

## RECENT LITERATURE

**Las Aves de Chile: Su Conocimiento y sus Costumbres. Tomo Segundo.**—J. D. GOODALL, A. W. JOHNSON, and R. A. PHILIPPI B. Buenos Aires. 442 pp., col. figs. 1-49 + 22A + map, 42 half-tones, 2 line-cuts, 1951. \$5.00.—The present volume completes this important work, the first part of which was published in 1946 (*cf.* *The Auk*, 64: 149, 1947). It follows the plan of the first volume and carries the discussions forward from the owls through the succeeding groups. A small number of additions are made to the groups treated in the first part, and the list thus stands to the number of 450 species and subspecies.

As previously, there is citation of the scientific, English, and local names, the general and local distribution, a brief description of the adult (and sometimes the immature) plumages, statistical measurements of many of the species, and an extended discussion of most of the forms. This last item embraces a wealth of original information, largely the result of the energetic field work of the authors. Being year-long residents of their country, they are in an unequalled position to settle questions of seasonal movements, behavior, nesting and other activities, and such problems. Some of this information has been given in previous publications, such as the discovery that Azara's Sand-Plover (*Charadrius collaris*) occurs in Chile as a regular visitor and possible breeder, but other facts are often newly recorded.

It is impossible to specify here all the interesting things of this sort that are reported. The authors' account of the wholly parasitic Black-headed Duck (*Heteronetta atricapilla*) and that of the rediscovered Lesser Buzzard (*Buteo albigula*) may be mentioned as examples. Whatever account is read, there is likely to be found in it something of special interest. Various problems that still await solution are cited, giving Chilean observers a good target toward which to direct their activities.

The principal purpose of the whole work is, however, popular and avowedly designed to encourage Chilean residents to acquire or develop an interest in the birds of their country. The descriptions and the colored illustrations of the species, as well as the accounts of the voices, behavior, and the like, should prove of great assistance in helping them to identify the species with which they may be unfamiliar and to learn more about those which are less strange.

The authors are to be congratulated on the completion of their task. The book still has no counterpart in any of the countries of Latin America, but it is to be hoped that the example set here will encourage the production of similar works elsewhere on the continent.—JOHN T. ZIMMER.

**Birds and Mammals of the Sierra Nevada.**—Lowell Sumner and Joseph S. Dixon. Berkeley: University of California Press. xvii + 484 pp. 8 col. pls., 46 phot., 2 maps. 1953. \$7.50.

This volume deals with 167 kinds of birds (pp. 20-275) and 65 of mammals (pp. 276-462) recorded in the Kings Canyon and Sequoia national parks in California. It is intended to serve visitors to these two southern parks and many other persons interested in the "warm-blooded" fauna of this portion of the State's main mountain mass. The book does not cover the entire Sierra Nevada as the title implies (nor does it replace *Animal Life in the Yosemite* by Grinnell and Storer as hinted on the dust wrapper). Mr. Sumner has effectively combined the results of extensive field studies in these parks by the two authors separately at various times between 1933 and 1950 with records over many years by resident members of the Park Service staff. Local information for the birds has been supplemented by material on general distribution, migration, and food habits—principally from Bent's *Life Histories*.

Each species account includes main recognition characters, environments used, and habits in brief, together with precise records by locality and date within the two parks. The accounts of mammals are of similar pattern. Seven mammals are dealt with as "vanished species and questionable records."

The colored plates comprise 3 from Hoffman's *Birds of the Pacific States* and 5 from *Fur-bearing Mammals of California* by Grinnell, Dixon, and Linsdale; 16 birds and 7 mammals are shown. The 45 halftones show 8 additional birds and 16 mammals, several nests, dens, and workings, and 19 pictures of various local environments. Most of the photographs are by the second author, the late "Joe" Dixon, and provide another tribute to his skill and perseverance in obtaining photographs of animals.

This volume helps to round out a series of major publications on bird-mammal faunas in the Sierra-Cascade system of California: Mt. Shasta (Merriam, 1899); Lassen Park (Grinnell, Dixon, and Linsdale, 1930); Yosemite (Grinnell and Storer, 1924); the present book; San Bernardino range (Grinnell, 1908); and the San Jacinto (Grinnell and Swarth, 1913).

The Kings Canyon-Sequoia region is the last large mountain area in the State without access roads save at the western border and this makes it of especial value to certain species that elsewhere are far reduced or extinct. Its value is here demonstrated by the extended series of observations available on sooty grouse, wolverine, and a few other forms.

Of especial help to many amateur students are tables for distinguishing members of groups such as the Empidonax flycatchers (p. 123), the reddish finches (*Carpodacus*, rosy finch, and crossbill; pp. 225-26), and the chipmunks (pp. 381-82). Three introductory chapters deal briefly with broader topics. "Wildlife policies and problems" and "Human use of parks" set forth some philosophy and guiding principles used in administration; and "Life zones" is a brief exposition of the relations between plant life, animal distribution, topography, and climate in the area.

A few items merit adverse comment. The small maps omit many localities mentioned freely in the text; readers must seek topographic maps for such details. The lengths and especially weights (1.01 vs. 0.99 oz.) are scarcely characters to distinguish Mountain and Western bluebirds. There is a scattering of comment about "predator" control in areas other than national parks (e. g., California Jay, pp. 135-136) that scarcely belongs in the present work. The references include 82 printed sources and 78 of manuscript or processed items, the latter mainly in office files. Criticism aside, the book is a credit to the authors, to the National Park Service in providing the time and facilities necessary to its preparation, and to the publisher.—TRACY I. STORER.

**Exploration du Parc National de l'Upemba, Fascicule 19, Oiseaux.**—RENÉ VERHEYEN. Brussels: Institut des Parcs Nationaux du Congo Belge. 687 pp., 5 pls., 45 figs. in text. 31 March 1953. This volume is one of a series of monographs on the natural history of the Upemba National Park in the southeastern part of the Belgian Congo. As might be expected, the major portion of the report is an annotated list of the birds found in the park; approximately 425 forms are included, some on the basis of sight records. The species accounts begin with the name of the bird and a citation to the original description. These are followed by a list (usually in tabular form) of the specimens taken, which, in addition to the date and locality data, includes weights (to the nearest gram), measurements, condition of the gonads, and notes on the plumage. The accounts conclude with taxonomic and biological notes, the latter including information on season of occurrence, time of breeding, food habits, habitat preference, and molt. Two new subspecies, *Pyrrhurus*

*scandens upembae* and *Textor velatus upembae*, are described. This part of the work will undoubtedly be an important source of material on the birds of this part of Africa for some time to come. Students of avian reproduction will wish, however, that the collector had included actual measurements of the gonads instead of merely noting whether they were swollen or resting.

The first part of the book is composed of a long section on the zoogeography of the region. Among the topics discussed are: the biotopes found within the park and the birds which are characteristic of them, the geologic history of the region, and the origin of its fauna. Following this are 80 pages devoted to the morphology of some of the birds of the park. Morphological work is seldom reported in faunistic works, and this section deserves particular comment.

Some 50 pages and 24 figures are devoted to molt patterns and pterylography. The outlines of the spinal and ventral tracts on numerous species are illustrated, and more detailed illustrations of the pterylography of *Treron australis*, *Musophaga violacea*, *Francolinus albobularis*, and *Poliiocephalus ruficollis* are presented. In *Treron*, the number of lines of feathers in the spinal tracts was found to correspond to the number of spinal nerves, and the arrangement of feathers in other species also suggests a metameric arrangement. In this connection, Verheyen mentions the earlier work of Sparvoli, Deelman, and Kaiser on the segmental arrangement of the innervation of the skin of the domestic pigeon. The relationships between feathers and their innervation and musculature are matters which deserve attention from morphologists and embryologists.

The last 30 pages of this section on morphology contain miscellaneous anatomical notes on many species. Special attention is given to the form of the sternum and the area of the pectoral muscles and also to the relationship between wing proportions and the ability to soar. However, there is also information on the trachea, coiling of the intestines, structure of the crop and gizzard, and several other organs. The problem of where to publish information of this nature is not a simple one, and some will doubtless object to including it in a work of this sort. Since the author has chosen to include it, I only hope that it will not become lost to anatomists.—  
ROBERT W. STORER.

**Social Behaviour in Animals with Special Reference to Vertebrates.**—N. Tinbergen. London: Methuen and Co. Ltd. xi + 150 pp., 8 pls., 67 figs. in text. \$2.50. This addition to the list of Methuen's Monographs on Biological Subjects is a most welcome one. The author is one of the leading students of animal behavior and possesses the ability to express his views clearly and succinctly. His book will be useful and stimulating to anyone with an inquiring mind and an interest in natural history. It is a straightforward discussion of the major types of behavior, and it is pleasing to note that it is written in English and not in the jargon of the psychologists.

The introduction presents brief accounts of the behavior of three species, the Herring Gull, the Three-spined Stickleback, and the Grayling Butterfly, which the author has studied intensively. Other chapters treat mating behavior, family and group life, fighting, analysis of social co-operation, relations between different species, the growth of social organizations, and evolutionary aspects of social organization. The book concludes with some hints for research in animal sociology, a bibliography, and an index. Many of the discussions use as a starting point the behavior of one of the three species described in the introduction; in the development of his discussions, the author brings together material from many sources about a wide variety of animals.

It is to be hoped that this excellent little volume will stimulate more amateur ornithologists to contribute to the science of animal behavior. Many important

studies in this field have been made by non-professionals in this country, as well as abroad. As Tinbergen puts it (page 129), "It is not only possible, it is also very desirable that non-professionals go on to contribute, for lack of specialized training has advantages as well as disadvantages. Of course training gives knowledge and discipline of thought, but it often tends to smother originality of outlook. The amateur may approach the subject with a certain freshness of mind which may have a profound influence."—ROBERT W. STORER.

**Birds of Mexico: A Guide for Field Identification.**—Emmet Reid Blake. (Univ. Chicago Press). xxix + 644 pp. 1953. Price, \$6.00.—For the first time we have a field guide to the birds of our neighboring republic of Mexico. Regardless of what merits or demerits it may have for actual use in the field, it will be welcomed as an up-to-date list of the birds of that country.

The species are arranged by families, the organization following Wetmore's classification. To identify a given species, the user must first discover to what family it belongs. For this purpose, line drawings of one or more species characteristic of the family are provided. There is, however, no written diagnosis to which a novice can turn for the salient structural and behavioral features which characterize the members of a given family. One must therefore learn the hard way how to characterize bird families in the field. After twelve years, I still recall seeing a small, yellow-breasted bird with a harsh call-note and scouring the flycatcher volume of Ridgway's 'Birds of North and Middle America' in a fruitless attempt to identify it; the bird was a tanager.

Once the family of a bird to be identified is known, the species can be worked out by means of a simple, and for the most part effective, dichotomous key and checked in the species accounts, which are divided into sections giving a description of the species, its distribution, subspecies if any, and remarks (including field characters). Granting that this is a valid approach to the problem (and this is certainly open to question), the text appears to be well prepared.

The illustrations, on the other hand, leave much to be desired. They have been prepared by a capable illustrator who has considerable skill in making line drawings but little knowledge of live birds. This is particularly apparent when one compares his drawing of a species like the Least Bittern, of which many excellent illustrations are available, with that of, say, the Tiger Heron, of which there are but few. This lack of knowledge of birds also is manifested in his failure to understand what can best help an observer to identify a bird. Most conspicuously absent are figures showing the different species of hawks in flight. One good plate of this kind is worth several pages of text, and such figures are particularly necessary in Mexico, where there are so many confusing species of hawks. If one assumes, as I do, that the purpose of illustrations in a field guide is to show the user the differences between species in as clear a manner as possible, it is distressing to find only three illustrations in which different species are shown side by side so that the user can readily make comparisons. Such illustrations have the additional virtue of taking up less space than the drawings of single species used through much of this book. For example, five of the fifteen Mexican quails are illustrated separately, using a total space equivalent to more than two pages. Two of these five species, the Gambel and Scaled quails, are illustrated in many books on North American birds. On the other hand, the Barred Quail (*Philortyx*), a common roadside species in a wide area of southern Mexico, is to my knowledge illustrated only in Gould's monograph of the Odontophorinae, a rare work available to few observers. How much more useful it would have been to have used the same amount of space in two one-page plates showing all

the species plus some of the Mexican races of the Bob-white, which differ from one another as much as do many full species. It is true that the individual birds would have had to be smaller, but all the important field characters could have been shown in such a way that the observer could easily discover the identity of the bird which he had just seen.

A lack of careful planning of the illustrations is also manifested in the use of a large line drawing of the Collared Aracari in the text, when the colored frontispiece shows the same species in virtually the same position. It might also be pointed out that the most conspicuous field mark of the Boat-billed Heron is the dark flanks and not the bill, which more often than not is seen in profile and is then difficult to distinguish from that of a night heron; the illustration of this species, however, shows only the head and neck, and the striking pattern is not emphasized in the text. Some 328 species are illustrated. Of these, 161, including such familiar species as the Canada Goose, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Cedar Waxwing, are covered in field guides to the birds in the United States. This seems like an unduly large proportion, but at least it has the virtues of stressing the similarities of the avifaunas of the two countries and of pointing out to the beginner that not all of the species which he finds will be new to him.

Writing a field guide to a relatively little-known area is a difficult task, and we cannot expect such a work to be complete. Blake has made a good start in pointing out what is and is not known about the field characters of Mexican birds. It is up to those of us who continue field work there to fill in the gaps.—ROBERT W. STORER.

#### **The Dodo and Kindred Birds or The Extinct Birds of the Mascarine Islands.**

—MASAUJI HACHISUKA. London: H. F. and G. Witherby. xvi + 250 pp., 22 pls. (11 in color), 35 figures in text. Price 6£. To those who revel in collections of beautiful books, this latest work on the dodos will be most welcome; it is beautifully illustrated and handsomely printed, in many ways recalling the nineteenth-century monographs of Gould and others. True, the binding is cloth and the size moderate (9" × 11"), but it was obviously produced in a spirit of opulence. The dedication is to the author's friend, the late King Boris III of Bulgaria; and it is also interesting to note that the work starts with the same quotation from Psalm CIV ('O Jehova, Quam ampla sunt Tua Opera!' etc.) with which Linnaeus began the tenth edition of his great 'Systema Naturae.'

The book contains a long introduction which includes a discussion of the Mascarine Islands, their history and avifauna, and a classification of the dodos and their relatives the solitaires. The first four chapters treat the Dodo of Mauritius, the Dodo of Réunion, the Solitaire of Rodriguez, and the Solitaire of Réunion. A final chapter covers the remaining 38 extinct birds of these islands. A bibliography and an index complete the work. Nineteen of the 42 birds are illustrated in color. One species, *Podiceps gadowi*, and three genera, *Pezocrex* (for *Didus herberti* Schlegel), *Paludiphilus* (for *Fulica newtoni* Milne-Edwards), and *Orphanopsar* (for *Necropsar leguati* Forbes) are formally described in the work.

The chief contributions of this book are the review of the history and literature of the dodos and the reproductions of several early drawings of the birds. As a scientific work, it is disappointing. In preparing the description of *Podiceps gadowi*, the author copied the earlier work of Newton and Gadow (Trans. Zool. Soc. London, 13, 1893: 289) nearly verbatim (four words were changed). In a casual attempt to bring the nomenclature of Newton and Gadow up to date, two of the scientific names were changed. As a result, the ulna (the only known element) of *P. gadowi* was described as both longer and shorter than that of *P. ruficollis* and both longer and shorter than that of *P. cristatus*.

Evidence for the existence of didine birds on the island of Réunion rests on four sketchy descriptions found in accounts of voyages to that island, a mention of a dodo-like bird seen in a shop in London, and several rather crude pictures. From this evidence, the author decided that there were two species, a dodo and a solitaire, on that island. Accordingly, he assigned each contemporary account to one species or the other, had a colored plate of each prepared, and devoted a chapter of the book to each, the last including descriptions of the birds and mention of their habits and palatability. The author admits that no contemporary account implied that there were two species on Réunion, yet he makes no mention of the rather obvious possibility that the White Solitaire may have been nothing more than a "gaunt" form of the White Dodo. (Plate VIII, showing the seasonal variation in the form of the Common Dodo, strongly suggests this possibility.) The author has built an elaborate superstructure on a weak foundation.

I hope that other publishers will follow Witherby's example in producing new monographs as handsome as this one and that the scientific value of the contents will be on a par with the excellence of the printing.—ROBERT W. STORER

**Eyes in the Night.** Bengt Berg. (Dietrich Reimer, Berlin), 164 pp., 57 black and white photographs, 1952. Price \$2.75.—Written in story form, "Eyes in the Night" describes the life of the Eagle Owl (*Bubo bubo*) and of the animals found in the owl's world. Mr. Berg tells in charming manner of the inter-relationships between these animals and their habitat, tells of the balance of nature, and tells of the irrational attitude of man toward birds of prey and toward man's own hunting orgies. The book is, in part, a plea for nature- and conservation-consciousness, but above all it is a delightful story of Eagle Owls, both wild and captive.

Forming the framework for this animal biography, the superb photographs also are an end in themselves.

Mr. Berg's style is simple, refreshing, and captivating. One wishes to read the book through at one sitting. And having done so, one feels for awhile purged of the pressures and annoyances of a mechanistic society.

If there is a people who can profit most by attaining a better perspective on man's place in nature and on nature's place in American society it is that people of the United States. Let the author speak: "The limelight of our exalted human knowledge is gradually making us blind—blind in our vain search for imagined paradises—too blind to recognize the earthly paradise surrounding us, whose last remnants our very fertility is threatening to destroy, until in our blindness we are left with no choice but to destroy one another. Those who do not realize this may be content to breathe in the forest of factory chimneys, which for them replace the green-woods, and to suffocate in the ever-growing towns, where unhappy millions try to chase away the night with lights and noise, because they fear the gentle darkness. Yet there may be someone like me, who longs to pass some precious hours in forest and jungle, when night conquers day, and to sense its soft steps and soundless wingbeats."

Though he has written 23 books, only a few of Bengt Berg's works have been published in English. Let us hope that this is not the last.—ANDREW J. BERGER.

- ALCORN, J. R. 1953. Food of the Common Merganser in Churchill County, Nevada. *Condor*, **55** (3): 151-152.
- ALEXANDER, W. B. 1953. The index of Heron Population, 1952. *British Birds*, **46** (3): 100-103. The number of nests of *Ardea cinerea* was up nearly 5 per cent in comparison with the standard obtained over the past 25 years.
- ALEXANDER, W. B. 1953. Ornithological illustration. *Endeavour*, **12** (47): 144-153, 19 figs.
- ANDERSON, WILLIAM, AND A. W. MILLER. 1953. Hybridization of Cinnamon and Blue-winged teal in northeastern California. *Condor*, **55** (3): 152-153.
- ARMSTRONG, EDWARD A. 1953. The behaviour and breeding biology of the Hebridean Wren. *British Birds*, **46** (2): 37-50. *Troglodytes t. hebridensis*, in contrast to *T. t. troglodytes*, is monogamous and both parents feed the young. Its song is more elaborate than that of the mainland form.
- AUSTIN, OLIVER L., SR. 1953. The migration of the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) in the Western Hemisphere. *Bird-Banding*, **24** (2): 39-55. An analysis of 709 recoveries of 386,752 Common Terns banded prior to Jan. 1, 1951, 0.182 per cent from the Atlantic Unit and 0.185 per cent from the Central Unit (Great Lakes). Map 1 shows 10 colonies from the Atlantic coast to Alberta at which these terns have been banded. Figure 2 shows recoveries from the Central Unit, figure 3 from the Atlantic Unit. The latter birds fly "southward along a narrow route which runs almost in a straight line down the coast to the Virginia Capes, across the West Indies to the northeast coast of South America," some of them wintering in Brazil. Most of the Great Lakes birds, instead of flying south down the Mississippi, fly east to the Atlantic Coast and follow it down to Georgia, where some go "westward around the coast of the Gulf of Mexico as far as Yucatan, the others continuing southward over Florida, the western end of Cuba and the Gulf of Mexico to Central America." The author considers the use of this round-about route as harking back to Pleistocene times, when the Great Lakes drained across the Appalachians. Ten tables give details as to time and place of recoveries. An important contribution.—MARGARET M. NICE.
- BERGER, ANDREW J. 1953. The pterylosis of *Coua caerulea*. *Wilson Bull.*, **65** (1): 12-17.
- BERGER, ANDREW J. 1953. Protracted incubation behavior of a female American Goldfinch. *Condor* **55** (3): 151.
- BERGER, ANDREW J. 1953. Three cases of twin embryos in passerine birds. *Condor*, **55** (3): 157-158.—One record for the Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), and two for the American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*).
- BLAKE, E. R. 1953. A Colombian race of *Tinamus osgoodi*. *Fieldiana. Zoology*, **34** (18): 199-200.—New: *Tinamus osgoodi hershkovitzi*, type locality San Adolfo, Colombia. A notable range extension of this species described only in 1949, and hitherto known only from the Marcapata Valley, Peru.
- BRAUNER, JOSEPH. 1953. Observations on the behavior of a captive Poor-will. *Condor*, **55** (2): 68-74.—Discusses the following subjects: feeding, scratching and comments on possible use of the pectinate claw on digit III, swaying, stretching, vision, preening, features of the mouth, dusting, eyeshine, and call-notes.
- BRIAN, M. V. 1953. Species frequencies in random samples from animal populations. *Jour. Animal Ecol.* **22**: 57-64. 3 figs., 1 table. Recommends use of the negative binomial series, adjusted for the removal of zero term, for analysis of mixed populations. Illustrated with insects and birds.
- BRIGGS, MARJORIE A. 1953. Unrecorded specimens of *Neochloe brevipennis*

- taken in Oaxaca. *Condor*, **55** (3): 156-157.—Data on 11 specimens in the University of Florida collection.
- BRODKORB, PIERCE. 1953. A Pliocene gull from Florida. *Wilson Bull.*, **65** (2): 94-98, 1 fig.—*Larus elmoresi* new sp., from Middle Pliocene deposits near Brewster, Polk Co., Florida.
- BRODKORB, PIERCE. 1953. A review of the Pliocene loons. *Condor*, **55** (4): 211-214.
- CHATFIELD, PAUL O., CHARLES P. LYMAN, AND LAURENCE IRVING. 1953. Physiological adaptation to cold of peripheral nerve in the leg of the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). *Amer. Journ. Physiol.*, **172**: 639-644.
- CHRISTIANSEN, M., AND HOLGER MADSEN. 1948. *Eimeria bucephalae* n. sp. (Coccidia) pathogenic in Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula* L.) in Denmark. *Danish Rev. Game Biol.* **1** (2): 61-73, 4 figs.
- DANE, D. SURREY, J. A. R. MILES, AND M. G. P. STOKER. 1953. A disease of MAUX shearwaters: further observations in the field. *Jour. Animal Ecol.* **22**: 123-133. 2 figs., 3 tables.—*P. puffinus* originally acquires disease from gulls, becomes epizootic in high populations where there is thick covering on the ground. Fatality occurs in over 75 per cent of cases.
- DAVIS, JOHN. 1953. Birds of the Tzitzio region, Michoacan, Mexico. *Condor*, **55** (2): 90-98.—Annotated list of 83 species, of which 70 were collected.
- DAVIS, JOHN. 1953. Precocious sexual development in the juvenal English Sparrow. *Condor*, **55** (3): 117-120.
- DICKERMAN, ROBERT W., AND ALLAN R. PHILLIPS. 1953. First United States record of *Myiarchus nuttingi*. *Condor*, **55** (2): 101-102.
- DILGER, WILLIAM C. 1953. Duetting in the Crimson-breasted Barbet. *Condor*, **55** (4): 220-221.
- FARNER, DONALD S., AND L. R. MEWALT. 1953. The recording of diurnal activity patterns in caged birds. *Bird-Banding*, **24** (2): 55-65. After a brief history of investigations in Germany and Finland, a new system is described, illustrated with charts and photographs, as well as 2 graphs showing 48-hour activity records of two birds. The system has been used primarily in studying normal and experimentally induced *Zugunruhe* in White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*).
- FISHER, HARVEY I. 1953. The Birds in Faunal and Archeological Researches in Yucatan Caves. *Cranbrook Inst. Sci. Bull.* **33**: 81-90. Representatives of 15 bird families and approximately 30 Recent species recorded.
- GULLION, GORDON W. 1953. Observations on molting of the American Coot. *Condor*, **55** (2): 102-103.
- GULLION, GORDON W. 1953. Additional bird records from southern Nevada. *Condor*, **55** (3): 160.—Annotated list of 4 species.
- GULLION, GORDON W. 1953. Territorial behavior of the American Coot. *Condor*, **55** (4): 169-186.—Territorial behavior lasts throughout the year among resident American Coots (*Fulica americana*), but is at its lowest ebb during the winter. There is a discussion of territorial behavior of other members of the family Rallidae: *Fulica atra*, *F. armillata*, *F. leucoptera*, *Gallinula chloropus*, *Rallus elegans*, *R. longirostris*, *R. striatus*, *Amaurornis phoenicurus*, *Gallirallus troglodytes*, *Gallinago cinerea*, *Porphyrio poliocephalus*, *Porzana carolina*, and *P. bicolor*.
- HAMLING, H. H. 1953. Observations on the behaviour of birds in Southern Rhodesia. *Ostrich*, **24** (1): 9-16.
- HAMMER, MARIE. 1948. Investigations on the feeding-habits of the House-sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) and the Tree-sparrow (*Passer montanus*). *Danish*



- Rev. Game Biol. 1 (2): 1-59, 27 figs.—Study of 2657 House Sparrows and 501 Tree Sparrows showed that the former ate more grain; the latter, more weed seeds and insects.
- HINDE, R. A. 1953. A possible explanation of paper-tearing in birds. *British Birds*, 46 (1): 21-23. Paper-tearing may be an expression of the food-searching drive, a useful activity for discovering new sources of food, even though the bird may not at the moment be hungry.
- HOME, W. M. LOGAN. 1953. Paper-tearing by birds. *British Birds*, 46: 16-21. Titmice, especially Blue Tits (*Parus caeruleus*) often enter houses and tear wall-paper, 1564 such cases being recorded; this happens most often in dry autumns.
- HYDE, A. SIDNEY. 1953. Unusual records from western Colorado. *Condor*, 55 (4): 216.—Annotated list of 10 species.
- IRWIN, MICHAEL P. STUART. 1953. Notes on some birds of Mashonaland, Southern Rhodesia. *Ostrich*, 24 (1): 37-49. Habits.
- JENKINS, DAVID. 1953. Migration in late September and early October, 1951. *British Birds*, 46 (3): 77-98; (4): 121-131. Observations from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Holland, and Britain with 2 maps, 20 tables giving numbers of each species recorded at different stations each day, and 11 graphs showing wind strength, temperature and barometric pressure. Factors favorable for migration were high barometric pressure, minimum wind strength, and a marked fall in temperature.—MARGARET M. NICE.
- JOHNSTON, RICHARD F., AND BENJAMIN HOCHMAN. 1953. Erythrocyte permeability and bird relationships. *Condor*, 55 (3): 154-155.—Gives the times of hemolysis of erythrocytes by four penetrating solutions. The data show that the Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) and the Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) have more affinities to each other than to the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*).
- JOLLIE, M. 1953. Plumages, molt, and racial status of Red Crossbills in northern Idaho. *Condor*, 55 (4): 193-197.
- KELLOGG, PETER PAUL, AND ROBERT C. STEIN. 1953. Audio-spectrographic analysis of the songs of the Alder Flycatcher. *Wilson Bull.*, 65 (2): 75-80. 2 figs.—Spectrograms show two distinctly different song types of *Empidonax traillii*.
- KESSEL, BRINA. 1953. Distribution and migration of the European Starling in North America. *Condor*, 55 (2): 49-67.
- KOBLZ, WALTER N. 1952. New races of Indian birds. *Journ. Zool. Soc. India*, 4 (1): 37-46.—*Suthora ruficeps rufina*, *Sitta himalayensis lushaiensis*, *Ianthocincla rufogularis rufitincta*, *Trochalopteron phoeniceum khasium*, *Trochalopteron squamatum subsquamatum*, *Trochalopteron virgatum querulum*, *Stactocichla merulina toxostomina*, *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys erythrotis*, *Pomatorhinus ferruginosus formosus*, *Malacocincla abbotti amabilis*, *Alcippe nipalensis turensis*, *Schoeniopus dubius certus*, *Liothrix lutea luteola*, *Pteruthius erythropterus nocrecus*, *Pteruthius melanotis melanops*, *Xanthicus flavescens fugans*, *Pnoepyga pusilla pygmaea*, *Brachypteryx leucophrys geokichla*, *Larvivora brunnea angamea*, *Notodela leucura rhipidura*, *Zosteria marginata tenebrosa*, *Cyornis sapphira coelicolor*, *Pericrocotus brevirostris sanguineus*, *Pericrocotus brevirostris aureus*, *Phylloscopus maculipennis papilio*, *Abroscopus superciliaris bambusicola*, "Suya" *criniger nebulosa*, *Ploceus philippinus sardarpateli*, *Delichon nipalensis barletti*, *Aethopyga nipalensis riplei*, *Hypopicus hyperythrus haemorrhous*, *Dendrocopos nanus giantiusculus*, *Sasia ochracea ferruginea*, *Cuculus poliocephalus assamicus*, *Glaucidium brodiei garoense*, *Otus bakhamoena alboniger*, *Otus spilocephalus rupchandi*, new subspecies.
- KORTLANDT, A. A population study of the European Cormorant in Holland, based

on counting and banding data. MS of author's English translation (121 pages of text, 22 photographs, 5 charts) has been filed in the Division of Birds, U. S. National Museum, Washington 25, D. C. The translation can be studied at the National Museum or microfilm copies can be ordered. Original Dutch version was published in *Ardea* 31, 1942. Some of the author's conclusions were summarized by D. S. Farmer in *Bird-Banding* 17 (3).

This paper is important not only because of its information on biology, ecology, behavior, and population dynamics, but because of its statistical treatment of reproduction, population turnover, and mortality in different sex and age groups. The translation was prepared for publication, and since publication plans have not materialized the MS has been deposited where it will be generally available and can receive proper care.

- KURODA, NAGAMICHI. 1953. A wild hybrid between *Branta* and *Anser* obtained in Japan. *Condor*, 55 (2): 100-101.
- LAMM, DONALD W. 1953. Comments on certain records from northern Sul Do Save, Mozambique. *Ostrich*, 24 (1): 2-8.
- LISTER, M. D. 1953. Secondary song: a tentative classification. *British Birds*, 46 (4): 139-143.
- MARSHALL, DAVID B., AND LEROY W. GILES. 1953. Recent observations on birds of Anaho Island, Pyramid Lake, Nevada. *Condor*, 55 (3): 105-116.—Reports the present status of nesting populations of the following birds: *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*, *Phalacrocorax auritus*, *Ardea herodias*, *Branta canadensis*, *Anas platyrhynchos*, *Mergus merganser americanus*, *Larus californicus*, and *Hydroprogne caspia*.
- MATHESON, COLIN. 1953. The Partridge in Wales: a survey of Gamebook records. *British Birds*, 46 (2): 57-64. Records of bags of *Perdix perdix* are given from an estate in Wales from 1854 to 1951 and are compared with other localities; a marked periodicity is found, with peaks at average intervals of 9.2 years. Populations have now "dwindled almost to vanishing point," due to urbanization of estates, changed methods of farming, decrease in keeping, and increase in depredations by sheepdogs and foxes.—MARGARET M. NICE.
- MAY, REG., AND JAMES FISHER. 1953. A Collared Turtle Dove in England. *British Birds*, 46 (2): 51-53. A male *Streptopelia decaocto* was present in Lincolnshire from May to August 1952, proclaiming territory near chicken-runs and marginal land. It is not certain whether it was an escape from captivity or a pioneer. During the last 20 years this species has made a phenomenal spread northwest across Europe which has brought it 1200 miles to Holland, France, and Denmark, in "hops" at times of well over 150 miles.—MARGARET M. NICE.
- MILLER, ALDEN H. 1953. The incubation period of the Hutton Vireo. *Condor*, 55 (4): 221.
- MICHENER, JOSEPHINE R. 1953. Molt and variation in plumage pattern of Mockingbirds at Pasadena, California. *Condor*, 55 (2): 75-89.
- MOORE, NORMAN C. 1953. A balance for weighing tits without capture. *British Birds*, 46 (3): 103-105. An ingenious method for weighing titmice as they feed on bait, illustrated with a chart and photograph.
- MOREJOHN, VICTOR G. 1953. English Sparrows nesting within nest of Red-tailed Hawks. *Condor*, 55 (3): 161-162.
- NELSON, URBAN C. 1953. Northern record of nesting of Red-necked Grebe. *Condor*, 55 (4): 220.—Nest with three eggs in Arctic Alaska.
- NICE, MARGARET MORSE. 1953. The question of ten-day incubation periods. *Wilson Bull.*, 65 (2): 81-93.—A critical survey of the literature and other data

- proved that authenticated incubation periods of less than 11 days are rare. The supposedly short incubation periods of *Zosterops* and *Molothrus ater* are actually of 11 to 12 days.
- NORGARB, C., AND J. LASBREY. 1953. Jackal buzzards. Ostrich, **24** (1): 33-36. Life history of *Buteo rufofuscus*.
- NORRIS, C. A. 1953. The birds of Bardsey Island in 1952. British Birds, **46** (4): 131-137. Birds seen June 25 and 26, 1952, on this small island off the coast of Wales.
- PARKES, KENNETH C. 1953. The incubation patch in males of the suborder Tyranni. Condor, **55** (4): 218-219.
- PENNIE, IAN D. 1953. The Arctic Skua in Caithness. British Birds, **46** (3): 105-108. Population counts of *Stercorarius parasiticus*.
- PETERLE, TONY J. 1953. An extended incubation period of the Ruffed Grouse. Wilson Bull., **65** (2): 119.—*Bonasa umbellus*, 70 days on infertile eggs.
- RAINES, R. J. 1953. October passerine migration on the South Lancashire coast. British Birds, **46** (1): 24-34. With 2 tables and 4 maps.
- RAND, A. L. 1953. Use of Snake Skins in Birds' Nests. Nat. Hist. Misc. (Chicago), No. 125: pp. 1-5.
- RAND, A. L. 1953. Notes on Flycatchers of Genus *Batis*. Fieldiana, Zoology, **34** (10): 133-148.—The species treated are *B. minor*, 7 races; *B. molitor*, 3 races, with additional variation of less than subspecific value described; *Batis perkeo* (range extended to Tanganyika Territory); *Batis soror* (shown to be a species, not a race of *B. molitor*).
- RAND, A. L., AND R. L. FLEMING. 1953. A New Fruit Pigeon from Nepal. Fieldiana. Zoology, **34** (19): 201-202.—New: *Treron pompadora conoveri*, type locality.—Butwal, Nepal.
- REED, PARKER C. 1953. Danger of leg mutilation from the use of metal color bands. Bird-Banding, **24** (2): 65-67. Two metal bands should never be used on one leg, for the lower one will "flatten and thicken until it is a hazard to the bird's leg, if not its life." Photographs are given of these flanged and dangerous bands.
- RETT, EGMONT Z. 1953. Additional notes on the birds of Santa Rosa Island, California. Condor, **55** (3): 156.—Annotated list of 8 species; 8 other species are mentioned.
- RICHARDS, LAWRENCE P., AND PAUL H. BALDWIN. 1953. Recent records of some Hawaiian honeycreepers. Condor, **55** (4): 221-222.—Annotated list of 7 species.
- SCHMIDT, KARL P. 1953. A visit to Karewa Island, home of the Tuatara. Fieldiana. Zoology, **34** (12): 153-164.—Contains notes on the nesting of the Flesh-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus carneipes*).
- SELANDER, ROBERT K. 1953. Notes on the Red Crossbills of the Uinta and Wasatch Mountains, Utah. Condor, **55** (3): 158-160.—Discussion and measurements of 28 specimens of *Loxia curvirostra bendirei* and *L. c. grinnelli*.
- SELANDER, ROBERT K., AND MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO. 1953. The breeding distribution of *Chordeiles minor* in Mexico. Condor, **55** (3): 160-161.
- SHELFORD, V. E. 1953. An experimental approach to the study of plant and animal reproductivity and population with a life science building plan. Ecol. **34**: 422-426. 1 fig.—Need of outdoor space next to biological laboratories for experimental studies of birds and other animals under natural light conditions.
- C. J. SKEAD. 1952. The Status of the Cattle Egret, *Ardeola ibis*, in the Eastern Cape Province. The Ostrich **23** (3): 186-218. In recent times the Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) has been increasing in numbers in South Africa. Skead presents much detailed information on the change in status in Cape Province east of the

- twenty-fourth meridian. There were few occurrences before 1900, and the first breeding record was in 1910. Observations of individuals rose rapidly in the 1930s, and there were additional breeding records. The increase continued after 1940, and there are now thirty breeding colonies, the largest with 2000 individuals. Nesting and roosting habits, cross-country movements, and evidence of migration are reviewed, but no conclusions are reached regarding the reason for the increase or the direction from which the birds came. Skead points out that the Cattle Egret has been found in northern South America since 1937, and that it was twice recorded in the eastern United States in 1952.—HUSTACE H. POOR.
- SKUTCH, ALEXANDER F. 1953. The White-throated Magpie-Jay. *Wilson Bull.*, **65** (2): 68-74.—Observations of the nesting of *Calocitta formosa*, in Central America, and remarks on its habit of more than one individual feeding an incubating female.
- SKUTCH, ALEXANDER F. 1953. Life history of the Southern House Wren. *Condor*, **55** (3): 121-149.
- STANFORD, W. P. 1953. Some sea birds in winter off the S. W. Cape [of Good Hope]. *Ostrich*, **24** (1): 17-26.
- STEWART, ROBERT E. 1953. A life history study of the Yellow-throat. *Wilson Bull.*, **65** (2): 99-115, 1 table.—Breeding habitats, populations, associated habits, and success of *Geothlypis trichas*.
- STRAW, RICHARD M. 1953. Additional notes on Korean birds. *Condor*, **55** (3): 153-154.—Annotated list of 13 species.
- SUTTON, GEORGE MIKSCHE. 1953. Bronzed Woodpecker. *Wilson Bull.*, **65** (2): 64-67, 1 colored plate (by author).—A brief description of the habits, appearance, and range (parts of Mexico) of *Piculus aeruginosus*.
- TALMADGE, ROBERT R. 1953. Rufous Hummingbird nesting in California. *Condor*, **55** (3): 155-156.
- TASHIAN, RICHARD E. 1953. The birds of southeastern Guatemala. *Condor*, **55** (4): 198-210.
- THOMSON, A. LANDSBOROUGH. 1953. The migration of British Auks (Alcidae) as shown by the results of marking. *British Birds*, **46** (1): 3-15.
- TUTT, H. R. 1953. Notes on the nesting of a pair of Jays inside a hollow tree. *British Birds*, **46** (3): 98-99. Photographs of *Garrulus glandarius* feeding young in a hole in an apple tree.
- VAURIE, CHARLES. 1953. Summer records and observations on the island of Tiburón, Sonora, México. *Condor*, **55** (4): 217-218.—A description of the island and an annotated list of 13 species, of which the following are new records for the island: *Guara alba*, *Coragyps atratus*, *Numenius americanus*, *Columbigallina passerina*, *Tachycineta thalassina*, *Tangavius aeneus*.
- VOOUS, K. H. 1953. The geographical variation of the Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) in Europe: a study on individual variation. *Beaufortia*, **2** (30): 1-41, 16 figs.—A revision based on a critical examination of 965 specimens. The author recognizes eleven races in Europe, two of them (*Garrulus glandarius yugoslavicus* and *G. g. lusitanicus*) described as new. Variation in size between first-year birds and adults is not discussed; standard deviations for wing length are consequently high.
- WILLIAMS, C. B. 1953. The relative abundance of different species in a wild animal population. *Jour. Animal Ecol.* **22**: 14-31. 9 fig., 8 tables.—Mathematical treatment indicates that the distribution of species with different numbers of individuals in a mixed population is nearer to the log-normal than to the log-series form. Points are illustrated by insect and bird populations.
- WILLIAMS, GEORGE G. 1953. Wilson Phalaropes as commensals. *Condor*, **55** (3):

158.—Describes association of Wilson Phalaropes (*Steganopus tricolor*) with Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*).

WILLIAMSON, KENNETH. 1953. Flocking behaviour of Oyster-catchers. *British Birds*, 46 (3): 108-110. Behavior of some 1500 *Haematopus ostralegus* in response to a rising tide.

WOLFSON, ALBERT. 1953. Gonadal and fat response to a 5 : 1 ratio of light to darkness in the White-throated Sparrow. *Condor*, 55 (4): 187-192.

The Records of the American Ornithologists' Union: What they contain and where to find them.

Editor, *The Auk*:

On September 26, the American Ornithologists' Union reached its 70th birthday. Organized in 1883, the intervening three score and ten years, equivalent to the life span of an ordinary individual, include the activities of nearly 10,000 persons who have been associated with the Union for longer or shorter periods. About 3000 of these are now members, but 1,200 are dead, and about 5,800 members have dropped out. The records of the organization are widely scattered, some in print and some in manuscript, but they all fall into 6 main groups: administrative, bibliographical, biographical, fiscal, historical, and miscellaneous.

If a member is curious to know how many posthumous members have been elected (Louis Brasil in 1919, F. J. Mallory in 1942, and B. J. Howell in 1946), why Lower California was included with the United States as the result of a deal between William Brewster and Elliott Coues, why the original charter incorporating the Union was dissolved, when the Union suffered from financial stringency and what remedies were applied, he is likely to spend considerable time and energy in looking up the desired information.

Administrative records containing lists of members, reports of annual meetings, including election of officers, members and lists of papers on programs are published in "The Auk" or the semicentennial report on "Progress of American Ornithology, 1883-1923" and a set of the Minute Books (lacking 2 volumes) of the Council is filed in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. Bibliographical records may be found in the decennial Indexes of "The Auk" or the privately published lists of publications of various authors which include many titles not available elsewhere. Biographical records including about 70 Memorials and more than 1000 obituary notices are listed in the Biographical Indexes of the American Ornithologists' Union (last list 1952). Fiscal records have been published in "The Auk" since 1938, but earlier records are still in manuscript. Historical records are included in J. A. Allen's "Retrospect," 1890, and in the data on various subjects in the Semicentennial Report of "Progress of American Ornithology" and "The American Ornithologists' Union at a Glance" (*Auk*, 1948, p. 496). Miscellaneous records include a variety of material such as the Deane Collection of Portraits of Ornithologists and the accompanying index in the Prints and Photograph Division of the Library of Congress, the Bendire Correspondence and the Von Berlepsch correspondence in several languages, in the manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, and the general collection of ornithological correspondence in the Wood Library of McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

At least 10 members still on the rolls of the Union have maintained their membership for 60 years or more: F. H. Allen 65, C. F. Batchelder 70, A. C. Bent 64, B. S. Bowdish 61, A. M. Ingersoll 68, H. C. Oberholser 65, T. S. Palmer 65, E. A. Preble 61, R. M. Strong 64, and W. E. C. Todd 63.

T. S. Palmer