

feet, the head and fore part of the body being thrown up and back and the feet forward to meet the twig.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

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## EDITORIAL.

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For the most of us the migration season has closed and the nesting season has well begun. This is the time when our study of bird movements stops because we take it for granted that there are no more movements to study until the southward migrations begin. But have you not noticed that already the grackles and blackbirds are gathering for their roosts, anticipating a change of habit if not a change of latitude? These roosts are worthy of study for their own sakes if not for the light they may throw upon the autumnal migration. But we shall never know just when the birds begin to move south unless the study of their movements is continued during the whole year. It is true that hot weather field work is a good deal like work, but the returns will amply repay any effort put forth. I wish we might have a large number of June horizons for the next BULLETIN with censuses of some of the common breeding birds in restricted areas. Such work carefully and systematically pursued would enable us to determine with some degree of accuracy the number of birds in any given area, and would furnish a basis for determining the decrease or increase of the species in that region. Investigations along this line are greatly needed in order to determine the effect of the changed condition and environment of the birds due to increasing population thruout the country. Even a little time each day given to this work will result in much valuable information.

The editor desires to issue the July BULLETIN before the close of the month, on account of absence from home during August, and requests that copy be sent in as early as possible. If each member will make it his duty and privilege to contribute something the editorial burden will be removed. The history of a bird's nest will be interesting and timely. Notes on the migration just closed, notes on roosts, notes on the plumage of young birds, as well as countless other subjects are always welcome.

The editor is comfortless because his boon companion and fellow enthusiast in the study of the birds, Mr. (Rev.) W. L. Dawson has gone to his work in Yakima County, Washington. But we have his promise

of whatever that new country has to offer in bird life for the BULLETIN. We envy him the field with its new fauna and flora, its mountain fastnesses, distant horizon and clear atmosphere. But there are still years to come. We shall see that pastoral work and the study of birds are entirely compatible in this new region.

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## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

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*The Birds of Indiana.* By Amos W. Butler. A Descriptive Catalogue of the Birds that have been observed within the State, with an account of their habits.

The Introductory part of this sumptuous catalogue of 672 pages, discusses the reasons for its appearance, the sources from which the information which it contains has been drawn, followed by "The Indiana Bird Law," "Position of Boundary" [of the state], "Elevation," "Physiographic Regions," "Drainage," "Physiographic Features," "Peculiarities Affecting Bird Distribution," "Changes in Bird Life," "Destruction of Birds." "Zoological Areas," "Bird Migration," and finally an extensive "Bibliography of Indiana Ornithology." The systematic part of the work then begins with a key to the orders, followed by a key to the families under the orders, which, as the author states, are taken from Robert Ridgway's Manual of North American Birds. The addition of references to the pages where the orders and families are treated in detail would add to the usefulness of these keys without making them more complicated. The illustrations are largely taken from Coues' Key to North American Birds, and from the publications of the U. S. Agricultural Department.

The author's treatment of the individual species is consistent thruout, enabling one to turn at once to any desired part of the discussion of the species without waste of time. The specific references to the different counties in which the species occurs, and its mode of occurrence if it be a rare or unusual species, is a step in the right direction. It does not cumber the book with useless matter for any reader because the descriptive matter precedes it. Any catalogue of the birds of any state would be incomplete without at least mention of any differences in habits in different parts of that state.

The catalogue was not designed to serve as a text-book, but rather as a work of ready reference for the farmer and the gardner or fruit grower. To him who is interested in local and state lists a summary at the end of