

contributions in this field that have been made and can be made by amateurs who are serious yet unprofessional naturalists. There are a bibliography of 119 titles, an index of species and authors, 8 plates and 67 figures, many of them line drawings from motion picture film.

This book cannot be too highly recommended. In simple, clear English it covers the field and provides a thought-provoking, illuminating guide to further research on the social behavior of animals—M. M. Nice.

69. Those of the Forest. Wallace Byron Grange. 1953. Flambeau Publishing Co., Babcock, Wis. 314 pp. \$4.75. A wonderful picture of the life of a wilderness forest throughout the year with a brief sketch of its history throughout geologic ages. With a snowshoe hare as the central figure, we read of trees and birds, of insects and many other animals and plants; we learn how they affect one another and how the weather affects them all—a most illuminating and absorbing presentation of biology and ecology. In regard to the difficulties and dangers of the rabbit's life, the author writes: "Is not struggle necessary? . . . Could life exist if it were deprived of its daily challenges? Is the cry of life throughout the forest a cry lamenting struggle or one rather that cries out for life itself—for life in which further to meet adversity?" (p. 262). The rich and varied life of the plants and animals of the northern forest is vividly portrayed. The ever-recurring theme of the book is this: "No one of them is alone. . . . All contribute to the unbroken, timeless continuity which is life—not the life of one, but the life of all. Partaking of the lives of one another, they are somehow welded to a unity of association which may appear predatory today, but which is clearly symbiotic in total, for the community is self-renewing and endures all apparent conflict," (p. 199).

The drawings of Olaus Murie add to the charm and value of this unique book. It is to be hoped it will have a very wide sale for its message is of the utmost importance.—M. M. Nice.

NOTES AND NEWS

It is unusual for *Bird-Banding* to contain a paper so long that it must be run in installments, but exceptions have been made from time to time in order to handle a long paper of particular interest and importance. In 1946 and 1947 Mr. J. A. Hagar's paper on the Black Duck in Massachusetts was presented in several sections. The Tree Swallow paper starting in this issue will be continued in one or two further installments, including a bibliography. The author, Mr. Raymond A. Paynter, Jr., is now Assistant Curator of Birds in the Museum of Comparative Zoology in Cambridge, and was recently elected to the Council of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association. Readers will recall his paper on "The Fate of Banded Kent Island Herring Gulls" in our October, 1947 issue.

To the long list of topics suitable for general notes in *Bird-Banding* can now be added data on leg sizes, along the lines suggested by Dr. Blake in our January issue. The technique is simple enough for use at any banding station, and the value of data (even on common species) from a large number of stations would be great. In the editor's brief experience with the gauge, it is not difficult to obtain a measurement accurate to .1mm or less in most cases, the most obvious pitfalls being a measurement not taken at the smallest part of the tarsus, or one taken of the greater diameter with the axis of the gauge not perpendicular to that side of the tarsus.

The spring field meeting of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association will be held on Saturday, June 19, at the home of Mr. L. B. Chapman in Princeton, Mass. All those interested in banding will be welcome; the station includes a flourishing Tree Swallow colony. To reach Princeton village, take routes 2 and 31 (or 9, 140 and 62) from the Boston area; take 122A and 31 from Worcester; from New York City and Hartford, take route 31 from Charlton City, leaving route 20. To reach the meeting from Princeton village, take route 62 toward Barre; about three miles from the village turn sharp right just before route 62 crosses a railroad; go one mile to a crossroads; turn right and go one mile to a sign "Wild Acres—L. B. Chapman." The meeting will be held in the forenoon and early afternoon.