

Merritt, and Prof. A. C. Webb of Nashville, and Judge H. Y. Hughes of Tazewell, Tenn. Organization was at once determined upon and a survey made of the work that should at first be undertaken. A constitution has since been adopted, frequent meetings and outings held, and steps taken to extend the membership to all parts of the state. The initial work was the preparation of a preliminary or theoretical list of birds of the state, which includes all species that should be looked for and their probable distribution at the different seasons. It is planned to supplement this list about a year hence, with one showing the species actually found and listed by members of the organization. Other supplements will be issued from time to time as new material accumulates.

The Society has a fertile field for its investigations, the state being very poorly represented in literature relating to its bird-life. West and Middle Tennessee are covered by no published papers except for a list of species found by S. N. Rhoads during a trip in 1895 extending from April 27 to May 24.

The fact that this region is on the dividing line between the northern and southern forms of many species has probably led those in search of typical specimens to seek a more southern latitude in which to collect them.

All of the members are active field workers, and this fact has encouraged them to believe that the Society has a future before it and that much earnest work will be accomplished.

A. F. GANIER.

*Nashville, Tenn.*

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## PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

The Ornithological Magazines. *The Auk*. Since the last notice of this magazine there have been received the April, July, and October numbers for 1914, and the entire volume of 1915. We shall here summarize only the faunal and ecological papers which these numbers contain, with mention of such others as seem of more general interest.

*Faunal papers.* John C. Phillips has two interesting papers which relate to the birds of Eastern Sudan, April, 1914, and Sinai and Palestine, July, 1915. These papers are based upon collections made in the regions, and upon such observations as were possible.

Messrs. Lewis S. Golsan and Ernest G. Holt present a well annotated list of 184 species of birds of Autauga and Montgomery Counties, Alabama, in the April, 1914, number.

R. B. Stockwell and Alex. Wetmore present an annotated and illustrated list of the birds from the vicinity of Golden, Colorado, in the July, 1914, number.

Wells W. Cooke gives a list of 110 winter birds of Oklahoma in the October, 1914, number, the annotations including records of migration. In the same number R. W. Williams presents a third supplement to the birds of Leon County, Florida. There are 22 species noted.

In the January, 1915, number, H. H. Kopman presents Part VI, and in the April number Part VII of his "List of the Birds of Louisiana." In this number Robert Cushman Murphy gives the results of a ten-hour visit at Fernando Noronha, and in the July number "The Bird Life of Trinidad Islet."

The remaining faunal paper in the July number is "Summer Birds of Forrester Island, Alaska," by George Wilett.

In the October, 1915, number, S. F. Rathbun gives a "List of Water and Shore Birds of the Puget Sound Region in the Vicinity of Seattle."

*Ecological papers*, considered in the broadest sense. The paper by E. S. Cameron in the April, 1914, number, on the Ferruginous Rough-leg in Montana, is well illustrated and gives an account of an excellent piece of field work. In the same number Aretas A. Saunders gives "An Ecological Study of the Breeding Birds of an Area near Choteau, Montana."

George Finlay Simmons gives a study of the Clapper Rail in Texas in the July, 1914, number, and a study of the nesting of certain birds in Texas in the July, 1915, number.

In the January, 1915, number, Alvin R. Cahn writes of a captive Virginia Rail.

In the April, 1915, number, Frederick H. Kennard has a paper on "The Okaloacoochee Slough," which is more than usually interesting.

"The Plum Island Night Herons" is an interesting paper in the October, 1915, number by S. Waldo Bailey.

Mr. A. H. Wright continues his series of papers on "Early Records of the Wild Turkeys" in several numbers.

BIRD-LORE.—Since the last notice of this magazine in these columns there have been received Volumes 16 and 17, except the first number of Vol. 16, which was the last number reviewed.

The series of colored pictures of the Fringillidæ has been completed, and the Sylviidæ and Paridæ also completed. These colored illustrations of our native birds possess a peculiar value and make this magazine worth many times its subscription price alone. One of the delightful new features is the series of papers from the pen of Louis Agassiz Fuertes, accompanied with his inimitable sketches on "Impressions of the Voices of Tropical Birds." "A

Coöperative Study of Bird Migration," under the direction of Charles H. Rogers, ought to receive more support than has been given it. It is necessary to have a large number of records from the whole region which it is desired to cover if safe conclusions are to be drawn. Three articles from the pen of Robert Ridgway on "Bird Life in Southern Illinois," beginning in the November-December, 1914, number, is descriptive of "Bird Haven." The reproduction of photographs of the new bird sanctuary gives the impression of a well chosen and well kept place for both Mr. and Mrs. Ridgway and their bird guests.

The two Christmas censuses show a growing interest in this phase of bird study the country over. There are articles of interest besides those which have been selected for mention, besides many field notes.

Each number contains a considerable amount of matter directly relating to the rapidly growing Audubon Society movement.

THE CONDOR.—The last number noticed was January-February, 1914. Time and space forbid a detailed treatment of the twelve numbers which have been accumulated. This magazine continues its high standard of published matter, devoted largely to the Pacific Coast. Valuable faunal lists are here found, careful ecological studies presented, and critical notes on new or suspected new forms of birds. One receives the impression that while much excellent work has been and is being done constantly the field is well-nigh an inexhaustible one for the bird student.

THE ORIOLE.—The official organ of the Somerset Hills Bird Club, Bernardsville, N. J. In its third volume in 1915. Among the many interesting contents a "Decoration Day Census" appears in the August number. Such a census should give all of the breeding birds and the laggards of the migrations. This young member of the all too small group of ornithological publications is presented in most attractive form and contents.

BLUE-BIRD.—It has already been announced that this magazine has changed hands and is now being published by Mrs. Elizabeth C. T. Miller in coöperation with the Cleveland Bird Lovers' Association, at Cleveland, Ohio. The high standard of excellence which was established by Dr. Swope is being maintained. The matter which is published is frankly of a popular type, and especially designed as an aid to the protection of our wild birds. It is well illustrated and should make a strong appeal to bird lovers generally.