

NEWS AND NOTES

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

An announcement of the possible use by the International Commission of its plenary powers includes the following avian cases:

1980. Rejection of all usages of THRAUPIDAE, prior to that of Wetmore & Miller.

2074. Suppression of *Plyctolophus ducrops* Bonaparte, 1850. Comments should be sent in duplicate, citing case number, to the Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, c/o British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, England.

SHOREBIRD COLOR-MARKING

In 1975, the Canadian Wildlife Service plans to carry out extensive banding and color-marking of shorebirds in James Bay and the Maritime Provinces in eastern Canada. Colored leg bands and feather dyes will be used to mark the birds. Observers throughout eastern North America are asked to look out for any such birds and to record details of: species, place, date, details of color-marks or bands—for colored and standard metal leg bands, record which leg the bands were on, the colors involved, and the relative position of the bands if more than one was on a leg (e.g. right leg, red above blue, etc.). For color-dyed birds, record the color and area of the bird that was dyed. Details should be sent to Dr. R. I. G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 2721 Highway 31, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0H3.

INTERNATIONAL SHOREBIRD SURVEYS

In 1974, shorebird survey schemes were initiated in the Maritime Provinces of eastern Canada and in areas of the eastern U.S. and have provided valuable information concerning shorebird migration and for identifying and documenting areas of major importance. In 1975 it is planned to extend this scheme to as many areas as possible including eastern Canada and the U.S.A., the Caribbean Islands and northern South America. Observers who might be able to participate in regular census surveys during spring and autumn migration periods, as well as in areas where wintering populations of shorebirds are found are asked to contact one of the following:

(1) for areas in Canada; Dr. R. I. G. Morrison, Canadian Wildlife Service, 2721 Highway 31, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0H3.

(2) for areas in the U.S.A., Caribbean Islands and South America; Brian A. Harrington, Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, Massachusetts, 02345, U.S.A.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

From its inception until 1971, the Biological Society of Washington has published in its Proceedings some 680 papers concerning birds. Separates are still available for most of these and subsequent papers and are being offered at 5¢ per page (Xerox copies supplied for the few titles not in print). A great many original descriptions of new taxa are found in these papers. A Xeroxed list of titles on Aves is available for \$5.20. New members are also welcomed; dues are \$7.00 per year. All orders or inquiries should be

addressed to the Treasurer, Biological Society of Washington, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. 20560.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Cormorant Information Wanted—I need data on egg dates and clutch sizes of Double-crested, Pelagic, and Brandt's Cormorant from the west coast of North America for my research. Information from colonies where two or three of the species coexist will be especially useful. If possible, please list individually with date, location, stage of incubation, and collector or observer. Please send to Carl A. Schroeder, 6919 N. Wildwood Point Road, Hartland, Wisconsin 53029.

ERRATUM

Anita L. Parker recently reported an observation of a Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) at Atlanta, Georgia, stating that to her knowledge this was the first sighting of the species in Georgia (*Condor* 76:350). While her note was in proof, she informed the editor that she had found an earlier record (*Oriole* 32:34), but owing to an oversight this was not added to her article. The editor was subsequently informed of additional records (*Oriole* 28:26, 38:24), making it clear that Parker's observation was hardly the first for the state. He is chagrined further to discover that this article is a verbatim repeat of the same article that appeared earlier in the *Oriole* (38:29). *The Condor* does not knowingly publish articles that have been published elsewhere.

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Birds of Western North America.—Paintings by Kenneth L. Carlson, Text by Laurence C. Binford. 1974. Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., New York. 223 p. \$25.00. This is a book of full-page (24 × 32 cm) color plates and accompanying text for fifty selected species of nonpasserines. Many of the birds are shown in characteristic postures amidst a hint of their typical habitat. To the reviewer's eye, most of the plates are pleasing and some, such as the Western Grebes, Prairie Falcon, Sage Grouse, Long-billed Curlew, and the owls are excellent. In others, however, perspective has not been handled properly, producing misshapen or awkward figures, as in the Storm-petrel, Black Oystercatcher, and the Marbled Murrelet. The color printing is generally good but several plates appear too reddish overall and/or lacking richness in the blacks. The only mistake noted is in the caption for the Broad-billed Hummingbird; the picture shows the male gathering spiderweb for the nest, not the female, as stated.

The text is stronger than the plates, unlike most books of this kind. In his Introduction, Binford has done a good job of explaining birding to the uninitiated, and encouraging experienced birders to take up more technical studies. His essays for the individual species present a lot of information in a well-written manner. Many of the same topics (size, range, habitat, diet, nest, etc.) are treated in every account, yet the essays do not follow a standard pattern. Each is different. Species are not merely described but are also used to illustrate scientific