

SPECIAL REVIEW

RECENT RUSSIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

CHARLES VAURIE

In a recent number of *The Auk* (vol. 81, pp. 238–241, 1964), I published a list of Russian publications consisting chiefly of important monographs or faunistic surveys published between 1950 and 1963. The publications mentioned below appeared after 1963, with three exceptions, and the present list includes more collections of papers than monographs. The titles of the papers in these collections are given because these papers are usually related and it now seems more helpful to me to list them individually in their proper context than to suggest a search of *The Zoological Record* (as I did in 1964), where they are scattered.

One of the publications ("Fauna and ecology of the birds of the delta of the Volga . . .") has a table of contents in English, but the others do not and their titles have been freely translated. The titles in the table of contents given in English have been reworded somewhat. I have added also a few annotations and called attention to the description of a new subspecies by Stepanyan (*Monticola saxatilis coloratus*) from Turkey.

The publications listed here were obtained by me during two recent trips to the Soviet Union, one in 1965 and the other in 1966; some were purchased and the others were the gifts of my Russian colleagues, to whom I publicly express my appreciation. This list, and the former one, include only the publications that I have acquired and I do not, therefore, pretend to give a complete coverage of the Russian literature. I mention this because the scope of my first list has been misunderstood. I may add, however, that I will be grateful to have my attention called to Russian ornithological publications and to receive them as a loan if they are not available to me.

Ekologiya pozvonochnykh zhivotnykh krainego severa [Ecology of the vertebrates of the Far North]. 1965. 195 pp., pt. 1200, 1 R. This publication is vol. 38 of Trudy Inst. Biol. of the Ural Branch of the Akad. Nauk S.S.S.R., Sverdlovsk, and contains 18 articles; those concerning birds are as follows: BEREGOV, V. E., The habitat of the wagtails (*Motacilla flava* and *Motacilla citreola*) in the Urals. BOIKOV, V. N., Ecology of the birds of the northern part of the forested tundra of the lower Poluya River. DANILOV, N. N., Variations in the distribution of the birds of the lower Ob during the last decade. DOBRINSKY, L. N., Birds of the valley of the Sob River. DOBRINSKY, L. N., Birds of the valley of the Khadyty River, southern Yamal Peninsula. LEONOVICH, V. V., and S. M. USPENSKY, Adaptation of the birds to the Arctic climate. MALYSHEV, R. A., and N. N. DANILOV, *Capella stenura* in the Polar Urals. USPENSKY, S. M., Birds of the Bolshezemelskaya Tundra, Yugorsky Peninsula, and Vaigach Island.

Fauna i ekologiya ptitsy delty Volgi i poberezhii Kaspiya [Fauna and ecology of the birds of the delta of the Volga and of the shores of the Caspian Sea]. 1963. 423 pp., 60 figs., pt. 1000, 1 R 98 K. This publication is vol. 8 of Trudy Astrakhanskogo zapovednika [Transactions of the Astrakhan reservation], Astrakhan, and consists of 12 articles; 11 concern birds and are as follows: GANYUSHKIN, M. A., and A. E. LUGOVOY, Experimental banding of molting ducks in the Astrakhan Wildlife Preserve. KRIVONOSOV, G. A., Wintering quarters on the northern Caspian Sea in 1960–1961. KRIVONOSOV, G. A., Number of Mute Swans (*Cygnus olor*) found now

- in the delta of the Volga and protection of their nests. KRIVONOSOV, G. A., Ecology and distribution of the birds of prey in the delta of the Volga. KULYUKINA, N. M., Number of pheasants now in the delta of the Volga. LUGOVOY, A. E., Birds of the delta of the Volga. LUGOVOY, A. E., The formation of the wintering accumulations of birds in the northern part of the Caspian Sea. MATYUSHKIN, E. N., Notes on the autumn flight of the sandpipers in the delta of the Volga. SHATAS, Y. F., The pheasant of the delta of the Volga and factors which influence the size of its population. ZABLOTSKY, V. I., and L. I. ZABLOTSKAYA, Review of the gulls and terns of the southwestern Caspian Sea and of their ecology and importance. ZALETAEV, V. S., Wintering water-birds of the northeastern and southeastern Caspian Sea.
- GLADKOV, N. A., G. P. DEMENTIEV, E. S. PTUSHENKO, and A. M. SUDILOVSKAYA. 1964. *Opredelitel Ptitsy S.S.S.R.* [Key to the birds of the U.S.S.R.] Yaroslavl, Vysshaya Shkola, 536 pp., 221 figs., 4 col. pls., pt. 10500, 2 R 40 K.
- Issledovaniya po faune Sovetskogo Soiuza (Ptitsy) [Research on the fauna of the Soviet Union (Birds)]. 1965. Moscow, Moscow University; 247 pp., 17 figs., pt. 2250, 1 R 20 K. A collection of 11 papers as follows: DEMENTIEV, G. P., and A. SHAGDARSUREN, The populations of *Falco cherrug* in Mongolia and discussion of the systematic status of *Falco altaicus* [which, the authors conclude, is only a color phase of *F. cherrug*]. GLADKOV, N. A., and V. S. ZALETAEV, Notes on the birds of the Anabar tundra (northwestern part of western Yakutia). HOFMAN, D. N., Cartilages of the palate in birds. PTUSHENKO, E. S., New records for the region of Ryazan. PTUSHENKO, E. S., Taxonomy and distribution of *Emberiza hortulana*. RAKHILIN, V. K., Interesting records for the Far East. SPANGENBERG, E. P., Birds of the Iman River Basin. STEPANYAN, L. S., Nomenclature and taxonomy of *Mycerobas carnipes* in the Tian Shan. STEPANYAN, L. S., Geographical variation of *Monticola saxatilis* [a new subspecies, *M. s. coloratus* is described, with type locality, Khnys-kala, Turkey]. SUDILOVSKAYA, A. M., Interesting recent additions to the collection of the Zoological Museum of Moscow University. USPENSKY, S. M., Notes on the avifauna of the northern Anabar tundra.
- IVANOV, A. I., and B. K. STEGMAN. 1964. *Kratikii opredelitel Ptitsy S.S.S.R.* [Brief key to the birds of the U.S.S.R.]. Moscow-Leningrad, Akad. Nauk S.S.S.R., Zool. Inst.; 528 pp., 353 figs., 41 photos, pt 26000, 1 R 95 K. This is a pocket-size book designed for identification in the field or museum. It is preceded by a systematic list of 723 species giving the scientific and vernacular names, and is arranged in the sequence of Wetmore with slight modifications. The figures consist of line drawings illustrating diagnostic details and are excellent.
- KIRIKOV, S. V. 1966. *Promyslovye zhivotnye, prirodnyaya sreda i Chelovek* [Economic animals, natural environment, and man]. Moscow, Izdatel. Nauka; 348 pp., 16 figs. (including maps), pt. 1800, 2 R 11 K. Historical study of the distribution of the economic animals of Russia, including birds, from the 14th to the 20th century.
- Novosti ornitologii [Ornithological news]. 1965. Alma Ata, Izdatel. Nauka Kazakh. S.S.R.; 451 pp., pt. 1070, 2 R 12 K. This publication represents the Proceedings of the Fourth Ornithological Congress held at Alma Ata, 1-7 September 1965. It includes 298 papers, condensed or reduced to abstracts.
- Prirodnye resursy Volzhsko-Kamskogo kraia [Natural resources of the Volga-Kama region]. 1964. Moscow, Biol. Inst. Kazan branch of Akad. Nauk S.S.S.R.; 196 pp., 51 figs., pt. 1000, 82 K. This publication contains 19 papers on amphibians, birds, and mammals, those which concern birds being as follows: DANILOV, N. N., Determination of age in sparrows by examination of the degree of ossification of

- the frontal bones. EFREMOV, P. G., A census of the birds of the pine woods of the Mariysky A.S.S.R. GARANIN, V. I., The role of amphibians in the life of birds. NAZAROVA, I. V., An apparatus to study the nests of birds in tree cavities. NEKRASOV, B. V., Functional morphology of the jaws of some finches (some of the species studied are *Carduelis chloris*, *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, *Pinicola enucleator*, and the three species of *Loxia*). POPOV, V. A., et al., A study of bird migration at the mouth of the Kama River from 1956 to 1963. PRIEZZHEV, G. P., Notes on the abundance and life history of small sparrows at the estuary of the Volga. PRIKLONSKY, S. P., Waterfowl migration at the mouth of the Belaya River. VORONOV, N. P., Digestive ferments of crows. ZATSEPINA, R. A., Ecology of some Sylviinae in the Volga-Kama region. ZIMIN, A. B., Notes on the species of the woodlands of the Chuvash Hills, and on their abundance.
- REIMERS, N. F. 1966. Ptitsy i mlekopitaiushchie iuzhnoi taigi srednei Sibiri [Birds and mammals of the southern taiga of central Siberia]. Moscow-Leningrad, Akad. Nauk S.S.S.R., 420 pp., 76 figs., 1 col. map, pt. 1500, 2 R 10 K. This work is a study of the biotopes of the southern parts of the central Siberian taiga (illustrated by a large map in color). Ingenious diagrams illustrate the density of the population and the extent of the biotopes it occupies.
- STRAUTMAN, F. I. 1963. Ptitsy zapadnykh oblastei U.S.S.R. [Birds of the western provinces of the U.S.S.R.]. Lvov, Lvov University; vol. 1, 199 pp., 38 figs., 22 maps, 5 col. pls., pt. 2000, 1 R 12 K. Volume 1 deals with the non-passeriformes; volume 2, which treats the passeriformes, has been published but has not been seen by me.
- Trudy gosudarstvennogo zapovednika Aksu-Dzhabagly [Transactions of the Aksu-Dzhabagly state reservation]. 1965. Vol. 2, Alma Ata; 263 pp., pt. 1000, 1 R 14 K. This reservation is in the Talas Ala Tau range of the western Tian Shan, and the present publication consists of 11 articles, those concerning birds being as follows: KOVSHAR, A. F., Additions to the avifauna of Aksu-Dzhabagly. KOVSHAR, A. F., The biology of some species of *Sylvia* in the western Tian Shan. KOVSHAR, A. F., Notes on the biology of *Cinclus cinclus* in the western Tian Shan. SHULPIN, L. M., Notes on the avifauna of the Aksu-Dzhabagly reservation.
- Trudy Kandalakshskogo gosudarstvennogo zapovednika [Transactions of the Kandalaksha state reservation]. 1960. Vol. 2; Murmansk; 337 pp. 28 figs., pt. 1233, 9 R 80 K [= 98 K]. Contains 5 papers as follows: BLAGOSKLONOV, K. N., Birds of the Kandalaksha reservation and of the White Sea biological stations of the Moscow State University. BIANKI, V. V., and A. I. FLEROV, List of the birds of Kandalaksha Bay and of its coasts. BIANKI, V. V., Non-breeding Alcidae occurring in Kandalaksha Bay. KISHCHINSKY, A. A., Ecology of the birds of the Teribersk district of Murmansk oblast. SPANGENBERG, E. P., and V. V. LEONOVICH, Birds of the north-eastern coasts of the White Sea.
- VOITKEVICH, A. A. 1962. Pero Ptitsy [Bird Feathers]. Moscow, Akad. Nauk S.S.S.R.; 288 pp., 104 figs., pt. 1500, 1 R 43 K. This publication is a detailed study of the morphology of feathers, molts, and of the physiological factors which control the growth of feathers and molts. It has a very lengthy and comprehensive bibliography of about 830 titles, about one-third of which are in Russian. Many papers are by American authors, such as Dwight, Farner (down to 1961), and Wolfson. An English translation of this publication is available from Sidgwick and Jackson, Ltd., London.