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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Fossil Vertebrates from the Bahamas.—Edited by Storrs L. Olson. 1982. Smithsonian Contributions to Paleobiology No. 48. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. 65 p. Paper cover. This booklet comprises three articles that summarize the previous literature on fossil vertebrates from the Bahamas, revise some previously described specimens, and discuss changes in the late Pleistocene environment of the Bahaman archipelago. The article by Olson and William B. Hilgartner treats the fossil and subfossil birds, including several proposed changes in their nomenclature and a comparison of the late Pleistocene and modern avifaunas. Photographs, drawings, references, index.

Morphological Similarities between the Menurae and the Rhinocryptidae, Relict Passerine Birds of the Southern Hemisphere.—Alan Feduccia and Storrs L. Olson. 1982. Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology No. 366. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. 22 p. Paper cover. The osteological studies reported here show that the Menuridae and Atrichornithidae differ markedly from the Ptilinorhynchidae and Paradisaidae, whereas they share many peculiarities only with the Rhinocryptidae. These findings lead to the suggestion “that the Menurae and the Rhinocryptidae are among the most primitive of the Passeriformes and are representative of the ancestral stock that gave rise to the remainder of the passerines.” Further stimulating ideas about the time, place, and pattern of early passeriform evolution are briefly discussed. An appendix proposes changes, based on skeletal characters, in the sequence of families within the superfamily Furnarioidea. Photographs, excellent drawings, references.

Prodromus of the Fossil Avifauna of the Hawaiian Islands.—Storrs L. Olson and Helen F. James. 1982. Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology No. 365. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC. 59 p. Paper cover. During the past decade, thousands of bones of extinct and living species of birds have been excavated from late Pleistocene and Holocene sites in the Hawaiian Islands. A preliminary report on these findings is given here, providing an overview and background information for future monographs. The fossil deposits, on five of the main islands, are described in detail. The species found so far, including forty that are extinct, are presented in an informal list since most of them remain to be worked out. Already, the fossils show that the land avifauna was much larger than previously suspected, and they point to the role of the early Polynesians in its extinction. These findings bear heavily upon the systematics of the endemic finches and on theories of Hawaiian biogeography. Maps, photographs, references.

Birds of Tropical America.—Alexander F. Skutch. 1983. University of Texas Press, Austin. 320 p. \$29.95. Skutch's immense contribution to neotropical ornithology needs no introduction. This book is a collection of his life histories for 34 species of nonpasserines (Great Tinamou to Emerald Toucanet), previously published in several journals. It is intended to make the articles up to date and more readily accessible to the growing number of people interested in tropical nature. The author has “carefully revised the original accounts, in the process omitting details that no longer seem important and adding whatever new information has become available over the years.” Skutch's style combines scientific facts with personal appreciation for the birds, and some of his experiences in studying them. The articles are illustrated with the author's photographs and full-page monochrome wash drawings by Dana Gardner. References, index.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Marine Birds and Mammals of Puget Sound.—Tony Angell and Kenneth C. Balcomb III. 1982. Washington Sea Grant, Seattle, WA. 160 p. Paper cover. \$14.50. Puget Sound is known for its scenery and biological richness, yet human activities have degraded that environment and threatened its wildlife over the past century. Both sides are exposed in this fine book on the habitats of the region and the natural history of their marine birds and mammals. Its well-written text (by both authors) is lavishly illustrated with Angell's beautiful pen-and-ink drawings, and the combination has been handsomely designed. Each family or subfamily is introduced with a page or two about the general appearance and habits of its members, a blend of scientific information and the authors' observations. For each species, a one-column account (plus map of locality records) summarizes status, distribution, food, and critical habitat in the region. Additional data are given in more maps, charts, and a table in the appendix. The whole package describes with feeling these members of a marine community—and the dangers they face. While the book is aimed for those who live around Puget Sound, its theme has no boundary, and its illustrations will be admired by those who appreciate fine bird art. References, index.

A Bird-finding Guide to Ontario.—Clive E. Goodwin. 1982. University of Toronto Press. 248 p. Paper cover. \$12.50 Canadian. Source: University of Toronto Press, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A6, or 33 E. Tupper St., Buffalo, NY 14203. Ontario, a third larger than Texas, ranging from deciduous forest to tundra coast, contains small areas

and corridors whose avifaunas are well known, amidst vast areas of remote and inaccessible land and water. More than two hundred of the most popular and productive places to watch birds are discussed in a telegraphic, but readable style. Twelve simplified regional and local maps are designed to orient travelers who are equipped with a Provincial map. Lacks a comprehensive map for orientation. Includes systematic list of birds, and an index.—J. Tate.

Birding in Seattle and King County: Site guide and annotated list.—Eugene S. Hunn. 1982. Seattle Audubon Society. 170 p. Paper cover. \$7.50. Source: Seattle Audubon Society, 619 Joshua Green Bldg., Seattle, WA 98101. Companion to a field guide and slightly larger than one, this is a handbook for bird-finding in Seattle and its surrounding county. It first sketches the types of habitat that are embraced, from the city itself to montane forests. There follows a detailed guide to birding sites, illustrated with excellent maps. An annotated checklist (307 species), including charts of seasonal occurrence, summarizes information on the distribution of the birds and gives tips on identifying difficult species. Short but useful chapters offer preliminary lists of mammals, herps, and trees, and descriptions of special birding projects in the area. Uniquely for works of this kind, the book closes with a list of key habitat preservation issues throughout King County. The message: progress, if you will, from identifying and listing birds, to learning more about them and becoming active in conserving prize habitats. References.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Visual and Vocal Signals in Penguins, their Evolution and Adaptive Characters.—Pierre Jouventin. 1982. Advances in Ethology 24, Supplement to Journal of Comparative Ethology, Verlag Paul Parey, Berlin. 149 p. Paper cover. No price given. Source: Verlag Paul Parey, Lindenstrasse 44-47, D-1000 Berlin 61, Germany. This monograph describes and analyzes the sexual and aggressive behavior of penguins, based on studies of 15 species in zoos and in the wild over a span of many years. It begins by describing, interpreting, and classifying the visual signals (mostly sexual) of all six genera in order to gain insight into the biological meaning of ritualized postures. The vocalizations are then described in detail and experimental results are presented, these showing that individual recognition is not visual but vocal. Lastly, in a long and intensive analysis, Jouventin discusses the evolution of penguin behavior, relating it to the birds' distribution, speciation, breeding habits, and environment. His findings on vocalizations, combined with ecological and morphological data, lead to several conclusions on the systematics of the group. In closing, he briefly discusses three theoretical problems in ethology. This work makes an important contribution to our understanding of the evolution and adaptive features of avian behavior. Essential reading for penguin specialists, it offers lessons for those who study other colonial waterbirds. Illustrated with many photographs, drawings, charts, and sound spectrograms. References, brief index.

Lek Behavior in the Golden-headed Manakin, *Pipra erythrocephala* in Trinidad (West Indies).—Alan Lill. 1976. Advances in Ethology 18, Supplement to Journal of Comparative Ethology. 83 p. Source: as before. A technical paper on the unusual group-mating system of a tiny forest-dwelling, fruit-eating bird. Covers in detail the unusual territory relationships among members of the same species, the closely-related White-bearded Manakin, and other birds. Factors affecting visits by females and other males to the communal display ground (lek) occupy most of the paper. Nest behavior, nest biology, reproductive success and post-fledging behavior are included. A thorough documentation of lek behavior in a passerine bird. Well suited to the ethologist or even the curious, but informed, reader. Summaries in English and German, literature cited, subject index.—J. Tate.

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Part of the field work was done with the support of grants from the University of Canterbury and the Nuffield Foundation. C. R. Grau, G. C. Whittow, and G. S. Grant kindly commented on the whole or parts of the paper. I am also grateful to J. Anton, P. A. Beaumont, G. M. Dunnet, G. S. Grant, C. R. Grau, M. P. Harris, and D. L. Serventy for collecting eggs or data.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

John Gould The Bird Man: A Chronology and Bibliography.—Gordon C. Sauer. 1982. University Press of Kansas, Lawrence. 416 p. \$65.00. Gould, an Englishman, was an important figure in 19th century natural history: an enormously productive ornithologist, artist (and employer of artists), and publisher of fifteen magnificent folio sets on birds and mammals. Although he died over a century ago, no major study of him has yet been written. This book makes a big step in that direction, being a voluminous and well-organized compendium about the man and his works. It presents an extensive genealogy of the Gould family, a full bibliographical description of Gould's major published works, a chronology of his life, and, most of all, a detailed biography of works by or about Gould, his family and associates, including extensive indexing of references to him in major works by others. Data are set forth in abundance without any attempt to analyze them, that being left for future scholars. They are supplemented with varied and plentiful illustrations: color plates of drawings, monochrome drawings, photographs of people and places, and facsimiles of documents, many of them from the University of Kansas Spencer Library-Ellis Collection or the author's collection. This volume will be an important resource for those who are interested in the history of ornithology.

James Graham Cooper: Pioneer Western Naturalist.—Eugene Coan. 1981. The University Press of Idaho. 255 p. Paper cover. No price given. Idaho Research Foundation, Box 3368, University Station, Moscow, ID 83843. Here is the first well-researched book on James Cooper (in whose honor our Society is named) with much on his father, William Cooper. James, a physician, contributed to our knowledge of molluscs, brachiopods, and chordates in the Pacific Northwest. The Lucy's Warbler and Elf Owl were his most important bird discoveries. While the detailed chronology of Cooper's life contributes to the zoological history of the U.S., it makes for dull reading. Appendix A lists errors in the literature concerning Cooper; Appendix B provides his zoological taxa. Notes on the text, bibliography of works by and about son and father, references, photographs, drawings, and index.—J. Tate.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Thick-billed Murres of Prince Leopold Island/A Study of the Breeding Ecology of a Colonial High Arctic Seabird.—A. J. Gaston and D. N. Nettleship. 1982. Monograph Series No. 6. Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa, Canada. 350 p. \$32.00 (Canada), \$37.50 (other countries). Source: Canadian Government Publishing Centre, Supply and Services Canada, Hull, Quebec K1A 0S9. Catalogue number CW65-7/6E. Twenty years ago *Uria lomvia* was regarded as one of the most numerous seabirds in the world; since then, its populations have decreased substantially over much of its range. Heavy mortality occurs throughout the year and is attributable to various direct and indirect causes, including deep-water oil drilling and the increased shipping of petroleum. In order to obtain necessary data on the distribution, status, and ecology of seabirds in the eastern Canadian Arctic, the Canadian Wildlife Service launched a comprehensive study in 1971. This monograph reports one aspect of that program, based on three seasons of work at a major murre colony on an island in western Lancaster Sound, the gateway to the Northwest Passage. Subjects of the chapters are as follows: 1—study area and techniques, 2—pattern of attendance at the colony and associated behavior, 3—timing and success of reproduction, 4—the egg and the growth and feeding of the chick, 5—adult weight, diet, and foraging, and 6—synthesis and conclusions about the breeding ecology of Thick-billed Murres, the factors controlling their population size, and prospects for the future. Copious additional data are given in the many appendixes. The

book is impressive not only for its intensive coverage and wealth of information, but also for its careful attention to methods of field work and analysis. It tells us a great deal about the present situation at Prince Leopold Island, and provides baseline data and guidelines for future studies here or elsewhere. Its approach and findings are important for those who study—and carry responsibility for—populations of marine birds in northern oceans. Characteristically of CWS publications, the volume itself is attractively designed and well illustrated with graphs, maps, and photographs, both in monochrome and color. References, no index.

Breeding Biology of the Little Auk (*Plautus alle*) in Svalbard.—Magnar Norderhaug. 1980. *Skrifter Nr. 173*, Norsk Polarinstitutt, Oslo. 45 p. Paper cover. \$7.50. Source: Columbia Univ. Press, 562 West 113th St., New York, NY 10025. Despite its vast numbers, the Dovekie has been one of the least-known alcids, owing to its high arctic breeding range. Three summers of field work on Spitsbergen have yielded the data for this life history study, which concentrates on the development and feeding of the nestling. Illuminating comparisons with other species of alcids contribute to our understanding of adaptive radiation in breeding habits within the family. Finally, the author estimates the total amount of zooplankton consumed by the adults and nestlings, thereby indicating the considerable impact of large Dovekie colonies on the terrestrial ecosystem. Graphs, photographs, and references.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Habitat Use and Productivity of Canvasbacks in Southwestern Manitoba, 1961-72.—Jerome H. Stoudt. 1982. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Special Scientific Report—Wildlife, No. 248. 31 p. Paper cover. Representing twelve years of observation which ended more than a decade ago, this paper is largely a historical study. Thirty-three tables of observational data compose the bulk of the report. An editorial footnote on current conditions in the Minnedosa area would have been valuable. Appendix A is a list of common and scientific names of plants and animals. Appendix B is a phenology of the breeding season for selected organisms in the study area. Photographs, and a list of references (but not all citations used).—J. Tate.

Effects of Soils and Grazing on Breeding Birds of Uncultivated Upland Grasslands of the Northern Great Plains.—H. A. Kantrud and R. L. Kologiski. 1982. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Wildlife Research Report 15. 33 p. Paper

cover. No price given. This study of native grassland bird populations and their habitat follows standard formats, resulting in useful data that are analyzed with appropriate statistical methods. The taxonomy and nomenclature of soils is difficult at best, and the number of independent variables that make up a given soil type is large. The authors provide an excellent summary of the first problem, and ignore the second. The resulting discussion of the interrelationships among native grassland, birds, soils, and grazing is interesting, and supported whenever possible. The evident optimum breeding habitat presented for each of 29 bird species is garnered from literature and observational sources, and from generalized results supported by the data. The conclusions are, for the most part, meaningful statements of the relationship between each grassland bird and its habitat. A small but valuable paper for anyone interested in the birds of our Northern Great Plains. References.—J. Tate.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Gulls: A guide to identification.—P. J. Grant. 1982. Buteo Books. 280 p. \$32.50. Source: Buteo Books, P.O. Box 481, Vermillion, SD 57069. This book republishes the authoritative series of articles on gull plumages and identification that appeared in *British Birds* (v. 71–74, 1978–1981). New are more than 170 monochrome photographs (for a total of 376), and improved drawings. It covers 23 gulls from the Middle East, Europe, and eastern North America. The absence of western North American species renders the book less useful in the nearctic. A world map shows the distribution of those species that are covered. An introductory chapter on gull plumage includes topography, British terminology, and an imprecise description of the sequence of plumages and molts. A thoroughly accurate and welcome guide to the immature and difficult plumages of the species covered. References, index of photographs.—J. Tate.

Wildfowl 33.—Edited by G. V. T. Matthews and M. A. Ogilvie. 1982. Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge. 176 p. Paper cover. \$13.00. Source: Administrative Officer, Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire GL2 7BT, England. Thanks to its now-worldwide scope and revised format, this annual has become an important outlet for scientific papers about anseriform birds. Resembling recent issues (noted in *Condor* 84:21 and earlier), the latest volume contains 25 articles, nearly one-third of which concern species in the Americas. Ornithologists who wish to receive future volumes should note that only copies to meet known requirements will be printed. While a certain number will be produced for booksellers, those who wish to ensure a copy of No. 34 are encouraged to order and pay for it before 15 September 1983.