

where to obtain books, pamphlets, and pictures illustrating bird life, etc. There are numerous half-tone illustrations from the Audubon section of 'Bird-Lore'.

As Mr. Pearson states in the foreword, teachers in New York State schools are now required by law to give some instruction in bird-study and it is likely that this will be a wide spread custom before many years pass by. In view of this fact and the extensive voluntary instruction now being given in the schools of the country, this little pamphlet of Dr. Leggitt's will be particularly welcome.—W. S.

**Hudson's Recent Bird Books.**—W. H. Hudson, well known for his writings on Patagonia, has recently published what is essentially a new edition of his 'Birds in a Village,' the first book written after his return to England, in 1893. The present volume bearing the title 'Birds in Town and Village'<sup>1</sup> has been largely rewritten and for portions of the old work which have been discarded, a series of new chapters entitled 'Birds in a Cornish Village' has been added.

The book deals with the familiar British birds and presents an intimate study of most of the species which will prove of value to the ornithologist as a work of reference while the enthusiasm of the writer will maintain the interest of any reader who may have only a slight interest in the "great out of doors." Unfortunately there is no way for one to find again the many interesting facts which he has passed in his reading and to which he may wish to refer, as no index has been provided by the publishers.

Another recent work by the same author is entitled 'Adventures among Birds'<sup>2</sup> and consists of a miscellaneous series of essays on birds that have appeared in various of the British magazines. Most of them describe tramps through various parts of England and no one who loves walking and nature can read the author's descriptions of his searches for the rarer species of birds and the aspects of the country through which he passed without having his sympathy aroused and wishing that he might follow those same paths.

As in the case of the former volume there are many observations of value scattered all through the pages. There is considerable discussion of bird song and its origin, the author differing with Mr. Witchell who ascribes the resemblances to human music which we recognize in some bird songs to mimetic ability. He considers that the Blackbird's song for instance approaches nearer to our music and that of the Grasshopper Warbler and certain other species to insect music, "simply because it is their nature" to do so. The illustrations to this book are reproductions of the Bewick woodcuts; while those of the former volume are in color

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<sup>1</sup> Birds in Town and Village. By W. H. Hudson, F.Z.S. With Pictures in Colour by E. J. Detmold, New York. E. P. Dutton & Company, 681 Fifth Avenue, 1920, pp. 1-323. 8 plates.

<sup>2</sup> Adventures among Birds. By W. H. Hudson, New York. E. P. Dutton & Company, 681 Fifth Avenue, 1920, pp. 1-319.



from paintings by E. J. Detmold and are very pleasing in their delicacy although most of them are hardly to be considered seriously as portraits of live birds.—W. S.

**'Aves' in the Zoological Record for 1917.**<sup>1</sup>—Since 1914 the Royal Society of London has been unable to continue the publication of the 'International Catalogue of Scientific Literature' but the Zoological Society has continued to publish the 'Zoological Record' and has recently issued the volume for 1917 which would have been Vol. N, Zoology of the 'International Catalogue.' The titles on Birds have been arranged by Mr. W. L. Sclater, who for several years has edited this subject with commendable devotion and skill. The titles number 707 as compared with 942 for 1916, the falling off of course being due to the war and its many distractions. Nevertheless, under the circumstances the number of papers is remarkable and is nearly 50 per cent. greater than those on all other vertebrates combined, nearly half as many as those relating to insects, and more than those in any group of invertebrates except insects.

As usual the papers are arranged under three main headings, 'Titles', 'Subject Index' and 'Systematic'. In the 'Subject Index' the titles are distributed under seven principal divisions: 'General', 'Structure', 'Physiology', 'Embryology', 'Ethology', 'Variation', and 'Geography'. As might naturally be expected the greater part of the publications are either faunal or systematic. The new generic and subgeneric names number 25, of which twelve were proposed by Mathews, five by Oberholser, two by Todd, and one each by Chapman, Chubb, Kuroda, Murphy, Richmond and A. Roberts, but very few of them affect North America birds. The 'Record' is indispensable to students who wish to keep in touch with current ornithological literature of the world and those who do not have access to the full volume should secure from the publishers a separate of the part relating to 'Aves.'—T. S. P.

**Stresemann's 'Avifauna Macedonica'.**—A collection of upwards of 3000 skins of birds representing 168 species was made in Macedonia by Dr. F. Doflein and Prof. L. Muller in 1917 and 1918 and deposited in the Zoological Museum at Munich. This collection forms the basis of the present exhaustive report<sup>2</sup> on the birds of that country by Dr. E. Stresemann.

Under each species there is a complete list of specimens, usually a large series, followed by paragraphs on the sequence of plumages, molts,

<sup>1</sup> Zoological Record, Vol. LIV, 1917, Aves. By W. L. Sclater, M.A., pp. 1-62, December, 1919. Printed for the Zoological Society of London; sold at their House in Regents' Park, London N.W., 8. Price, six shillings.

<sup>2</sup> Avifauna Macedonica. Die ornithologischen Ergebnisse der Forschungareisen, unternommen nach Mazedonien durch Prof. Doflein und Prof. L. Muller-Mainz in den Jahren 1917 und 1918, von Dr. Erwin-Stresemann. Mit 6 Tafeln, Munchen 1920 (July). Verlag von Dultz & Co. 8vo., pp. I-XXIV, 1-270. [In German.]



Hudson, W. H. and Hudson, W. H. 1920. "Hudson's Recent Bird Books." *The Auk* 37, 610–611. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4073187>.

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