NEWS AND NOTES

INDEXING

Articles appearing in this journal are indexed in ENVIRONMENTAL PERIODICALS: *Indexed Article Titles.*

TRAVEL FUNDS FOR I.O.C.

Limited funds are available through the National Academy of Sciences for travel to the International Ornithological Congress in Canberra, Australia, in August 1974. Selection will be made by a panel of the U.S. National Committee of the International Union of Biological Sciences. Direct inquiries about application for the funds to Mr. Harvey Sheppard, Division of Biological Sciences, National Research Council, Washington, D.C. 20418. Application should be submitted by 1 May 1974.

TRAVEL FUNDS FOR W.D.A. MEETING

The Wildlife Disease Association will Award Recognition-Travel Grant(s) to worthy students conducting research on the diseases of wild animals. The purpose of the grant is to assist the student with travel expenses to report on the results of the research to the W.D.A. Annual Meeting 31 July–3 Aug. 1974 at Asilomar, California. Interested students and faculty advisors may obtain additional information and applications from the W.D.A., P.O. Box 886, Ames, Iowa 50010.

NEST-RECORD DATA AVAILABLE

The North American Nest-Record Card Program is now able, on a limited basis, to supply avian breeding data for geographical areas. Data can be supplied for 24 major species, each with more than 1000 records. Further information and prices are available from: North American Nest-Record Card Program, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14850.

ALBERTA ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

The Federation of Alberta Naturalists has established the Alberta Ornithological Records Committee (AORC) under the chairmanship of Dr. W. Ray Salt. There are two main functions of the AORC: (1) It will serve as a repository for records of birds from any and all parts of Alberta. The Committee welcomes reports on Alberta birds in any form but a standardized form, called an Area List, has been devised which will enable an observer to report on all of his observations in one region for periods up to one year. The Area List will be available for distribution early in 1974. All records should be sent to: The Secretary, Alberta Ornithological Records Committee, Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta, 12845–102 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5N OM6. (2) The AORC, when requested to do so, will examine the documentation of records of rare and unusual species of birds in Alberta and place each record in one of the following categories: I. Substantiated Record; II. Documented Observation; III. Documented Nesting Record; IV. Unsubstantiated Observation. A list of species and the zones of the Province in which a record would be considered unusual will shortly be published by the AORC.

MASTER OF ARTS IN MUSEUM SCIENCE

A master's degree program in Museum Science has been approved by Texas Tech University and awaits final approval at the State Coordinating Board level in January. Applications are now being accepted for this program which should begin in the fall semester of 1974. The program is designed to train students for a wide variety of positions within museums and related organizations. Students can opt for emphasis in art, historical restoration, history, anthropology, or some area of biology or geology. For further information write to Museum Science Program, The Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

FIELD METHODS COURSE

The Museum Science Program and The Museum, Texas Tech University, will sponsor a summer course in *Field Methods* with emphasis on vertebrates, 4 June to 1 July 1974, in the Southwestern United States. Six hours of graduate credit will be given through the Museum Science Program. Emphasis of the course will be on the teaching of collecting methods and proper preservation of specimens for use in museum related research. Application should be made by 1 April 1974. Additional information is available from Hugh H. Genoways, The Museum, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

U.S. HUMANE SOCIETY AWARD

Ornithologist Roger Tory Peterson has received the annual Joseph Wood Krutch award of The Humane Society of the United States for his "significant contribution toward the improvement of life and the environment." Peterson is well known throughout the world as both an artist of birds and a co-author of numerous field guides and books on birds.

ERRATUM

Fred C. Zwickel has called attention to an error in his paper "Dispersion of female Blue Grouse during the brood season" (Condor 75:114–119, 1973). On the bottom of p. 116 the first line under the heading *Between Areas* should read "1) In June, brood females were mainly in grassland on both areas", *not* "1) In June, lone females were mainly in grassland on both areas".

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Among the publications recently received by the editorial office, the following are noted as having particular interest for avian biologists.

A Field Guide to Mexican Birds.—Roger Tory Peterson and Edward L. Chalif. 1973. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 298 p. $8.95. This book, No. 20

in the Peterson Field Guide Series, treats 1038 species of birds and is illustrated with 48 color plates. Species that also occur north of the Mexico-USA boundary are referred to the appropriate Peterson Field Guides and are dealt with only briefly. A spot check of 200 species showed that eight that were not illustrated are rare, or extralimital birds of México; 72 were referred to the Western or other Guides; four to the Eastern or Texas Guide; and 116 were found on the color plates and had detailed descriptions of their field marks, voice, range in México and Central America, and habitat. The book is complete for the presently known avifauna of México, Guatemala, and British Honduras (Belize); it is almost complete for Honduras (93%) and for Nicaragua (86%), but even very useful for 66% of the Costa Rican and 56.5% of the Panamanian species.

Productivity, Population Dynamics, and Systematics of Granivorous Birds.—S. C. Kendeigh and J. Pinowski, eds. 1973. Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. 410 p. Available from Dr. S. C. Kendeigh, Vivarium Building, Wright and Healy Streets, Champaign, Illinois 61820, for $13.00, plus $0.60 for postage and handling (total $13.60). The book covers the Proceedings of the First General Meeting of the Working Group on Granivorous Birds of the International Biological Program held at the Hague, Holland, 6–8 September 1970. The major subjects discussed are (1) bioenergetics; (2) population dynamics and related aspects of behavior; (3) food, in relation to the primary production of cereals and weeds—economic aspects; (4) systematics and evolutionary biology of sparrows; and (5) miscellaneous problems. Altogether there are 31 separate papers authored by 43 persons from 16 countries. Two species of common birds receive principal attention, the House Sparrow and European Tree Sparrow, but consideration is also given to a number of other species so that principles brought out have application to birds in general.

Tibet and Its Birds.—Charles Vaurie. 1972. H. F. & G. Witherby Ltd., London. 407 p. £10.50. Readers of *The Condor* should imagine the Great Basin and adjacent regions of the western United States elevated 3–4 thousand meters, rotated 90° counterclockwise, then displaced halfway around the world and about 5° south in latitude. The result would approximate, at about half-size, the region covered in this expensive but valuable book. Though the author has not visited Tibet, he has rendered signal service by gathering together much of what is known of the region's ornithology, drawing on the first-hand experience of Frank Ludlow. Following Ludlow and Ward, he divides Tibet into three "natural regions": the high, cold, arid, and barren Northern Plateau; the more temperate Outer Plateau with the capital of political Tibet, cultivated areas, and scattered forests; and the faunistically richer Southeastern Plateau, characterized by dense forest and situated around the headwaters of major rivers.

Part One of the book is devoted to geographic description of these natural regions, to the history of exploration and ornithology in Tibet, and to distribution and zoogeography (Ch. 3) and migration (Ch. 4). These latter chapters, in turn, depend on the detailed records summarized in Part Two, the systematic list. The species accounts include general distribution, status, and distribution in Tibet (but no habitat notes), and in some cases, winglength measurements and comments on superspecies. The reader wishing trinomial taxonomy or ecological information must turn to the author's earlier work, *The Birds of the Palearctic Fauna* (Witherby, London, 1959, 1965).

The analytical heart of this work is in the tables of Chapter 3, listing the breeding birds of each of the natural regions and their subdivisions. The inhospitable Northern Plateau has only 67 breeding species recorded, whereas up to 185 have been found on the Outer Plateau. Species of Palearctic zoogeographic affinities outnumber Sino-Himalayan species, especially in the Northern Plateau and the western Outer Plateau, but the latter faunal element increases clinally to the south and east and predominates in the rich avifauna (261 species) on the Southeastern Plateau.

Vaurie then discusses the origin of this varied avifauna and concludes that "the avifauna before the [Pleistocene] glaciation was essentially similar to what it is now . . ."; that "the [glacial] cold was sufficiently intense . . . to eliminate all birds," and that "the species that were driven off very probably took refuge farther south in the regions of Sino-Himalaya . . ."; and finally, that the surviving species "returned north gradually with the retreat of the ice. . . ." Such a view has the virtue of novelty, though he has not convinced me that birds failed to survive in an ice-free Tibetan refugium.

Overall, the volume seems quite free of errors. There is no general index and reference to illustrations in Gould's *Birds of Asia* would have been helpful. The book is completed by a fine gazetteer that will be very useful to any student of the region, literature cited (Russian references in Cyrillic), and an appended working list of 242 Sino-Himalayan species. One hopes that improving relations between China and the West will soon permit others to build upon Vaurie's fine study.—ROBERT S. HOFFMANN

Supplement to the Birds of Chile and Adjacent Regions of Argentina, Bolivia and Peru.—A. W. Johnson with important contributions from: R. A. Hughes (SW Peru), J. D. Goodall-W. R. Millie-George Moffett (Chile). 1972. Platt Establ. Gráficos, Buenos Aires. 99 p. $10.00. This long title and list of contributors is nevertheless not quite adequate to describe the contents. Mr. Johnson describes it as his "last publication on the birds of this part of the world," and it is an attempt to bring fully up to date the revised, English-language edition of *The Birds of Chile*, issued under Johnson's authorship in 1965 and 1967. The supplement is intended to be complete in itself, and it thus repeats some material that has been published elsewhere, but readers who lack ready access to publications as diverse as *Sea Frontiers*, *Boletín del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural* (de Chile), and *The Living Bird* may find this a convenience.

The supplement opens with a description and color plate of a new species, *Conirostrum tamarugensis* Johnson and Millie, from the arid region near Iquique in northern Chile. It is unfortunate that a formalin-preserved specimen (the first one collected) in a small private collection is designated as the holotype, but paratypes are on deposit in the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the Instituto de Biología Marina at Viña del Mar. Subsequent sec-

tions include an annotated list of 22 species recorded for the first time from Chilean territory or waters (including Easter I.) and 20 species previously unrecorded from SW Peru. Some of these are sight or photographic records, but most are documented by specimens. North American readers will note such unusual records (specimens) as those of the Chimney Swift, American Redstart, and Summer Tanager. Next follows a summary of the ecological features of SW Peru and comparison of the avifauna of this area with that of northern Chile (data from Hughes). The following sections discuss the avifauna of Easter Island, the Torrent Duck (*Merganetta a. armata*) and the Grey Gull (*Larus modestus*) (both by Moffett), and Mitchell's Plover (*Phegornis mitchelli*). Most of this material has been published previously except for color photos of the latter species. The detailed study of the Grey Gull by Howell and co-authors Araya and Millie, which is mentioned in this section, has been submitted to the University of California Publications in Zoology, and will presumably appear in 1974; a much condensed version constitutes the research report for the National Geographic Society.

The first description of the nesting of the hummingbird, *Eulidia yarrellii*, is contributed by J. D. Goodall. Additional sections include extensions of geographical ranges in Chile, some data on movements of antarctic seabirds indicated by banding records, and supplementary information on the status of a number of species on the Chilean list. Finally, there are corrigenda for volumes I and II of *The Birds of Chile*, a bibliography and index for the supplement, and a list of sources in different countries from which the supplement can be obtained. In the United States, these are the Pierce Book Co., Winthrop, Iowa, and Mrs. W. H. Nichols (Johnson's daughter), 4711 Howard St., Muskogee, Oklahoma. The supplement is not free of typographical and other minor errors, but the difficulties of obtaining an error-free publication in English from a Spanish-language publisher make this understandable. If this is indeed Johnson's last publication on the birds of Chile, it is an important footnote to a remarkable series of pioneering studies extending over more than 60 years. It is a fitting tribute to Johnson and his co-workers J. D. Goodall and the late R. A. Philippi that they were awarded the Brewster Medal of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1973.—THOMAS R. HOWELL

Avian Biology.—Donald S. Farner and James R. King, eds. 1973. Vol. III. Academic Press, New York. 573 p. $40.00. This is the third of a four volume review of avian biology which the editors have described as an extensively revised and expanded descendant of A. J. Marshall's *Biology and Comparative Physiology of Birds*. With the rapidly increasing volume of information on avian biology being published each year, such a review treatise will be a necessary and welcome addition to the library of any ornithologist. Volume III, with 8 chapters by 11 contributors, encompasses two general topics: the endocrine system and sensory systems.

In Chapter 1, B. Lofts and R. K. Murton discuss reproduction in birds, with an emphasis on the structure and function of the testis and ovary, culminating in a discussion of reproductive behavior. A. Tixier-Vidal and B. K. Follett cover the adenohypophysis, giving extensive treatment to the cytological aspects and the chemistry and physiology of associated hormones. I. Assenmacher discusses seven peripheral endocrine glands with respect to their morphology, hormones and hormone roles, and regulatory mechanisms. This is followed by a chapter on neuroendocrinology by H. Kobayashi and M. Wada in which they emphasize the anatomy and function of the neurosecretory system. Three of the avian sensory systems have been covered in Volume III: A. J. Sillman discusses avian vision, concentrating on some of the more speculative areas including aspects of refraction, retinal organization, and perception; B. M. Wenzel's chapter deals with chemoreception including anatomy, function, and functional significance in taste and smell; J. Schwartzkopff reviews the anatomy and physiology of mechano-reception, covering proprioception and the labyrinth as an organ of equilibrium and audition. The two general topics of this volume, endocrinology and sensory mechanisms, are incorporated in the closing chapter on avian behavior by R. A. Hinde. After reviewing classical principles of behavior, he applies these principles in illustrations of functional groups of behavioral activity.

Certainly, the topics covered in Volume III are pertinent not only to ornithologists but to anatomists, cytologists, physiologists (especially endocrinologists), and behaviorists.

The Dictionary of American Bird Names.—Ernest A. Choate. 1973. Gambit, Inc., Boston, Mass. 261 p. $6.95. Professional and nonprofessional ornithologists alike will find this an interesting and captivating book. It has two sections: the first, a dictionary of the common names of North American birds; the second, a dictionary of the scientific names. The author has obviously made an extensive study of the origins and derivations of those species listed in the AOU Check-list. Etymologies include vivid anecdotes and are frequently supplemented with listings of colloquial names. The result is an accurate ornithological dictionary written in a highly readable style.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

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FOR SALE: The original four-volume set of "Biologica Centralia Americana," Class Aves: Fine condition, no foxing on plates of volume four. The Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass. 01970. Attention D. E. Snyder.