

# BIRD BOOKS

Red Kite

## **BOUGHT AND SOLD**

Annual Catalogue listing over 1200 described items available. \$8 air-mail. Bird books, whether old colour-plate books or modern reference books, are purchased. Please offer any that are surplus to your requirements.

# **DAVID EVANS**

The White Cottage, Pitt, Winchester, Hampshire, U.K.

Telephone Winchester (0962) 3746.

More Birds in Your Yard or your money back! Amazing new THISTLE SEED FEEDER attracts goldfinches, purple finches, red polls, siskins, chickadees, tufted titmouse. Easy-to-install! Saves on seed! Birds pick out one thistle seed at a time.

FREE 1 lb. Thistle Seed with each feeder

The Bird Tree BIRD TREE 5 Swallow Lane, St. Paul, MN 55110

St. Paul, MN 55110
Send \_\_\_\_Feeders including
FREE 1 lb. thistle seed @
\$8.25 each PPD. If not delighted 1 will return within 30
days for full refund.

✓ The Wrens.—John William Hardy, LP, monaural, 2 slides. 1977. Ara Records, same address as above. \$6.00. More than 40 species of one of the world's premier singing families of birds are presented here, in what almost might be called an aural monograph. Once again the recording is technically superior, and Hardy's commentary adds much to the understanding and enjoyment of the songs. Those who have never heard the marvelous duetting of some of the tropical species, will find this a fascinating experience. The Nightingale Wren alone is worth the price of the record. And if you've never heard the Flutist Wren, or the Musician Wren, you won't believe them. Highly recommended.—R.A.

# **Communications**

To the editor.

I agree with Richard Glinski's article in June 1976 issue of *American Birds* entitled "Birdwatching etiquette: the need for a developing philosophy."

The worth—to birders and biologists—of the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek area can certainly not be overemphasized. But the statement that "the Zone-tailed Hawk, Gray Hawk, Black Hawk, Thick-billed Kingbird, Rose-throated Becard and the Five-striped Sparrow, whose only known breeding territories in the United States occur along this narrow belt of riparian forest" is not totally correct.

Although usually in small numbers the Black Hawk can be found breeding along the Gila River in New Mexico. Here in west Texas it can be found breeding along Limpia Creek in the Davis Mountains, along Cibola Creek in the Shafter area and the Nagele Ranch area near Ruidosa.

The Zone-tailed Hawk too can be found elsewhere. It is present in fairly good numbers in the Davis Mountains and has been the subject of recent investigations by the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute. It is also found elsewhere in Texas and in southern New Mexico.

-Steve West, Box 1248, Presidio, Tex. 79845. To the editor,

A.D. Brewer (AB 31: 234, 1977) concludes his brief article on the first observation of a Golden-winged Warbler in Trinidad with the statement: "the present record constitutes a range extension of 700 miles to the east". It should be noted that Bond (Birds of the West Indies, 2nd edition, 1971, p. 188) calls this warbler a "rare winter resident or transient" in Puerto Rico. Indeed, on November 12, 1975 I observed a male and female of this species at close range near the Parador El Verde, at the western edge of Luquillo National Forest. Next day, Dr. T.K. Shires and I again located the birds in the same spot. This eastern Puerto Rico locality is only some 330 miles to the west of Arima in Trinidad.

> —N. S. Halmi, R# 6, Iowa City, IA 52240.

### To the editor,

I have been meaning to write you about the Robert Clem painting of an Eskimo Curlew that you published in *American Birds* 31:138a, 1977. You might be interested to know of the conversation I had with him before he painted the picture. I suggested that it should be a mood picture showing the bird walking off into extinction. I think it is one of the most beautiful in the book and since the bird is extinct, perhaps a prophetic one.

—Gardner D. Stout, 48 Rosebrook Road, New Canaan, Conn. 06840.

# Work in Progress

# Wanted: Data on the Seasonal Distribution of North American Gulls

We are developing a procedure whereby the U.S. Air Force can predict the potential seasonal hazard to aircraft represented by gulls in parts of North America. This knowledge will be used to schedule missions around high risk areas, thereby reducing the likelihood of bird/aircraft collisions. Supplemental data on local gull populations are needed from all parts of the continent. The assistance of field workers is solicited to aid in this task. Please submit reports to Dr.



Magnificently illustrated by one of North America's most famous wildlife artists Birds in Peril chronicles

the struggle to save twenty species in danger of extinction in the United States and Canada—including the California condor, the whooping crane and the peregrine falcon.

"A powerful plea for the preservation of the birds and of their habitat."

— DR. GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON
42 color and black-and-white illustrations

# BIRDS by JOHN P. S. MACKENZIE Illustrated by TERENCE SHORTT Introduction by Elvis J Stahr PERIL

\$14.95, now at your bookstore Houghton Mifflin Company

# For lovers of birdsand beauty.



Hilda Simon vividly describes and brilliantly illustrates the courtship rituals of birds in her latest and most spectacular book on nature. A rare treasury for the art and nature lover.

# THE COURTSHIP OF BIRDS

# by Hilda Simon

With over 50 full-color illustrations by the author \$12.95



1067