

OBITUARY: JOSEPHINE R. MICHENER

Josephine R. Michener, who joined the Cooper Ornithological Society in 1934 and was made an Honorary Member in 1942, passed away in Pasadena, California, on 20 January 1971 at the age of 89. She and her husband, the late Harold Michener, made many basic contributions to scientific ornithology, some published jointly, others authored by Mrs. Michener after the death of her husband. The Micheners banded birds extensively and used color-banded birds to make very careful studies of molts and plumages of the House Finch and the Mockingbird and a thorough study of the general biology of the latter species. Although Mrs. Michener did not have formal training in ornithology, she received a bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of California in 1905, and for several years after that she assisted Professor Charles Atwood Kofoid in his studies of marine protozoa and co-authored with him several large papers on this group. This scientific background stood her in good stead in her later work in ornithology. Those who knew Josephine Michener from her published work will remember her as a careful and thorough worker who made a number of important contributions to our knowledge of western birds; those who were privileged to know her as a friend will mourn the passing of a gracious, warm-hearted, and thoroughly delightful person whose like is encountered all too seldom.—John Davis

1971 A.O.U. MEETING

The 89th Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held at the University of Washington, Seattle, 30 August–3 September 1971. A.O.U. members will receive details of the meeting in May; others may then obtain such information by writing to the A.O.U. Local Committee, Dept. of Zoology, University of Washington, Seattle 98105.

NEW OFFICERS OF A.O.U.

At its meeting in Buffalo, New York, 5–9 October 1970, the American Ornithologists' Union elected the following officers: Robert W. Storer, President; S. Charles Kendeigh, First Vice-president; Joseph J. Hickey, Second Vice-president; Richard C. Banks, Secretary; and Burt L. Monroe, Jr., Treasurer. Elected to three-year terms on the Council were Eugene Eisenmann, Wesley E. Lanyon, and Charles G. Sibley.

REHOUSING OF BRITISH MUSEUM BIRD COLLECTIONS

During 1971 the bird collections of the British Museum (Natural History) will be moved from London to the Zoological Museum, Tring, Hertfordshire. The earliest stages of the move will begin in April, and from May to the end of the year the collections will not be available to visitors. It will also be necessary to restrict access to the collections during the period January to April 1972.

The collections are being rehoused in a specially designed new building adjacent to the Museum's outstation at Tring. Effective 1 October 1971 the address will be: British Museum (Natural History), Sub-department of Ornithology, Tring, Hertfordshire, England. Tring is about 30 miles northwest of London, and is served by a fast train service from Euston Station.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SYSTEMATIC AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

The Society of Systematic Zoology and the International Association for Plant Taxonomy will jointly sponsor this congress 4–11 August 1973 at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Program plans at this point encompass interdisciplinary symposia and contributed paper sessions. Suggestions concerning the program and inquiries may be addressed to the Secretary of the Steering Committee: Dr. James L. Reveal, Dept. of Botany, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20740.

SKUTCH I ISSUES WANTED FOR TRADE

Many universities and researchers desire to obtain Skutch I (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 31, 1954, Life Histories of Central American Birds, Families Fringillidae to Coerebidae). Therefore we are offering to trade certain Avifauna and Condors for Skutch I.

If you no longer need your Skutch I please make this effort to advance the study of ornithology. Contact James G. Miller, Asst. Treasurer, Dept. of Zoology, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, California 90024.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Among the publications recently received by the editorial office, the following are noted as having particular interest for avian biologists.

Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics, Volume 1, 1970.—R. F. Johnston, Editor, P. W. Frank and C. D. Michener, Associate Editors. 1970. Annual Reviews, Inc., 4139 El Camino Way, Palo Alto, California. 406 p. USA, \$10; Foreign, \$10.50.—Ornithologists among others will welcome the addition of this new series to the publications of Annual Reviews, Inc. The first volume contains 15 review articles on a diversity of subjects. Among several that are certain to be of interest to students of birds two examples are "The units of selection" by R. C. Lewontin and "Spacing patterns in mobile animals" by Jerram L. Brown and Gordon H. Orians.

An Eagle to the Sky.—Frances Hamerstrom. 1970. Iowa State Univ. Press, Ames, Iowa. 142 p. \$4.95.—This small volume is a personal account of the author's experiences with two Golden Eagles. It is illustrated with photographs and pen-and-ink sketches.

Feathers from Sand Dune Cave: A Basketmaker Cave near Navajo Mountain, Utah.—Lyndon L. Hargrave. 1970. Tech. Series No. 9, Mus. Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona. 52 p.—The title of this bulletin gives a good indication of its contents. It consists principally of well-illustrated descriptions of feathers and other remains of 21 species of birds from this archeological site.

Ornithology in Laboratory and Field. Fourth ed.—Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. 1970. Burgess Publishing Co., Minneapolis, Minn. 524 p. \$11.95.—In this latest edition, Pettingill's familiar manual has been enlarged and brought up to date. Use of machine-set type has resulted in improved readability. It is still oriented toward field and laboratory instruction, but is more nearly a standard textbook, and the dropping of "manual" from the title reflects the increase in textual material.

Las Aves de Puerto Rico.—Virgilio Biaggi. 1970. The University of Puerto Rico Press, San Juan. 371 p. \$6.50.—This handsome, well-illustrated volume is a comprehensive treatment of the birds of Puerto Rico. The species accounts, which comprise the bulk of the book, cover physical description, field identification, distribution, and habits. It is entirely in Spanish, although English vernacular names of species are given.

Breeding Biology of California and Ring-billed Gulls.—Kees Vermeer. 1970. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Ottawa, Canada. 50 p. \$1.25 (soft cover).—This report gives results of an intensive study of breeding biology of the two gulls in 1964 and 1965 at Miquelon Lake, Alberta. Results are compared with those on other gulls and from other breeding localities.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Every member of the Society may publish free of charge one short advertising notice (six lines or less) in any issue of *The Condor*. Members will be charged 50 cents per line for any excess over six lines. This service is reserved for the convenience of members and is not available for regular commercial purposes. Send advertising copy to the Editorial Office, Department of Biology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001.

FOR SALE—"Check-list of the Birds of New Mexico," by J. P. Hubbard. 108 pp, 3 maps. \$2.50 postpaid.—New Mexico Ornithological Society, P. O. Box 277, Cedar Crest, New Mexico 87008.

FOR SALE—"Preliminary Smithsonian Manual: Birds of Isla Grande (Tierra del Fuego)" by P. S. Humphrey, D. Bridge, P. W. Reynolds, and R. T. Peterson; illustrated by J. R. Schroeder. 411 pp, photo offset, with 8 maps and 21 half-tone plates illustrating 149 species. A limited number of copies is available at \$7 each.—Phillip S. Humphrey, Museum of Natural History, Univ. Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

FOR SALE—New El-Nikkor enlarging lens 1:2.8 f = 50 mm.—Thomas Balgooyen, Univ. California, 2593 Life Science Bldg., MVZ, Berkeley, California 94720.

WANTED—Miller and Kellogg, List of North American Recent Mammals; Murie, Wolves of Mount McKinley; and reprints of studies on marine birds and mammals, and shorebirds.—Tom Eley, Quarters 2903-E, Quantico, Virginia 22134.

WANTED—Reprints on kills of migratory birds at airport ceilometers, buildings, and radio and TV towers.—Walter K. Taylor, Dept. Biology, Florida Technological Univ., Orlando, Florida 32816.

WANTED—Clear, sharp color transparencies of birds for use in a new publication. Photos should show entire bird in adult plumage, typically posed in natural habitat. Usual professional rates paid. For current want list, write Peter L. Ames, Assoc. Editor, Encyclopaedia Britannica, 425 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60611.