

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Handbook of North American Birds. Volumes 2 and 3, Waterfowl.—Edited by Ralph S. Palmer. 1976. New Haven and London, Yale University Press. 521 and 560 p. \$60/set. \$30 each. These encyclopedic volumes continue the format and excellence of Volume 1 (Loons through Flamingos). They are a detailed and authoritative reference on the physical attributes, subspecies, field identification, voice, habitat, distribution, migration, banding status, reproduction, survival, habits, and food of every species of waterfowl in North America. Part 1 (Volume 2) treats whistling ducks, swans, geese, sheld-ducks, and dabbling ducks; part 2 (Volume 3) treats eiders, wood ducks, diving ducks, mergansers, and stiff-tails. Range maps, pen-and-ink drawings, and color plates by Palmer, Robert M. Mengel, and Colleen H. Nelson. Each volume is indexed, but the list of literature cited is at the back of Volume 3. The books themselves are well bound, as befits a long-lived major work.

Fossil Birds. Third edition.—W. E. Swinton. 1975. Trustees of the British Museum (Natural History), London. 81 p. \$4.00. A non-technical introduction to the history of birds. Brief chapters on flight are followed by chapters each on Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Tertiary birds and on the origin of ratites. Photographs, drawings, and a color painting of *Ichthyornis*. This edition is but slightly updated from its predecessor (1965); a few new fossils are mentioned, but recent thinking on the origin and evolution of birds is not discussed.

Survey of the Balkan Peninsula Bird Fauna. Conspicuous Avifauna of the Balkans. I Part. Woodpeckers and Perching Birds.—S. D. Matvejev. 1976. Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts Monographs Vol. CDXCI, Section for Natural and Mathematical Sciences No. 46, Beograd. 365 p. Available: Dr. S. D. Matvejev, Biological Institut, 11000-Beograd, 29 Novembra No. 142, Yugoslavia. The introductory chapters of this work describe the history of ornithological studies in the region, the author's approach to faunistics, and the habitats of the Balkans. Most of the book is devoted to species accounts on the taxonomy, distribution, migration, and status of the birds. A final chapter deals with the evolution of the modern Balkan avifauna. In Slavic, with an English summary. Distribution maps and photographs of habitats.

Wetland classification in western Canada.—J. B. Millar. 1976. Canadian Wildlife Service Report Series No. 37, Ottawa. 38 p. \$2.00 Canada; \$2.40 other countries. Catalogue No. 65-8/37. Available: Information Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0S9. This booklet describes a system of classifying marshes and shallow open waters, based on a study in Saskatchewan. The system uses features related to the vegetation and the physical characteristics of the wetland. Diagrams and color photographs. Although not about birds, this paper would seem to be useful for studies of the ecology of birds who nest in the wetlands of north-central U.S. and the Prairie Provinces of Canada.

Waterfowl damage to Canadian grain.—Lawson G. Sugden. 1976. Canadian Wildlife Service Oc-

casional Paper No. 24, Ottawa. 25 p. Catalogue No. CW 69-1/24. Mallards and pintails damage wheat, barley, and oats crops on the Canadian prairies. This paper reviews the problem and ways to solve it. Research is needed on farming practices, waterfowl repellents, and providing alternative feeding sites.

Endangered or threatened birds and mammals of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.—Edited by Donald S. Heintzelman. 1976. Conservation Report No. 1, Lehigh Valley Audubon Society, Emmaus PA. 14 p. Free. Available: Lehigh Valley Audubon Society, P. O. Box 290, Emmaus, PA 18049. Requests should include a self-addressed 9 × 12 envelope with 35¢ postage attached. This report gives the status of 38 species of birds and 10 species of mammals that are regarded as endangered or threatened in Lehigh County. The list includes not only the Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon, but also many once-common species whose decline has been overlooked.

Key-word-index of Wildlife Research. Volume 3.—Edited by Rolf Anderegg. 1976. Swiss Wildlife Information Service. 328 p. Available: Swiss Wildlife Information Service, University of Zurich, Birchstrasse 95, CH-8050 Zurich, Switzerland. This is the latest volume of an annual guide to the literature of wildlife biology (see *Condor* 78:149, 1976).

The Zoological Record. Aves.—Compiled by the staff of the Zoological Society of London. 1976. Volume 109 (1972), Section 18. The Zoological Society of London. 487 p. £22.00. Nothing illustrates the growth of avian scientific literature better than the annual volumes of this series. This latest volume lists about 700 more titles than the year before (see *Condor* 77:232, 1975). An index to genera has been added. The delay in publication was largely caused by data input equipment and has now been overcome. The volume for 1973 should be out by the end of this year and those for 1974 and 1975 next year. In spite of its higher cost, time lag, and lapses in indexing, this is still a valuable bibliographic tool.

Census techniques for seabirds of arctic and eastern Canada.—D. N. Nettleship. 1976. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper No. 25, Ottawa. 33 p. Catalogue No. CW 69-1/25. A report on census techniques that have been used and tested during a study of seabirds in the western North Atlantic and adjacent parts of the Arctic Ocean. Emphasis is on techniques for colonies of individual species of petrels, storm-petrels, gannets, cormorants, larids, and alcids. Sketch maps. A CWS Colony Census Field Tabulation Form is shown and explained.

Environmental evaluations using birds and their habitats.—Jean W. Graber and Richard R. Graber. 1976. Biological Notes No. 97, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Ill. 40 p. Biologists are commonly asked to evaluate natural environments, either for impact statements or the acquisition of land for nature preserves. This paper presents a method of environmental evaluation based on bird populations and their gross habitats. It is assumed that these

elements can indicate the overall biological richness. This approach is taken because of limitations of time and the capabilities of investigators; it is not intended to lessen the consideration of other environmental components. The method can be applied, in fact, to plants or other animals. This report focusses on Illinois but can be applied elsewhere. Many graphs.

The Web of Adaptation/Bird Studies in the American Tropics.—David W. Snow. 1976. Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., New York. 176 p. \$8.95. This is a related series of essays on fruit-eating birds, principally Oilbirds and certain cotingas and manakins in Trinidad and Tobago, the Guianas, Panama, and Brazil. Feeding habits, social behavior, nesting, anatomy, and plumage are shown to be interconnected in a web of adaptations, in this case, for eating fruit. Here is an exemplary natural history—fascinating and easily readable, yet scientifically accurate and stimulating—a fitting tribute to William Beebe, the man who got Snow started in this field. A book not only for specialists in neotropical birds but also for those interested in the general question of how organisms are fitted to their way of life.

Bird Sounds.—Gerhard A. Thielcke. 1976. Ann Arbor Science Library 121. The University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor. 190 p. Clothbound \$6.95, paperback \$2.95. This is an introduction to the songs and calls of birds. Topics covered include sound spectrograms, mechanics of vocalization, the ear, the characteristics and functions of song, song recognition, calls, learning, speciation, evolution of sounds, sound parasitism, and the juvenile development of songs. Non-vocal sounds—which are more common than the author indicates—are discussed only briefly. The book is an easily understood, though sometimes ungraceful translation of the author's *Vogelstimmen*, first published in 1970. Drawings and sound spectrograms.

Hawks, Falcons and Falconry.—Frank L. Beebe. 1976. Hancock House Publishers Inc., Seattle. 320 p. \$24.95. This handsome book is about the general biology of raptors, the 11 species used for falconry in North America, and the equipment and methods of falconry. It offers a great deal of information, based on Beebe's field experience as well as the literature. Some of the material has been drawn from his *North American Falconry and Hunting*

Hawks (1964) and *Field Studies of the Falconiformes of British Columbia* (1974). The final chapter, wholly new, deals with recent controversy over the Peregrine Falcon and gives a vigorous defense of falconry. The book is abundantly illustrated with photographs and the author's fine pen-and-ink drawings.

Writing Scientific Papers in English.—Maeve O'Connor and F. Peter Woodford. 1975. Associated Scientific Publishers, Amsterdam, Oxford, New York. 108 p. \$8.75. Here is an excellent style manual for authors. It gives a wealth of good advice on all the phases of writing a scientific paper, from planning the paper through correcting the proofs. Appendixes contain lists of units of measure, expressions to avoid, abbreviations, and symbols. Writing a paper for publication is not the same as writing a thesis. When you've finished your thesis, put away your copy of Turabian's manual and get this book. You'll be doing yourself and an editor a big favor.

NEW JOURNALS

Ringling & Migration.—Edited by Colin J. Bibby, 11 Courtenay Close, Wareham, Dorset BH20 4ED, England. Volume 1, No. 1, December 1975. Published annually by the British Trust for Ornithology. Subscription details from: B.T.O., Beech Grove, Tring, Herts. HP23 5NR, England. "The aim is to publish original work by amateur ringers [banders] (and others working in related fields). Contents will include conventional basic ringling studies on subjects such as migration and population dynamics as well as those subjects conveniently studied by ringers such as moult, weights or field taxonomy." The first issue contains an interesting variety of papers, short notes, a book review, and abstracts of papers from Ringling Group reports.

Journal of the World Pheasant Association.—Edited by Iain Grahame and Stephen R. Wylie. 1975–1976. The World Pheasant Association, Daws Hall, Lamarsh, Bures, Suffolk, CO8 5EX, England. This first volume contains papers on pheasants, grouse, and curassows, mostly in captivity but also in the wild. Color plates, drawings, photographs, and range maps. While the journal is aimed toward aviculturists, it may be a good source of information on the appearance, distribution, and habits of some little-known gallinaceous birds.