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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Animal Behavior/An Evolutionary Approach. Second edition.—John Alcock. 1979. Sinauer Associates, Inc., Sunderland, Mass. 532 p. \$16.00. Although the first edition of this textbook was published only four years ago, the author deemed a revision desirable in order to reflect new thinking about animal behavior as based on the logic of natural selection. His central theme is that "all aspects of animal behavior have evolved and therefore can be expected to have certain properties." Chapters deal with the genetics, physiology, ecology, and evolution of behavior. Birds are used for many examples. A well-written, attractive, and upto-date text. Illustrations, lists of films, references, indexes.

Evolutionary Biology.—Douglas J. Futuyama. 1979. Sinauer Associates, Sunderland, Mass. 565 p. \$17.50. This textbook covers the history of evolutionary thought, fundamentals of genetics and ecology, historical evolution, the mechanisms of evolution, coevolution, and social issues in human evolution. The approach is intentionally thought-provoking, controversial, WESELOH, D. V., AND R. T. BROWN. 1971. Plant distribution within a heron rookery. Am. Midl. Nat. 86:57-64.

Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602. Accepted for publication 28 July 1978.

or open-ended in order to convey the current ferment in this field. Illustrations, appendix on statistical concepts, glossary, list of references, and index. A stimulating and reasonably comprehensive text.

Nature's Economy/The Roots of Ecology.-Donald Worster. 1979. Anchor Press/Doubleday, Garden City, N.Y. 424 p. Paper cover. \$4.95. Most ecologists know that their discipline existed long before it became popular about fifteen years ago. Even they, however, may not realize that its modern history can be said to have begun in the 18th century, when it emerged as a more comprehensive way of looking at the living world. This book (a reprint of the 1977 hardcover edition) is about the emergence of ecological ideas, their contents, and their practical effects in the past. It traces the origins of these ideas not just in science but in the literary, economic, and philosophical thinking of their times, an appropriate approach for ecology. The field is thus revealed not as relatively new and self-contained but as having a long and diverse intellectual background. Glossary, selected bibliography, and index.

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- Condor, 81:257 © The Cooper Ornithological Society 1979

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Working Bibliography of the Bald Eagle.—Jeffrey Lincer, William Clark, and Maurice N. LeFranc, Jr. 1979. N.W.F. Scientific & Technical Series 2, Raptor Information Center, National Wildlife Federation, Washington, D.C. 268 p. Paper cover. \$9.00 (plus \$.85 handling charge per order). Available: N.W.F., 1412 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The core of this book is a list of 2,000 citations of publications about the Bald Eagle. References on a given topic can be found easily through a permuted list of keywords. An introductory chapter reports the status of the species and tabulates current research on it. A well-prepared and useful research tool.

Eleonora's Falcon/Adaptations to Prey and Habitat in a Social Raptor.—Hartmut Walter. 1979. University of Chicago Press. 410 p. \$35.00. Eleonora's Falcon breeds in colonies of up to 200 pairs on small rocky islands in the Mediterranean. Uniquely, it breeds in autumn and feeds its chicks on southbound migrating passerines. Furthermore, the falcons often hunt in

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groups, each colony responding in a different manner to the migration patterns in its airspace. Walter chiefly examines the habits, ecology, and adaptations of this intriguing and hitherto little-known raptor. He also considers the effects of human activities on the species and compares this falcon with other birds of prey. Tables, diagrams, photographs, list of references, and index. This multi-faceted study is a vivid case history on the interrelations between ecology and behavior in the evolution and maintenance of a species.

Hawks and Owls of North America.—Donald S. Heintzelman. 1979. Universe Books, New York. 216 p. \$18.50. Here is a book for general readers about hawks (and their allies) and owls. It describes briefly the appearance and habits of all North American species and discusses the ecology, migration, fossil history, and conservation of raptors. The author tends to emphasize his own work with species in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. His text is elementary but informative, making the book suitable for novices and school libraries. Photographs, selected bibliography, and index. Sparrows and White-crowned Sparrows to short daily photoperiods with low intensities of light. Physiol. Zool. 28:255–266.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Apparatus for Research on Animal Ultrasonic Signals.—J. A. Simmons, M. B. Fenton, W. R. Ferguson, M. Jutting, and J. Palin. 1979. Life Sciences Misc. Pub., Royal Ontario Museum. 31 p. Paper cover. \$2.00. Available: R.O.M., 100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Canada M5S 2C6. This pamphlet describes ultrasonic sounds (10–150 kHz) and the apparatus and methods for studying them in the field. Instructions for choosing, building, and using instruments are given, but some knowledge of electronics is required. Examples given are of bats. Illustrated with schematic diagrams. List of references. A Comparative Analysis of Acoustical Signals in Pied Woodpeckers (Aves, Picoides).—Hans Winkler and Lester L. Short. 1978. Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History, Vol. 160, Article I. New York. 110 p. Paper cover. \$6.80. "There are few acoustical analyses of entire genera of birds, and [until now] none treating such communication in woodpeckers." This study describes in detail the vocal and instrumental sounds known for species of *Picoides*. It then discusses the function, motivation, meaning, and homology of these signals. A short section considers the bearing of the acoustic analyses on the systematics of the genus. Illustrated with many fine tracings of sonagrams. An important monograph for those who study avian communication or woodpeckers. havior of gulls (Laridae): A progress report. Behaviour 15:1-70.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Warblers of America.-Ludlow Griscom, Alexander Sprunt, Jr., et al. Revised and updated by Edgar M. Reilly, Jr. Illustrated by John Henry Dick. 1979. Doubleday & Co., Garden City, N.Y. 302 p. \$19.95. The first edition of this book, issued in 1957, has long been out of print. (For reviews of it, see Auk 75:226-228, 1958 and Wilson Bull. 70:99-101, 1958.) The major changes in the new edition involve recognition of revisions in the classification of warblers and the addition of a recently discovered species. The chapters on warblers in the West Indies, by James Bond, and in Central America, by Alexander Skutch, have been rewritten. Other than this, the contents have not been much updated. The book nevertheless remains a nontechnical source of basic information on all the species in the family.

Bird Families of the World.—Illustrations by Ad Cameron; Consultant Editor, C. J. O. Harrison. 1978. Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York. 264 p. \$25.00. The class of birds passes here in review, in a book of similar scope to those by Gilliard (1958) and Austin and Singer (1961). All living families and several extinct ones are taken up in turn. In clearly organized accounts, each family is characterized in terms of its appearance, distribution, habits, behavior, economic importance, and systematics. The authors are some 40 ornithologists, but since half of them are British many families have been written up by people who have had little field experience with them. Consequently, while the accounts are informative and mostly accurate, they contain needless errors and are sometimes less solid than

VERMEER, K. 1970. Breeding biology of California and Ring-billed gulls: A study of ecological adaptation to the inland habitat. Can. Wild. Serv. Rep. Ser. 12.

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they could have been. The volume is oversize, nicely designed, and abundantly illustrated in color. Cameron's drawings have been planned carefully; they do not merely depict the birds but show them in characteristic postures and illustrate points mentioned in the text. This book is a good basic reference of its kind for serious students of birds.

Waterfowl/Ducks, Geese & Swans of the World.-Frank S. Todd. 1979. Sea World Press. 399 p. \$44.95. Available: Sea World Press, 1250 Sixth Ave., San Diego, CA 92101. The large format, handsome layout, and wealth of superb color photographs in this book may suggest that it is simply another pictorial extravaganza. Do not be fooled; it is a work of solid value. In words and pictures, it presents virtually all the living forms of the Anseriformes, including screamers. The Order as a whole is introduced, after which each of the subgroups is treated. Closing chapters discuss waterfowl in relation to mankind-in captivity and in the wild. In his Foreword, Jean Delacour says of the text, "It is . . . of high quality, accurate and to the point, and it contains much new information about the behavior of a number of species." One appendix tabulates basic data on all the species and subspecies of waterfowl. Another gives well-founded advice about photographing these birds. Glossary, selected bibliography, and index. This book is less useful than Johnsgard's (noticed in Condor 81:27, 1979) as a technical reference but it is unequalled for showing the birds and telling their natural history.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Northwest Birds. Distribution and Eggs.—Gordon Dee Alcorn. 1978. Western Media Printing and Publications, Inc., Tacoma, Washington. 161 p. Paper cover. Available: W.M.P.P., 6906 West 27th, Tacoma, WA 98466. An annotated checklist for the birds of Washington and adjacent regions. Every species is characterized concisely as to status, habitat, nest, eggs, and breeding, but specific dates or records are not given. Eggs of all the species are shown life-size in color plates. Index.

Status and Distribution of Alaska Birds.-Brina Kessel and Daniel D. Gibson. 1978. Studies in Avian Biology No. 1, Cooper Ornithological Society. 100 p. Paper cover. \$8.00. Available: see back cover. This publication inaugurates a new series, the successor to Pacific Coast Avifauna. Despite its title, it does not attempt to cover all the birds of Alaska. Rather, it treats those species-slightly more than half the total number-whose status and distribution differ substantially from those described by Gabrielson and Lincoln in Birds of Alaska (1959). This means that both publications must be used together for a complete picture of the avifauna but it has allowed the present work to be smaller than otherwise. With the aid of abbreviations and symbols, the accounts for the selected species report status and distribution, citing significant records, both published and unpublished. References are listed. Although not easy to use, this checklist will be indispensable for anyone studying birds of Alaska.

Birds of Southwestern Oklahoma.—Jack D. Tyler. 1979. Contributions from the Stovall Museum No. 2, University of Oklahoma, Norman. 66 p. Paper cover.

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Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720. Accepted for publication 14 March 1979.

\$2.25. A checklist of the birds of the Wichita Mountains and vicinity. Given for each species are its status, dates of occurrence, and records. Map and list of references.

The Birds of Canada.—W. Earl Godfrey. 1979. National Museum of Natural Sciences, Ottawa, Canada. 428 p. \$22.50. This is a reprint of a familiar work, first published in 1966. It includes all bird species known to have occurred in Canada up to 1964. Species are described as to appearance, measurements, field marks, habitat, nesting, range, status in Canada, and subspecies. The accounts are illustrated with 69 fine color plates by John A. Crosby, 71 line drawings by S. D. MacDonald, and many range maps. Glossary, list of selected references, and index. Ornithologists and birders in the U.S. may well envy their counterparts north of the border for having such an authoritative, comprehensive, and attractive handbook.

A New Guide to the Birds of Taiwan.—Sheldon R. Severinghaus and Kenneth Turner Blackshaw. 1976. Mei Ya Publications, Inc., Taipei, Taiwan. 222 p. \$6.95. Available: Harrowood Books, 3943 Providence Road, Newtown Square, PA 19073. This is a completely revised, enlarged, and updated version of the 1970 guide by Severinghaus, Kang, and Alexander. Many more species are included, new information has been added, and color plates of some of the birds have been introduced. As before, the text is in both Chinese and English. The species accounts are followed by lists of birds according to behavior and habitat, an aid to identification. A checklist of the birds of Taiwan and an index are also provided.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Shorebirds in Marine Environments.-Edited by Frank A. Pitelka. 1979. Studies in Avian Biology No. 2, Cooper Ornithological Society. 262 p. Paper cover. \$8.90. Available: see back cover. Here are the papers that were given at a 1977 symposium sponsored by the Pacific Seabird Group. Fifteen papers deal with aspects of distribution, migration, or conservation, and nine deal with ecology or behavior. Most of the studies concern shorebirds on the Pacific coast of the Americas. An introduction by Pitelka sets the scene, while summarizing remarks by J. R. Jehl, Jr. and J. A. Wiens bring out the major points and suggest directions for future work. Maps, graphs, photographs, and lists of references. This well-edited collection will be valuable not only to researchers but also to those who are trying to preserve coastal habitats and their wildlife.

The Role of Insectivorous Birds in Forest Ecosystems.—Edited by J. D. Dickson, R. N. Conner, R. R. Fleet, J. C. Kroll, and J. A. Jackson. 1979. Academic Press, New York. 381 p. \$24.00. The 20 papers in this volume were presented at a symposium held in July, 1978 in Nacogdoches, Texas. Rapid publication was accomplished by reproducing the printing plates directly from typescript. The articles deal with censusing techniques, foraging, habitat use, population dynamics, and the effects of insectivorous birds in forest ecosystems. Concluding remarks by Stanley H. Anderson tie the papers together. Graphs, photographs, and lists of references. These papers will be of interest to researchers studying the ecology of forest birds.

Greenshanks .- Desmond and Maimie Nethersole-Thompson. 1979. Buteo Books, Vermillion, South Dakota. 275 p. \$27.50. Few birds, particularly shorebirds, have received such long, intensive, and affectionate study as has the Greenshank from Desmond Nethersole-Thompson. His work on this species-the European counterpart of the Greater Yellowlegs-began in 1932 and led to his first book, The Greenshank (Collins, London. 1959). This new book is the culmination of fresh research begun in 1961, in the highlands of northwestern Scotland. Collaborative fieldwork by all members of the family has yielded new information and insights into the biology of these birds. Yet the book is not provincial, the authors' findings being integrated with others from elsewhere in the species' range. Many tables and appendixes report additional data. David Parmelee has written a gracious and personal preface, and several other workers have contributed special sections. The bird and its environment are shown in many drawings and four lovely color plates by Donald Watson, and in pictures by several photographers. Maps, graphs, sonagrams, selected bibliography, and index. Altogether, this is an exemplary account of a single species and an essential book for shorebird specialists.