

The CHAIRMAN announced that Lord Rothschild had promised to exhibit his series of hybrid Ducks at the next meeting, and asked any Members who possessed hybrids to bring them.

Mr. G. L. BATES sent the following communication on a new genus of Owls:—Büttikofer (Notes Leyden Museum, xi. p. 34, 1889) described and figured an Owl from Liberia as *Bubo lettii*. Since then, this Owl has been placed in various genera by different authors. Sharpe placed it in *Scops* (= *Otus*) and Reichenow in *Lophostrix*, a South American genus. It is easy to see that it does not belong to the latter genus, and an examination of the different species of *Otus* convinces me that it cannot be placed in that genus nor any other existing genus. I therefore propose to make a new genus as follows:—

Jubula, gen. nov.

Type, *Bubo lettii* Büttikofer.

Plumage of head and neck very long and loose, forming a shaggy mane, the ear-tufts, though long, not projecting very far beyond this mane. Wings long and concave, and rounded at the tip, the outermost remex less than two-thirds as long as the longest, the following ones graduated, and the 5th or 6th primaries longest. Tail also long. Legs short; toes small and bare. Cere inflated over the nostrils, but not over the culmen, which is visible throughout its length.

Jubula is distinguished from *Bubo* in the lightness of build, small feet and weak claws, and in the thin cere which does not hide the base of the culmen.

From *Otus* it differs in thin cere, inflated only over the nostrils, and in size.

From both *Bubo* and *Otus* it is distinguished by the peculiarly long and shaggy plumage, especially about the head, in the wing very long and rounded, and in the long tail.

There are now in the British Museum nine specimens for examination, of which only one was available when Sharpe first wrote about this Owl.

Mr. Kinnear agrees with my conclusions about this Owl.

I may remark that a very miscellaneous lot of species appear to be placed in the genus *Otus*. In West Africa are two small and little-known species, *icterorhynchus* and *holerythrus*, differing from the others in colouring and in general look of plumage; they have a short outer remex (like *Glaucidium*, while typical *Otus* has the wing more like *Athene*), and the number of the rectrices is only ten!

Mr. GREGORY M. MATHEWS described the following new Finch:—

***Munia atricapilla novana*, subsp. n.**

This bird has the greenish throat of the Indian bird, but the deeper chestnut of the Philippine and Bornean birds, with less black on the abdomen.

Type, in the Tring Museum. An adult collected at Utingu, Cape York, North Queensland, on August 8th, 1912, by Mr. Robin Kemp.

NOTICES.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 1929, at PAGANI'S RESTAURANT, 42-48 Great Portland Street, W. 1. The Dinner at 7 p.m.

Members intending to dine are requested to inform the Hon. Secretary, Dr. G. Carmichael Low, 86 Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, W. 1.

Members who intend to make any communication at the next Meeting of the Club are requested to give notice beforehand to the Editor, Mr. N. B. Kinnear, at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, S.W. 7, and to give him their MSS. for publication in the 'Bulletin,' not later than at the Meeting.



1929. "A new genus of Owls." *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 49, 90–91.

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