

The course, which consists of twenty lectures and daily excursions for field identification and study, is in charge of Mrs. Alice Hall Walter, who is well known to the bird students of this country. She is the efficient editor of the Audubon Societies School Department of BIRD-LORE, but perhaps she is best known as the co-author of "Wild Birds in City Parks," a very useful little book which has gone through several editions. In addition to the regular course, special problems for individual study, relating to the food and habits of birds, are given. During the session a beginner can get an introduction into ornithology, and can become more or less familiar with some sixty species of nesting birds.

The subjects of the lectures given are as follows: (1) Nesting Birds of Cold Spring Harbor; (2) * Skeleton; (3) Study of a Bird Family—Warblers (4) * Anatomy; (5) Study of a Bird Family—Sparrows; (6) * Feathers and Molt; (7) Other Passeriform Families; (8) Water and Shore Birds; (9) *The History of Bird Classification; (10) The Facts of Migration; (11) *Theories of Migration; (12) The Ancestry of Birds; (13) Distribution; (14) Distribution in America; (15) *The Bird's Place in Nature; (16) *The Economic Value of Birds; (17) Enemies and Protection of Birds; (18) Methods of Study in Schools; (19) *General Methods; (20) Literature. The lectures marked with an asterisk are given by Dr. H. E. Walter, Professor of Zoology in Brown University.

The course will be given again this summer beginning July 5th. Excursions to the American Museum of Natural History and to Bronx Park Zoological Garden will be arranged if desired.

G. C. F.

Publications Reviewed

The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle, Photographed and Described by H. B. Macpherson, with thirty-two mounted plates. Witherby & Co., London. Second revised edition.

In this brochure of forty-five pages the author has told in a simple manner of the difficulties attending a study of the home life of this "King of Birds." Only one whose heart was in the work could brave the difficulties and endure the almost impossible weather conditions which he endured. We wonder at his success in keeping his plates dry. The mounted photographs accompanying the descriptive matter make a collection of unique and enduring value, illustrating, as they do, nearly every phase of the home life of young and parents. Mr. Macpherson must find

his reward for the hardships endured and the discomforts which attended his work in the certain knowledge that he has here advanced our knowledge of this "King of Birds" in no small degree.

L. J.

Our Great Travelers. Birds that fly from pole to pole and shun the darkness: Birds that make 2,500 miles in a single flight. By Welis W. Cooke, of the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture. Reprinted from the National Geographic Magazine, April, 1911.

However, one might feel disposed to differ with Professor Cooke in regard to his expressed theories of the origin of bird migration as set forth in this article, he must agree that the twelve accompanying maps are of the greatest value to the student of bird movements. Professor Cooke's close studies of the migrations of the birds in compiling the reports of voluntary observers gathered by the Biological Survey, have made him our authority upon this subject. We are particularly glad to receive this latest contribution from his pen.

L. J.

Methods of Attracting Birds. By Gilbert H. Trafton, Supervisor of Nature Study, Passaic, N. J. With illustrations. Published under the auspices of the National Audubon Societies. Houghton Mifflin Co. \$1.25, *net*.

In this 171 page book we have almost a companion piece with Martin Hiesmann's book reviewed above. Indeed, frequent reference is made to this book and some of the illustrations are taken from it. Mr. Trafton has gone more into detail as regards species, adapting everything to our somewhat different conditions. The book should prove of genuine value to teachers and to others who desire to entice the birds into the vicinity of their homes for more intimate study than the open field affords. It should also aid in the preservation from destruction of some of our weaker and less adaptable species.

L. J.

How to Attract and Protect Wild Birds. By Martin Hiesmann, translated by Emma S. Büchheim, with an introduction by Her Grace the Duchess of Bedford. Second edition, with many revisions, with many illustrations. London. Witherby & Co. 1911.

This little book of a hundred pages is especially concerned with the birds of Germany, but it contains many hints which should prove useful in any region. The author follows a general discussion on bird protection in Europe and particularly in his own state with detailed descriptions of nesting places and nesting

boxes, and methods of feeding, and concludes with statements regarding the necessity of suppressing the enemies of birds and the necessity for coöperation if a rational protection of the birds is to be brought about. We are pleased to note that progress has been made both in Germany and in our own country in the direction of saving from extinction certain species which are not able to cope with changed conditions resultant from the coming of civilization into these countries. With the author of this little book we hope that the time is not far distant when other countries of the world will heartily join in the movement. L. J.

Significance of White Markings in Birds of the Order Passeriformes. By Henry Chester Tracy. University of California Publications in Zoology. Vol. 6, No. 13, pp. 285-312. December 28, 1910.

This vexed question is discussed by Mr. Tracy, not in the hope that he might be able to finally settle it, but rather "for the purpose of testing the validity of one of the earliest recognized categories of coloration, that of "Directive Markings," in a single order of birds." His discussion takes the form of a review of the discussion of Thayer, who regards white markings as "Concealing," since the two supposed functions might be regarded as antagonistic. Under the heading of "Intrinsic Factors in the Evolution of Color" he properly questions the presumption of Riddle that color patterns, particularly the white patterns, may be due to rhythms of blood pressure. Under the topic of "White Markings as Visual Clues," much evidence is submitted to prove that white markings do often serve as clues, even though they may, under certain conditions, also serve the purpose of concealing coloration. This is true of the birds of the forest as well as birds of the open. The paper is a welcome contribution to the study of this difficult problem. L. J.

Photography for Bird-Lovers. A practical guide. By Bentley Beetham, F.Z.S. With photographic plates. London: Witherby & Co.

After some pertinent remarks concerning the comparatively greater satisfaction resulting from this method of hunting birds as against the hunt with a gun, the author proceeds to give detailed directions for pursuing this "sport" in ten chapters. The author gives unmistakable evidence of being master of his subject in all its details. The directions for making pictures of birds,

their nests, and surroundings are specific and detailed, and much valuable information is given relative to the most successful methods of approaching birds in their natural habitats. The illustrations convey an idea of what the camera may catch and hold when in the hands of a person who knows how to use it and how to approach the birds. The book should prove of great value to those who desire to undertake this fascinating work. L. J.

Election of Members

The following nominations for membership in the Wilson Club have been approved by the Executive Committee. Members will therefore confer a favor in notifying the Secretary at once if objections to any of these are offered. In the absence of objections, candidates are considered duly elected, according to our Constitution:

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.

Bailey, Mrs. Florence Merriam, 1834 Kalorama Road, Washington, D. C.

Ball Dr. J. P., 4445 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.

Braishin, Dr. Wm. C., 556 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Burch, Verdi, Branchport, N. Y.

Carriger, H. W., 69 A. Walter St., San Francisco, Calif.

Hankinson, Thos. Leroy, Charleston, Ill.

Messenger, G. H., Linden, Iowa.

Newberry, F. E., 210 Port St., San Francisco, Calif.

Pope, E. F., 1305 Nevada Ave., Trinidad, Colo.

Ramsden, Chas. T., Guantanamo, Cuba.

Rathbun, S. F., 217 14th Ave., North Seattle, Wash.

Read, A. C., McKinley, Isle of Pines, Cuba.

Richards, Miss Harriet E., 36 Longwood Ave., Brookline, Mass.

Riley, J. H., U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Stephens, Dr. T. C., Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

Walter, Dr. Herbert E., Brown University, Providence, R. I.

ACTIVE MEMBERS.

Wheelock, Mrs. Irene G., 1040 Hinman Ave., Evanston, Ill.

Wilson, Herrick E., 6024 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Wilson, Mrs. Julia W., 6024 Ellis Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP.

Burrows, Daniel, Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill.

Crispin, Wm. B., Salem, N. J.

Hamlin, Geo. L., 46 Washington Ave., Danbury, Conn.

Law, J. Eugene, Hollywood, Calif.