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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Indian Hill Birds.—Salim Ali. 1979. Oxford University Press, New York. 188 p. \$24.95. This is virtually a reprint of the book originally published in 1949. A new preface gives the territorial names which have been changed since then. A pocket-size field guide, it describes in some detail the birds of the Indian hills—Himalayan as well as peninsular. The accounts cover size, field characters, distribution, habits, and nesting. The order of species is that of the earlier time (corvids to partridges), but there is an index. The book includes endpaper maps, color plates by G. M. Henry, photographs, a distribution chart, and a key for field identification. Birders in the Himalayas should compare this work with the same author's recent field guide to the birds of that region (noticed in *Condor* 80:457) to see which will serve them better.

Birds of the Labrador Peninsula and adjacent areas/A distributional list.—W.E. Clyde Todd. 1980. Buteo Books. 822 p. \$70.00. This major avifaunal study was first published in 1963 by the University of Toronto Press in association with the Carnegie Museum. For an appraisal of it, see the special review by Oliver Austin (1964. *Auk* 81:461-464). The book has now been reissued with the addition of four pages, including material on the author and a list of additions and corrections. The new pages are available separately on request, for a \$1.00 handling fee from Buteo Books, P.O. Box 481, Vermillion, SD 57069.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Graphics Simplified: How to plan and prepare effective charts, graphs, illustrations, and other visual aids.—A. J. MacGregor. 1979. University of Toronto Press, Toronto. 64 p. Paper cover. The title says it all. This little manual concisely provides information "about when to use and how to design charts and graphs, how to achieve legibility, how to prepare graphics for specific media, and how to use various types of graphic aids to make the job easier." It is intended for those who must prepare their own illustrations whether for teaching or for publication. Prospective contributors to *The Condor* are urged to get themselves a copy. Copious illustrations, selected bibliography, index.

Voices of the Loon.—William Barklow. 1980. 33½ rpm phonograph record. NAS 1001. North American Loon Fund and the National Audubon Society. \$9.00 plus postage. Source: North American Loon Fund, Main St., Humiston Bldg., Meredith, NH 03253 and National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. The calling of loons is the quintessential sound of the north-country. Its scientific and evocative aspects are both captured in this phonodisc, produced from recordings made by Barklow in Maine. The first side presents the four basic calls, introduced by narrator Robert J. Lurtsema. The second side, eight bands without commentary, presents loons calling in different situations. The climax is a combined chorus of loons and coyotes at night (dubbed in, yet true to life). The quality of the recordings is generally excellent, especially considering that many of them were made in a canoe. Proceeds from the sales of this record will be used for research and management of the Common Loon. For additional information about the loon's tremolo call, see Barklow (1979. *Condor* 81:53–64).

Bird Student/An Autobiography.—George Miksch Sutton. 1980. University of Texas Press, Austin. 216 p. \$15.95. In a modest and engaging manner, Sutton here recounts his memoirs, from his childhood until his early years at Cornell. He tells of his family and teachers, his associations with Louis Agassiz Fuertes, W. E. Clyde Todd, and J. B. Semple, and his trips to Labrador, Florida, and the arctic. It is virtually impossible to open the book anywhere without being immediately drawn into the story. Throughout are vivid recollections of birds—seeing them in life, preparing them as specimens, and learning to paint them. The book is illustrated with numerous field sketches and finished paintings in monochrome and color from various points in Sutton's career. Although certain episodes have been told before, it is good to have them set in place in this more complete history. Admirers of "Doc" Sutton and his paintings will relish this book.

A Naturalist on a Tropical Farm.—Alexander F. Skutch. 1980. University of California Press, Berkeley. 405 p. \$16.95. Here is another volume of Skutch's experiences and observations of natural history in Costa Rica. In terms of his career, it follows his earlier books, *The Imperative Call* (1979. Noted in *Condor* 82:141) and *A Naturalist in Costa Rica* (1971). Most of the chapters focus on the plant and animal life surrounding the author's farm and the activities of the farm itself. The penultimate chapter describes a very different region in the northwestern part of the country. In closing, Skutch discusses his philosophy of life. The book is well designed and is handsomely illustrated with full-page scratchboard drawings by Dana Gardner. It will be enjoyed by those who have visited Central America and those who enjoy traveling vicariously.

occur over 18 years, it seems unlikely that close parallels would be found between two populations that have been separated for nearly a century. Thielcke (1974) reported no differences in song between European Chaffinches and those recorded in New Zealand. However, this is only in the general characteristics of song rather than in the details considered here.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Estimation of density from line transect sampling of biological populations.—Kenneth P. Burnham, David R. Anderson, and Jeffrey L. Laake. 1980. Wildlife Monographs No. 72. 202 p. Paper cover. \$4.00. Source: The Wildlife Society, Inc., Suite 611, 7101 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20014. "This monograph provides what we believe to be a rigorous, comprehensive, and practical reference on line transect sampling as it is used in estimating the abundance of wildlife populations." It combines theory and practice, and includes many illustrative examples. The work is addressed to both field biologists and biostatisticians, and offers a detailed Reader's Guide as a roadmap. Familiarity with applied statistics is expected before setting out. Diagrams, references, appendixes.

A working bibliography on the Peregrine Falcon in Washington State.—Richard L. Knight, Leray E. Stream, and Roger H. Harkins. 1979. Washington Department of Game. 25 p. Paper cover. **An annotated bibliography of Washington raptors and the Common Raven.**—Richard L. Knight. 1979. Washington Dept. of Game. 68 p. Paper cover. Source: free from the Washington Dept. of Game, 600 North Capitol Way, Olympia, WA 98504. The peregrine bibliography consists of an annotated list of references to the species in Washington and a list of selected articles on the biology of the species as studied elsewhere. The bibliography of raptors and the raven gives a list of references to these birds in Washington, each citation

coded to show its nature (e.g., general article, checklist, thesis) and which species are mentioned. A species index follows. Much of the first bibliography is subsumed in the second, so it is not evident why they were published separately. Nevertheless, they will be useful to those involved with research or management of raptors and ravens in the Pacific Northwest.

Avian community structure of six forest stands in La Maurice National Park, Quebec.—J.-L. DesGranges. 1980. Occasional Paper No. 41, Canadian Wildlife Service. 32 p. Paper cover. The author studied avian communities in various successional stages of northern-coniferous forest. Similarity, feeding niches, dominance, equitability, and diversity were considered. The report provides useful data and tests some current ecological theories on community structure. Photographs, graphs, and references.

Census methods for murre, *Uria* species: a unified approach.—T. R. Birkhead and D. N. Nettleship. 1980. Occasional Paper No. 43, Canadian Wildlife Service. 24 p. Paper cover. Murre are said to be "probably the 'best' alcid species to serve as indicators of the quality of the marine environment." This report presents methods for estimating the size and status of their populations, as appropriate for the different types of breeding colony. The frequency of counts and potential sources of error are discussed. This is a practical manual of techniques for censusing colonial seabirds. Photographs, diagrams, appendixes, references.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Island Waterfowl.—Milton W. Weller. 1980. Iowa State University Press, Ames. 121 p. \$10.95. This book is the first to examine comprehensively the many distinct forms of ducks and geese that have evolved on oceanic islands. Drawing on his extensive field work and the literature, Weller first describes the distribution and characteristics of each of these birds. He then considers the factors that influenced colonization by their ancestors, adaptations to island living, and the changes in the reproductive behavior of the solitary island ducks. This leads to a discussion of speciation in these birds and the development of their avifaunas. The book closes with a consideration of the status and conservation of these endemic waterfowl. A well-written, solid piece of work, this book offers much to those who study island biology and evolution as well as those who specialize in anatids.

The Hawaiian Goose/An Experiment in Conservation.—Janet Kear and A. J. Berger. 1980. Buteo Books, Vermillion, SD. 154 p. \$30.00. Captive breeding programs since 1949, first in Hawaii and later at the Wildfowl Trust in England, appear to have rescued the Nene from extinction. This book is chiefly devoted to the history of those efforts and what has been learned from them. Opening chapters comprehensively describe the habitat and the biology of the bird. In conclusion, the authors thoughtfully evaluate the success of this propagation program. The book is illustrated with photographs, diagrams, maps, and with drawings by Peter Scott and others. Appendixes, references, index. This case history will be of interest to those who are concerned with endangered species of birds and the methods for their salvation.

Character variation and evolution of sibling species in the the *Empidonax difficilis-flavescens* complex (Aves: Tyrannidae).—Ned K. Johnson. 1980. University of California Publications in Zoology 112. 164 p. Paper cover. \$9.50. "The numerous groups of closely-similar species of New World flycatchers . . . offer considerable potential for insight into the fundamental evolutionary relationships between morphologic stability and isolating mechanisms. In the present report I offer relevant data from two polytypic species of

tyrannids . . . , the Western Flycatcher and its allpatric close relative the Yellowish Flycatcher." Geographic variation in characters of size, color, and vocalization is elaborately analyzed in addressing questions about the distribution, evolution, and taxonomy of the group. In the course of resolving a particular taxonomic problem, this monograph makes an important contribution to the understanding of other groups of sibling species. Photographs, maps, diagrams, sound spectrograms, appendixes, references.

Vertebrate Ecology in the Northern Neotropics.—John F. Eisenberg, ed. 1979. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C. 271 p. Paper cover. \$8.95. This volume is a collection of reports by investigators who have been associated with Smithsonian Institution projects in Panama and Venezuela. Most of the papers concern mammals. Betsy Trent Thomas provides an annotated list of "The birds of a ranch in the Venezuela llanos." Eugene S. Morton presents "A comparative survey of avian social systems in northern Venezuelan habitats." Ornithologists who work in the neotropics will find these two papers useful. Each has its own list of references.

Fool Hen/The Spruce Grouse on the Yellow Dog Plains.—William L. Robinson. 1980. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison. 221 p. \$18.50. Of the North American species of grouse, the Spruce Grouse has been the least known, which is surprising in view of its utter approachability and wide range. Robinson (with the aid of his students) has now given us an intimate portrait of the bird, based on years of study in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. After introducing the species, he describes the basic aspects of its life history and ecology. An unusual appendix tells where and how to see a Spruce Grouse. Writing in a clear, non-technical, and occasionally colorful manner, the author explains his findings and enlivens them with personal incidents and thoughts. His book is sufficiently informative for wildlife ecologists and game biologists, yet understandable and enjoyable for birders. Photographs, charts, references, index.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Birds.—[Various authors] with introductions by Barry W. Wilson. 1980. W. H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco. 276 p. Paper cover. "This book contains 25 of the more than 40 *Scientific American* articles about birds published since 1948." The articles are grouped into seven sections: diversity of birds, flight, migration and navigation, evolution, behavior, physiology and song, birds and people. Introductions to each section by Wilson provide essential background information. The quality of the writing and illustrations is familiar to those who know the magazine. This collection can serve as supplementary reading for a variety of college courses, and teachers, themselves, will find it a convenient source of lecture material.

Form and Function in Birds, Volume 1.—Edited by A. S. King and J. McLelland. 1979. Academic Press Inc., London. 459 p. \$64.50. This is the first in a projected series of three volumes on the functional morphology of birds. "The overriding objective has been to show why birds are built as they are, and to assemble

this information into a reference work for all biologists who research or teach with avian material." The general principles of avian morphology are set forth in the opening chapter by A. S. King and D. Z. King. Following are chapters on the coelomic cavities (H.-R. Duncker), digestive system (McLelland), urinary organs (O. W. Johnson), female genital organs (A. B. Gilbert), blood cells (R. D. Hodges), and the autonomic nervous system (A. R. Akester). The treatment is at an advanced level and is largely descriptive, despite the editors' aims. As compared with the equivalent chapters in King and Farner's *Avian Biology* (1971-1975, Academic Press)—except for that on the coelomic cavities, which has no predecessor in that series—the present chapters are longer, more detailed, more fully illustrated, and of course, more up-to-date. For the topics included, this volume is the most comprehensive reference available. Those who need information on the anatomy of birds will continue to be indebted to Academic Press. Photographs, drawings, diagrams, lists of references, index.

tors at the base of the bill or in the lateral apertures.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Lovebirds/Their Care and Breeding.—David Alderton. 141 p. \$7.95. **Zebra Finches.**—Cyril H. Rogers. 121 p. \$7.95. **Pheasants/Their Breeding and Management.**—K. C. R. Howman. 117 p. \$9.95. All published in 1979 by K & R Books Ltd., Edington, Horn-castle, Lincs, England and distributed in the U.S. by Arco Publishers. These are practical handbooks for aviculturists, treating the varieties and species of their subject birds, and the care of these birds in captivity. Housing, breeding, feeding, general management, and diseases are among the topics covered. Various illustrations with photographs, drawings, and paintings, many in color.

Bird Finding in Tennessee.—Michael Lee Bierly. 1980. Published by the author. 255 p. Paper cover. \$8.00. Source: M. L. Bierly, 3825 Bedford Ave., Nashville, TN 37215. Tennessee offers good birding, thanks to its east-west extent and varied terrain. This book is a guide to the State's best birding spots and some of the species to be expected there. It describes 112 such places, with detailed instructions and maps for finding them. An annotated list gives the seasonal and geographic status of 300 species that have been recorded in Tennessee. Further aids are a list of knowledgeable birders in the State and a list of the chapters of the Tennessee Ornithological Society. Index.