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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds.—John K. Terres. 1980. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. 1,130 p. \$60.00. This massive book is a onevolume library on North American birds and ornithology. Arranged alphabetically, it contains biographies of 847 species, 625 major articles about bird life and bird biology, definitions of 770 ornithological terms, and short biographies of 126 naturalists and explorers whose names are associated with North American birds. The entries are crammed with information, yet written in a clear, non-technical style. They are linked by a system of cross-references and documented with citations from an enormous bibliography of the scientific and general literature. The work is generously and instructively illustrated with drawings, diagrams, maps, and color photographs. Although this encyclopedia is intended chiefly for lay students of birds, professional ornithologists will also find it highly useful as a reliable and comprehensive reference.

Taxonomy and Geographical Distribution of the Furnariidae (Aves, Passeriformes).—Charles Vaurie. 1980. Bulletin of the American Museum of Natural History, Volume 166, Article 1. New York. 357 p. Paper cover. \$24.70. "This monograph brings together for the first time a great deal of previously scattered information about the taxonomy, geographical distribution, general behavior, habitat preferences, nesting behavior, and morphological variation of the 34 genera and 214 species of the Neotropical family Furnariidae. Vaurie's classification of the ovenbirds into genera and three subfamilies was based in large part on his assessment of differences in the structure of their nests. The manuscript for this work was virtually complete at the time of the author's sudden death in 1975. Recognizing its potential value, François Vuilleumier finished and polished it, taking scrupulous care to distinguish his comments from Vaurie's own writing. Three appendices were added in order to enhance the usefulness of the monograph. This is an exceptionally complete and well-produced work, for in addition to the text it contains many keys, tables of measurements, distribution maps, and ten color plates. It is an important contribution to taxonomy and an outstanding demonstration of evolutionary radiation and convergence. Ornithologists should be grateful to Dr. Vuilleumier and his colleagues for bringing the work to completion.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Pheasants in Asia 1979.—Edited by Christopher Savage. 1979. World Pheasant Association. 116 p. Paper cover. £8.50. Source: W.P.A., Daws Hall, Lamarsh, Bures, Suffolk CO8 5EX, England. These are the proceedings of the First International Pheasant Symposium, held in Kathmandu, Nepal. They include reports on the status of pheasants; papers on field study techniques, captive breeding, and conservation management; and remarks attending the opening and closing of the conference. Illustrated, index.

Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan. Vol. 2. Second edition.—Sálim Ali and S. Dillon Ripley. 1980. Oxford University Press, Delhi. 347. p. \$34.00. Continuing the revision of this series (noted in Condor 78:574, 81:416), this volume incorporates information about movements and ranges of species that has accumulated since 1969, when the first edition was published. It covers the Galliformes, Gruiformes, and Charadriiformes through the Crab Plover. A few taxonomic changes have been made and four new color plates have been painted by John Henry Dick to replace those in the first edition.

The California Islands: Proceedings of a Multidisciplinary Symposium.—Edited by Dennis M. Power. 1980. Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, CA. 787 p. Paper cover. Spanning approximately 1,360 km along the coast of California and Baja California, the California Islands have long been studied by scientists. The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History organized a symposium, held in 1978, for bringing together and advancing research on these islands and surrounding waters. The 43 papers in this book stem from that meeting. They are grouped by topic: geologic history and paleontology, prehispanic man, vegetation changes and the impact of feral animals, and the biogeography, evolution, and ecology of-in turn-land plants, marine organisms, and land animals. Power has edited the collection, contributed a paper, and written a useful introduction and a summary. The volume itself has been well produced and it includes two fold-out vegetation maps in color. Ornithologists who are interested in island avifaunas should not confine themselves to the eight papers about birds. Otherwise, they will miss the book's general theme: "that the physical and biological components of both land and sea are interwoven in often complex, cause-and-effect relationships.

ioral physiology of birds. A major aim of the Journal is to improve communication among all students of bird behavior. To this purpose, the Editors strongly promote the publication of experimental papers and review articles that bridge separate fields of behavior. The Journal also welcomes full-length articles on specific topics, short communications, critiques of books and papers, abstracts of meetings, relevant computer programs, research proposals and short reviews of limited areas of research.

Bird Behaviour is published by Bird Behaviour Press (Canberra, Australia) and printed by The Australian National University's Central Printery. The journal is indexed in Current Contents and abstracted in Animal Behaviour Abstracts. It is intended that the journal be published three times a year (April, August, and December) during 1981 and subsequent years. Subscription fees will then be A\$30.00 for institutions, A\$15.00 for private subscribers and A\$10.00 for students. Checks should be made payable to Bird Behaviour in Australian currency.

Manuscripts and other correspondence should be sent to the Editors, *Bird Behaviour*, Department of Behavioural Biology, Research School of Biological Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia 2600.

The Bird Watch. This is a 24-page non-profit tabloid devoted exclusively to birds, bird watching, and preservation of the environment. The Charter Issue is due August 1. Material and subscriptions are solicited. Write to Richard L. Dunlap, *The Bird Watch*, 11 Pleasant Hill Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

FOR SALE: *Hummingbirds*, by C. H. Greenewalt. (1960. American Museum of Natural History and Doubleday & Co., Inc.). 249 p.; 70 ultra-high speed color photographs. Price negotiable. Stanley M. Richmond, 2470 Lawrence St., Eugene, OR 97405; phone (213) 442-6619.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Rare Birds of the West Coast.—Don Roberson. 1980. Woodcock Publications, Pacific Grove, CA. 496 p. \$24.95, plus \$1.25 shipping (California residents add \$1.50 tax). "This book covers the status and distribution, and often the identification, of those birds considered to be Rarities on the West Coast of North America ... A 'Rarity' is a species which has occurred, during the most recent five-year period, an average of four times or less in any West Coast state or province." Also included are all the Eurasian species that have reached Alaska and are not covered by the standard North American field guides. The species accounts summarize records and, in many cases, give advice on field identification. Four appendixes list additional records. Keen birders in the region of coverage will find this work a handy compilation and manual for their sport. Maps, charts, photographs (documenting records) and color plates (as aids to identification). References, indexes.

A Birder's Guide to Florida.—James A. Lane. 1981. 160 p. Paper cover. \$7.00. Source: L & P Press, P.O. Box 21604, Denver, CO 80221. Just what the title says, this booklet is a compendium of everything that a birder in Florida might want to know, other than field identification. Two-thirds of it are devoted to a detailed guide to birding places, arranged by region and city. The remainder covers pelagic trips, notes on birds of particular interest, a seasonal checklist, and lists of other vertebrates, campgrounds, organizations, and helpful publications. Maps, photographs, and index. A useful vade mecum, more detailed than books with wider coverage.

Strictly for the Chickens.—Frances Hamerstrom. 1980. Iowa State University Press, Ames, Iowa. 174 p. Fran Hamerstrom has written here an informal account of her life with her husband, Frederick, and their experiences while studying Greater Prairie Chickens for half a century in central Wisconsin. Her humorous anecdotes focus on people, yet in between she conveys a good deal of information about the birds. The story is illustrated with sketches by the author's daughter and photographs from the family album: the opening and closing pictures of the Hamerstroms together are a joy.

Fifty Common Birds of Oklahoma and the Southern Great Plains.—George Miksch Sutton. 1981. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 113 p. Paper cover. \$6.95. A softbound edition of the book first published in 1977 (noted in *Condor* 80:253).

Portraits of Mexican Birds/Fifty Selected Paintings.—George Miksch Sutton. 1981. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman. 106 p. Paper cover. \$14.95. This is a softbound edition of a book first published in 1975. In large format (28 × 35 cm), and with fine full-color reproduction, it presents paintings made by Sutton in Mexico over a span of 35 years. Each portrait is faced with a text in which the author tells his recollections of the bird and the circumstances in which he painted it. The book offers an excellent selection of Dr. Sutton's art and, in this edition, is a good value.