

Motogua Valley, in the Pacific lowlands of northern Central America which have an almost totally different avifauna, nor in southern Central America.

As to the Peten itself, the bird list of Tikal Park does not include all the species found in the extensive lake system in central Peten, in the large savanna areas south of La Libertad and towards Poptun, in the pinelands of southeast Peten, in the western foothills of the Mayan Mts., in the true rain-forest of southern Peten, or the many miles of riparian forest along the Rio de la Pasion, the Rio Usumacinta, the Rio de San Pedro, and the headwaters of the Rio Mopan and the Rio Sarstun.

The appendices are most interesting. Temperature and rainfall records over a four-year period, while unusual in a field guide of this sort, add materially to the records Dr. Lundell lists from Paso Caballos and the official government records from Flores. Appendix D, drawings of the various types of pensile flycatcher nests, was obviously a labor of love and is fascinating.

Appendix B gives the lists of species recorded by previous investigators. Mr. Smithe says these "bring the records of the Peten very close to completion," but this is not necessarily true because not enough collecting has been done and many areas of Peten have not yet been visited by professional ornithologists. Many species simply listed in Appendix B and not described in the text are common birds elsewhere in the Peten—the Mangrove Swallow, Plain-breasted Ground Dove, Blue-gray Tanager, Grey-crowned Yellowthroat, Vermilion Flycatcher, Fork-tailed Flycatcher, Common Tody-Flycatcher, Grayish Saltator, Acorn Woodpecker, Lesser Yellowlegs, Purple Gallinule, American Coot, and Muscovy Duck. We ourselves have also seen, and these species are not listed anywhere on any list in this book, Black-bellied Tree Duck, White-tailed Kite (a common bird throughout Central Peten in February and March), Least Bittern, American Bittern, Bonaparte Gull, Common Gallinule, Common Ground Dove, and Scarlet-rumped Tanager. The Jabiru Stork is well-known to the Indians and archeologists along the Rio de la Pasion. A number of additional species are common in British Honduras close to the Peten border, and since no one has collected anywhere in eastern Peten as yet, they may well be found to occur there. These species include Buff-throated Saltator, Striped Cuckoo, Yellow-headed Parrot, and, in the mountain edges, Black Phoebe and Horned Guan.

As it stands this book is a "must" for any birder going to Tikal, and surely more people will discover what a superb spot it is. But for the birder going anywhere else in the Peten or in Izabal, or to the adjoining areas of Mexico or British Honduras, Blake's *Birds of Mexico* and Eisenmann's *The Species of Middle American Birds* are still essential. Mr. Smithe has done such an excellent job of describing the birds he deals with that I personally hope he will now prepare a companion volume covering the rest of the birds of Peten.—Dora Weyer.

#### NOTES AND NEWS

Philip and Paul Robillard would be grateful for further data on the Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*), such as nest record cards, other nest studies, albinism, and in fact any life history aspect (address: 125 Burnett Road, Granby, Mass. 01033).

Papers intended for presentation at NEBBA's 1967 annual meeting (Drunlin Farm, Lincoln, Mass., October 28) should be discussed with James Baird prior to September 1 (address: Mass. Audubon Society, So. Great Road, Lincoln, Mass. 01773).

The 1968 spring field meeting of NEBBA is scheduled for June 8 at the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary on Cape Cod. Present plans are for a beach-buggy trip down Nauset Beach on the 8th, and tentatively a longer beach-buggy trip on Sunday the 9th, down Monomoy. Some migrant shorebirds should still be present.

While mist nets sales have been very heavy this spring, NEBBA can still offer immediate shipment on all ten types, including "tethered" 30mm mesh (12 meters long). For details, write Mr. E. A. Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06117.

*Errata:* (a) in the January, 1967 issue, under "Postjuvinal Molt and Determination of Age of the Cardinal", on p. 39, line 6 of text, for "260" read "360"; on p. 50, line 1 of the Summary, for "234" read "334".

(b) In "Bursa Regression, Gonad Cycle and Molt of the Great-Horned Owl", by Milton W. Weller (*Bird-Banding*, 36: 111, April, 1965), a typographical error made it appear that males are larger than females. The first sentence of the Summary should read: "Body weight and other morphological dimensions of females generally exceeded those of males, but there was considerable overlap."

### NEEDED: STUDENTS FOR FIELD WORK IN PANAMA

Through an NIH grant, I have been netting, banding and studying North American migrant birds in Panama for the last four years. The project will be continued in autumn and spring 1967-68, and for this purpose I need two (and perhaps three) graduate students in each season to come here to Panama to man the nets. I will be able to pay their transportation to Panama round trip, plus \$50 a week for the time they are here on the job. Principal effort this autumn will probably be in the Almirante, near the Costa Rican border on the Atlantic shore. Other work may be carried out elsewhere in Central and Western Panama.

For autumn 1967, the student must be here and on the job throughout the critical month of October. He may come as early in September (or late August) as he wishes, and stay as long after October and into December as he wishes. There should be ample time and opportunity for the student to pursue a reasonable amount of research on his own. Nature of the personal research should be discussed previously with me. All data gathered pertaining to migrant birds, other than that of the personal research problem, is of course the property of the principal investigator.

In the past, students from Florida State University, Univ. of Georgia, Rutgers, St. Louis Univ., Univ. of Wisconsin, and Univ. of Miami have participated in this project. It is preferable that the prospective student be an ornithologist or certainly well up in the field; he should know his migrant birds well; hopefully he should have experience in netting and banding. The job requires a person who is capable of sustained effort on his own — for there is a very minimum of supervision. He will be stuck off in the boondocks, so must tolerate life without bright lights and flush toilets. But most of all he must be self-reliant. Knowledge of Spanish is helpful, but its lack is no great problem.

I would be very pleased to hear from any students who would like to be considered for this opportunity to work in and learn about the tropical environment. I am especially anxious for candidates for the autumn session on the nets and would like to have responses as soon as possible. Please ask your major professor to send a letter in your support, and your own letter, to

Dr. Horace Loftin,  
Florida State University Center for Tropical Studies,  
Box 930,  
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