The male birds all had light-colored eyes, white in appearance as seen from a distance of a few yards.—H. S. SWARTH, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, December 15, 1932.*

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club will be held in the San Francisco Bay region in the early part of May, 1933. The sessions for the presentation of papers will be held under the immediate auspices of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology in the Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley. President Loye Miller, of the Board of Governors of the Club, has appointed the following local committee to arrange for this meeting: General Chairman, Alden H. Miller; Hospitality, Amelia S. Allen; Affiliations, H. S. Swarth; Meeting Places, James O. Stevenson; Finance, T. I. Storer; Program, J. Grinnell. Details as to program, etc., will be announced in the March issue of *The Condor*. The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors will be held in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Club.

Word comes that Dr. Herbert Friedmann, Curator of Birds in the United States National Museum, has now undertaken as his major activity the completion

of Bulletin 50, "The Birds of North and Middle America", eight volumes of which appeared from 1901 to 1919 under the authorship of the late Robert Ridgway. At least two additional volumes will be necessary to complete the entire enterprise, these treating of the rails and their allies, the gallinaceous birds, the diurnal birds of prey, and the water-birds comprised in the first six orders listed in the Fourth Edition of the A. O. U. Check-list. This in itself is a huge undertaking, far greater probably than any two of the preceding volumes. For the past twenty years or so have seen vast increase in the literature and the specimens available in those several groups yet to be treated. The organization of all this material will mean for certain of the groups, a practically complete systematic revision. We have confidence that Dr. Friedmann, with his background of high-grade accomplishment, will conclude his new task successfully on the basis of modern method and concept. American students of birds can now be

rendered no greater service by our National Museum than the completion of this great work. We must all be patient, however, in looking for the published results, recognizing the great amount of time, labor and expense required for doing thorough work of this comprehensive nature.—J.G.

Important to everyone working actively in, or essaying to understand the intricacies of, systematic zoology is a knowledge of the working rules governing the practices in that field. Copies of "The International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature" (28 pp., reprinted, 1926) can now be had at 50 cents from the Secretary of the Biological Society of Washington, J. S. Wade, U. S. Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.

A new manual for collectors has just appeared as Bulletin No. 69 from the National Museum of Canada, under the title "Methods of Collecting and Preserving Vertebrate Animals." The author, Dr. R. M. Anderson, has gathered together in this 140-page illustrated manual all the latest "wrinkles" in field practice, such as we have reason to know will be profitable to the seasoned collector, let alone the beginner. Dr. Anderson has drawn upon his own extensive field experience, and he has also elicited help from many other active collectors. For example, Allan Brooks' special method of making skins of waterfowl is fully described; and no one who has seen them can but admire the results of Brooks' methods, from both the standpoint of permanence and that of beauty and symmetry of make. This manual may be had for 25 cents (from the National Museum of Canada, Ottawa), therefore putting it within easy reach of everyone who collects birds or mammals and who aspires to improve his product.—J.G.

Bird conservation presents an ever-changing problem to those in whose minds this cause rises as one worthy of active attention. An admirable example of scientific attack on one phase of this problem is afforded by the current work of S. Prentiss Baldwin and his associates at the Baldwin Bird Research Laboratory and Western Reserve University, Cleveland. The lines of this scientific attack are learnable from the paper entitled "The Protection of Hawks and Owls in Ohio," just issued through the Ohio Journal of Science (vol. 32, no. 5, September, 1932, pp. 403-424) under the authorship of S. Prentiss Baldwin, S. Charles Kendeigh,

and Roscoe W. Franks. Entirely new data are presented; and the ways of handling the evidence and the conclusions drawn by the authors can be studied to advantage by conservationists everywhere. Briefly to quote: "The above information shows clearly that the general hawk and owl populations in Ohio have beneficial food habits and are powerful agents in the natural control of rodents. It is not best to distinguish too closely between species, because they all exert some important, controlling influence in nature, and the average person is not able to identify the different forms nor able properly to judge between the beneficial and harmful species. It is rather best to pass judgment on the hawk population as a whole and the owl population as a whole and base our state control measures upon whole populations rather than on each species separately." Here, we believe, is a sound principle, to be given heed in various other directions. In this same connection we would call particular attention to the valuable article by Paul L. Errington in the present issue of *The Condor*.—J.G.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

PHYSIOLOGY OF THE TEMPERATURE OF BIRDS¹ as it is presented by Baldwin and Kendeigh leads directly to the problems which confront the bird watcher. Students of birds in the field welcome any information which explains for them some phase of the physiology—activity—of birds. They will be attracted to the present work for several reasons. First, the authors have combined long experience with animals in the wild with advanced technical knowledge both as regards use and development of equipment and proper capture and care of birds used in tests. They have studied previous work relating to the subject and have incorporated it into their results. They have organized and presented their material to give a maximum of clarity and meaning, but at the same time have used restraint not to invent, or contribute to, unsupported theories. In the words of the writers "final results and conclusions have not been obtained on any one phase of the general problem. Each item in the physiology of bird temperature is now ready for more detailed and analytical investi-

¹Physiology of the Temperature of Birds, by S. Prentiss Baldwin and S. Charles Kendeigh. Sci. Pubs. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., III, October 15, 1932 (received at Mus. Vert. Zool., Nov. 7), x + 196 pp., pls. I-V, figs. 1-41, frontispiece.