

NEWS AND NOTES

INDEXING

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

ERRATUM

An error appeared in the rate for membership dues listed on the inside front cover of the spring 1974 issue of *The Condor* (Vol. 76, No. 1). Dues for regular members are \$15.00 per year *not* \$12.00.

OBITUARY

Dr. Abraham S. Margolin, a COS member since 1948, died in Phoenix, Arizona, on 28 October 1973. Dr. Margolin was the founder of the Maricopa Audubon Society and taught ornithology at Phoenix Junior College during the 1950s.

DELEGATES TO I.C.B.P.

The Cooper Ornithological Society is a Member Society of the United States Section of The International Council for Bird Preservation and so is entitled to two delegates who shall be Voting Members of the U.S. Section. The two newly appointed delegates, each for a 2-year term, are Eugene Eisenmann and Lester L. Short.

WOODPECKER SYMPOSIUM

There occurred on 9 March 1974, on the University of California campus at Berkeley, The Great California Woodpecker and Acorn-storing Symposium. This was organized to bring together investigators working recently or currently on behavior and ecology of *Balanosphyra formicivora*, a species long known to be a communal breeder. The meeting served to frame and explore the existing facts about this spe-

cies from the standpoint of social system ecology, and thereby to focus on special questions of general ecological and evolutionary interest fruitfully pursued by further work. The all-day program was introduced and chaired by F. A. Pitelka.

The opening paper was a general review of social organization in the Acorn Woodpecker, with emphasis on problems as seen today, given by Michael MacRoberts (Hastings Natural History Reservation, Carmel Valley, Calif.). Two botanists followed, John Tucker (University of California, Davis) and James R. Griffin (Hastings Reservation), discussing, respectively, agents of acorn dispersal and oak ecology, particularly acorn production. Four papers on population characteristics and ecology of the Acorn Woodpecker followed, based on studies at Santa Barbara, California, by Mary M. Erickson; at Los Altos, California, by Ruth Troetschler; near Davis, California, by R. Chadwick Roberts; and at the Hastings Reservation by Walter D. Koenig. Also on the program was a report on studies near San Diego by Darrell T. Lee (Dacono, Colorado), who was unable to attend. A final paper by Carl E. Bock (University of Colorado, Boulder) dealt with more general and evolutionary aspects of the geographical ecology of Acorn and Lewis woodpeckers. The meeting was closed with a summation given by W. J. Hamilton III (University of California, Davis). Readers interested in a copy of the program including bibliographic and data sheets distributed by speakers can obtain these from the organizer, Frank A. Pitelka.

Topics emphasized by the speakers' presentations and ensuing discussion were group composition, reproduction, feeding strategies and food storage, basic properties of territories, and competitive interactions both intra- and interspecific. It became clear that significant further progress in understanding of the Acorn Woodpecker's social system was contingent upon banding and color-marking of individuals in known groups and upon field manipulations of several sorts to test ideas regarding factors influencing various aspects of group composition and behavior. Of special interest evolutionarily would be any evi-



Speakers at The Great California Woodpecker and Acorn-storing Symposium held 9 March 1974 at the University of California, Berkeley (see accompanying news note). Left to right, front row: Walter D. Koenig, John Tucker, Ruth Troetschler, Mary M. Erickson, and Michael MacRoberts; back row: Frank A. Pitelka, Carl E. Bock, James R. Griffin, R. Chadwick Roberts, and W. J. Hamilton III. Photograph taken by O. P. Pearson.

dence on group behavior and food storage in parts of the Acorn Woodpecker's distributional range contrasting climatically with California, especially the more humid, warmer regions of Central America.

The consensus was that the symposium was successful. Several attendants urged that the format be used for an annual affair. Review of suitable topics and other planning for a second symposium in March 1975 will occur in the coming months.

ERRATUM: CORRECTED RECORDS OF BLACKBIRDS

W. C. Royall, Jr., calls attention to a serious error in the band recovery locations of five Yellow-headed Blackbirds (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) in México reported by Royall et al. (*Condor* 73:100, 1971). In Figure 2B, the three birds banded in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Great Falls, Montana, were not recovered in Guanajuato as shown but in Michoacán, Morelos, and Chihuahua (Camargo), respectively. Among the unmapped recoveries, two banded at Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge, North Dakota, and reported as recovered in Guanajuato were, in fact, recovered in Jalisco (one May recovery, p. 100, first paragraph of Migration section, and one of two November recoveries, p. 102, first paragraph of Winter Distribution section). In a recent check of band recovery records, the staff of the Bird Banding Laboratory of the Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, discovered that they had made these errors. The Camargo, Chihuahua recovery was published earlier by Lincoln (*Bird-Banding* 7:170, 1936), but that reference was discovered only after the paper by Royall et al. was published.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

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

Parrots of the World.—Joseph M. Forshaw, illustrated by William T. Cooper. 1973. Doubleday and Co., Inc., Garden City, New York. 584 p. \$65.00. This monograph is a compilation of species accounts of the order Psittaciformes—the parrots—beautifully and copiously illustrated. Historically, parrots have been of interest to man since ancient times. Their colorful plumage and the ability of some species to imitate human speech have made them popular pets. As Dean Amadon suggests in a foreword to the book, the vulnerability of many species of parrots to overexploitation makes them of increasing concern to ornithologists. This book is the first account of the entire order to be compiled in over a century.

Parrots inhabit most of the Southern Hemisphere, the most extensive species diversity being in the tropical Americas and Australia. The text has been divided into three major sections based on geographical distributions: the Pacific Distribution which includes Australia; the Afro-Asian Distribution; and the South American Distribution. An introductory section familiarizes the reader with some of the characteristics of parrots. This section includes discussions on general systematics of the order, anatomy, and natural history.

Each species account generally runs from two to three pages and includes: a color illustration of the species; a brief, pertinent description of the species;

an account of the distribution including a map illustrating subspecies distribution; a list of subspecies with measurements of specimens; and general notes on such aspects of the natural history as breeding biology, feeding ecology, and call note descriptions.

The highlight of the book is the superb, full-page colorplates of each of the approximately 340 species and many of the subspecies. While they will undoubtedly make this a popular book with a broad spectrum of the public, they contribute significantly to the species accounts.

This monograph is a major contribution to the field of ornithology. The author has made a concerted effort to compile all information on the order available from the published and unpublished literature, museum specimens, and his field observations.

Conservation Directory 1974.—William E. Clark, ed. 1974. The National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. 206 p. \$2.00. The subtitle states that this is a list of organizations, agencies, and officials concerned with natural resource use and management. The listings deal principally with the United States and Canada, but a list of conservation offices of foreign governments is also included. While the majority of people and organizations listed are those connected with the government, there are numerous listings of citizens' groups, independent organizations, and colleges and universities. Anyone interested in expanding his knowledge of conservation efforts in North America should find this directory useful for names and addresses.

Raptor Telemetry Research Survey Report.—M. R. Fuller, T. H. Nicholls, and T. C. Dunstan. 1973. Raptor Research Foundation, Bio-Telemetry Committee, c/o Biology Department, University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S.D. 57069. \$1.00. While a copy of this report has not been received, a release notice states that it includes comments and techniques on radio telemetry from 40 contributors. In addition, there is a bibliography of raptor telemetry and a list of commercial telemetry suppliers.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Every member of the Society may publish free of charge one short advertising notice (six lines or less) in any issue of *The Condor*. Members will be charged 50 cents per line for any excess over six lines. This service is reserved for the convenience of members and is not available for regular commercial purposes. Send advertising copy to Dr. Francis S. L. Williamson, *The Condor*, Chesapeake Bay Center for Environmental Studies, Route 4, Box 622, Edgewater, Maryland 21037.

FOR SALE: Complete issues of *The Condor* (1960-73); *Auk* (1952-54, 1960-73); *Wilson Bulletin* (1963-73); *American Birds* (1963-73); *Ecology* (1960-73); *Eastern Bird-Banding Association News* (1963-73); *The Living Bird* (Cornell Laboratory Ornithology) 1st-11th Annual. Make offer. D. H. DeFoe, Route 2, Box 176, Catlinburg, Tenn. 37738.

FOR SALE: One egg of the Great Auk, perfect condition, to be sold by silent mail auction to highest bidder by July 1, 1974. R. A. Rahn, 3006 W. Springdale Avenue, Wausau, Wi. 54401.