

## ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

NOMINA AVIUM EUROPAEAEARUM. By Harriet I. Jørgensen. Copenhagen; Ejnar Munksgaard, 1958:  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$  in., 283 pp., 1 fig. 26 Danish Kron.

In 1941 Harriet I. Jørgensen of Denmark and Cecil Blackburne of England collaborated in a glossary of the names of the birds found regularly in western Europe as given in 17 of the languages of that region. The present volume, by Harriet I. Jørgensen as sole author, is a further contribution to the subject, with the material brought down to date in consonance with present-day usage, and arranged for easy consultation in a modern systematic classification instead of the former somewhat confusing alphabetic sequence. Two languages, Yugoslav and modern Greek, have been added since these are important in current ornithological literature, and the list has been made complete by the inclusion of 128 additional birds of rare or casual occurrence, so that 579 species now are covered. A further useful feature is the addition of a standard topographic chart of a bird in which 52 parts, of structure or plumage, are named in 20 languages (with Latin as the additional tongue). Anyone who has sought such terms in the usual foreign language dictionaries will appreciate the value of this information. Since names frequently vary in usage in England and in America, "North American" is added as a separate item throughout the book, wherever pertinent. A separate index for each language facilitates the location of any desired name.

In the present day when interest in ornithological studies is spread widely through the lands on both sides of the Atlantic this unique volume offers definitely useful service in identifying the terms under which birds are described in current literature of the various countries. It is thus a valuable addition to any ornithological library, useful to professional and amateur alike. In examining the book one must admire the knowledge of languages that it displays, as well as the meticulous care with which it has been prepared to insure correct expression in every detail.—ALEXANDER WETMORE

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF PUERTO RICO. By James B. McCandless. I.A.U. Press, San Germán, P.R., 1958:  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  in., viii + 68 pp., paper-bound, \$2.00.

The author, a Mayaguez physician, calls this booklet, printed by offset, a supplement to Peterson's *Field Guide to the Birds*. Spanish names, abundance, seasonal occurrence and habitat are given for each of the 190 species discussed. The section on field marks is omitted from the accounts of the 137 species which also occur in the United States, and the reader is referred to Peterson's 1947 edition by page number. The 53 species not covered in Peterson are treated in detail.

Introductory pages contain information on bird finding areas, the seasons, what species may be expected in each type of habitat, and a chart showing dates of occurrence for regularly seen seasonal birds. Appendices include a list of extinct and extirpated species, a problematical list and a short bibliography. Both Spanish and English names are indexed.

The individual species accounts would have been strengthened by more complete comments on voice. Some species are covered; others not. The tourist would like to know, for example, that the familiar cardinal-like whistle is the song of the Puerto Rican bullfinch. Technically, the book contains such errors as wrong or misspelled scientific names and deviations from the current check-list order of arrangement.

These minor faults, however, in no manner detract from its purpose as simply a supplemental field guide and Baedeker for the Puerto Rican visitor.—PHILLIPS B. STREET