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ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE

SEABIRDS OF THE FARALLON ISLANDS: ECOLOGY, DYNAMICS, AND STRUCTURE OF AN UPWELLING-SYSTEM COMMUNITY. By David G. Ainley and Robert J. Boekelheide. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California 94305. 1900: xiv + 450 pp., 70 figs. 112 tables, 35 black-and-white photographs, appendices. $60.00.—In 1936, R. C. Murphy published the monumental "Oceanic Birds of South America," which, in addition to detailing the biology of southern hemisphere pelagics, was the first serious attempt to understand seabirds in light of their marine environment. Ainley and Boekelheide's study of the Farallon Islands seabirds extends that approach to a local ecosystem, with impressive results.

The Farallon Islands, 35 km west of San Francisco, are home to the largest and most diverse seabird assemblage in the continental United States, including two species of storm-petrels, one gull, three cormorants, and five alcids. In studies covering approximately 15 years (1971–1985), Ainley, Boekelheide, and their collaborators gathered an astonishing amount of detailed information on the biology, ecology, feeding habits, and reproductive success of the entire breeding avifauna, including species (e.g., Brandt's Cormorant, Ashy Storm-Petrel) for which basic biological data were scanty. These data provided the basis for carrying out their major goal, namely to understand how variations in the marine environment affect population dynamics and food resources. I have read few monographs that have succeeded so well in carrying out the authors' intentions.

The book starts with a general introduction to the area and the methods used. It continues with two major chapters. One documents the physical characteristics of the area, especially the zone of rich upwelling, and the ecology and abundance of the major prey species. The second is a masterful discussion of the feeding ecology of the avifauna and potential interspecific interactions; it even considers a summer visitor, the Sooty Shearwater, whose abundance may dwarf that of the breeding species. Following are chapters on the biology of individual species and, finally, a synopsis of "Patterns at the community level." Of the 12 chapters, Ainley wrote or contributed to 11 and Boekelheide eight.

The data are unparalleled and confirm—should any doubt remain—that long term studies are not a luxury. They are essential for showing that environmental conditions are far from static, even over a short time, and that changes in species assemblages are incessant. The dynamics of change are best illustrated by studies that luckily coincided with the most intense El Niño of our time. This disrupted the abundance of prey and caused the birds to switch diets and foraging areas. As a result, it had quite different effects on the productivity and recovery periods of each of the breeding species.

This book presents a wealth of information on seabirds, but its importance extends far beyond the marine environment. For example, Ainley presents cogent arguments that seabirds usually face their greatest challenges in winter, not during the breeding season; this supports a growing body of evidence (mostly generated from arctic waterfowl) that the condition of an individual at the end of winter is a major determinant of its subsequent reproductive success. He also argues that, at least on the Farallons, the size of breeding populations is more strongly affected by competition for nesting space (sometimes with marine mammals) than by competition for food. Another major and surprising finding is that, despite the abundance of food in this rich upwelling system, the breeding success of most species is largely dependent an the abundance of a single prey, juvenile rockfish (*Sebastes* spp.).

The authors' intelligent use of statistics contributes greatly to the usefulness of this volume. As a result, the reader is not distracted constantly by parenthetical tests of significance, but can follow the authors' reasoning and appreciate the kinds of data that made statistical tests necessary.

I found this book to be full of challenging ideas—some still to be tested. It will be read profitably by anyone interested in population dynamics, life histories, and long term studies. I have used it to compare population data from other areas, to see whether the trends noted at the Farallons might be recognizable on a broader scale. And it should be required reading for those who would presume to "manage" ecosystems in some mythical steady state.

In sum, this is a splendid book that has significance far beyond the little rocky islets that provided the data. I congratulate the authors and Point Reyes Bird Observatory for the tremendous effort needed to carry out this project, and I eagerly await a 10-year update.—J. R. JEHL, JR.

APPALACHIAN SPRING. By Marcia Bonta. Univ. of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1991: xiv + 187 pp., 2 maps, small decorative drawings, $19.95 (cloth), $9.95 (paper).—This modest book is a first-class addition to the genre of naturalist diaries. Marcia Bonta is a freelance editor and writer who has lived for 20 years on a 500-acre mountaintop farm in central Pennsylvania. The exact locality of the farm is nowhere given; an arrow on one of the maps indicates that Tyrone is an unspecified distance to the north. Mrs. Bonta's observations of birds, mammals, lower vertebrates, insects, and plants are both knowledgeable and perceptive. After an introductory "Prelude" chapter summarizing winter, the diary begins on March 1 and ends on June 21. There is an index, lacking in many such books of essays, and a five-page bibliography that includes both books and selected journal articles.

It is hard to imagine that there would be anything controversial in a work of this type. However, on pp. 131–133, she describes having watched a black rat snake (*Elaphe obsoleta*) preying on starling nestlings. She then comments: "Although I may not be as fond of the snake family as I am of birds, for me to interfere on the side of the birds would have been an arrogant decision that presumes my wisdom is greater than nature's . . . I am content to believe that the web of nature is too intricate for me to meddle with, even on so small a scale as destroying a black rat snake to protect young birds." In *Bird Watcher's Digest* 13 (6), 1991, pp. 93–96, Mrs. Bonta relates a similar episode involving rat snake predation on a brood of House Wrens, including a vivid description of the snake's tenacity and ingenuity in working its way to an all but unreachable nest. She then discusses at somewhat greater length her family's philosophy of "not favoring one wild creature over another." This article resulted in an outpouring of letters to the editor, Mary Bowers; as of 25 July 1991, only 3 favored the Bontas' position, the rest varying from calm and intelligent letters suggesting that the snake should have been removed but not killed to others that were downright violent (M. Bowers, pers. comm.). A sampling of these letters (1 pro Bonta, 4 con) appeared in the next issue of *Bird Watcher's Digest,* with a list of other protesters and an editorial statement to the effect that a future article will address readers' concerns and feelings about this subject. I am tempted to make an editorial comment of my own about this emotional approach to natural predation, but will leave that instead to the calm and diplomatic wording of Mrs. Bowers and Mrs. Bonta.—KENNETH C. PARKES.

FOUR NEOTROPICAL RAINFORESTS. Edited by Alwyn H. Gentry. Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Connecticut. 1991. 627 pp., 97 numbered text figs., 108 tables. $57.50.—This multiauthored volume attempts an overview of the floristics, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, and forest dynamics of two Central American and two South American forests, all four of which are well known to Neotropical researchers. The four forests are the La Selva Biological Station in Costa Rica, Barro Colorado Island and Pipeline Road in Panama,

Cocha Cashu Biological Station in Peru, and the Minimum Critical Size of Ecosystems Project near Manaus, Brazil. The book is divided into six parts: the sites, floristics, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, and forest dynamics. Obviously the five chapters on birds will be of most interest to readers of *The Wilson Bulletin,* so this review will focus on those chapters.

The total volume numbers 627 pages including indexes, of which 108 are devoted to birds. This includes an 18 page appendix which is a combined list of all species seen at the four sites along with other summary information (habitat preference, mass, ecological classification) on each species. The chapters are brief and much of the information in each bird chapter is based on mist-netting data.

The chapter on La Selva, Costa Rica is authored by John G. Blake, F. Gary Stiles, and Bette A. Loiselle. A total of 410 bird species have been recorded at La Selva, of which 256 breed. The area consists of primary forest, forest edges and gaps, rivers and streams, scrub, anthropogenic second growth, old plantations, and pastures. Seventy percent of the breeding bird species are in some way directly associated with forest, and 55% of the non-breeding species are forest associated. Data indicate that resident birds use forest interior more extensively than gaps. Migrants, both latitudinal (from North America) and altitudinal, comprise about 30% of the avifauna. Altitudinal migrants utilize forest interior heavily while latitudinal migrants are mostly associated with non-forest and forest edge habitats. Mist-netting held no surprises. The most successful nets were in young and second growth areas, probably due at least in part to sampling realities. Low canopy areas have better capture rates than high canopy areas. Migrants from the temperate zone were most frequently captured in young second growth, and least captured in interior forest. The authors conclude that "maintenance of second growth areas at La Selva will probably be necessary to ensure continued existence of a variety of species."

The chapter on Barro Colorado Island (BCI) and Pipeline Road in Panama is authored by James R. Karr. Karr notes that BCI is a recently isolated land bridge created during the construction of the Panama Canal, and thus the avifauna has changed over the past 70 years, since BCI was isolated. A total of 444 bird species have been recorded from BCI and nearby Pipeline Road (on the mainland), of which 370 species are regular in occurrence, and 278 breed. Regarding habitat affiliation, 55 species are tied to lakes and rivers, 64 are associated with open second growth areas, and 251 are forest species, but "forest" includes old second growth, interior streams, canopy, edges, and gaps. A total of 66 species have become extinct from BCI, largely due to loss of early successional habitat as the forest has returned. Karr summarizes his extensive mist-netting studies including species accumulation curves, relative abundances, trophic structure, capture rates, and survival rates.

The chapter on Cocha Cashu Biological Station in the Peruvian Amazon is authored by Scott K. Robinson and John Terborgh. This area, located in southeastern Peru, includes Manu National Park, and is considered a possible regional center of avian endemism, with 550 total bird species of which 435 are resident. Habitats are varied, including oxbows, floodplains, beaches, cane thickets, high ground forest, open forests of bamboo, upland forest, and lake margins. Data were obtained from mist netting (including some canopy nets) and song censuses. Charles Munn mist netted 45 species in canopy nets 30–50 m above ground, of which 22 had never been captured in ground level nets inside mature forest. Song censuses revealed that many forest species have large territories (between 5–50 ha) but most species in early successional areas have small territories (approx. 0.25 ha). Species distribution is generally patchy and, in spite of very high species richness, rarity is common. High richness multispecies flocks are characteristic of the forest.

The chapter on the Minimal Critical Size of Ecosystems (MCSE) project, located 80 km north of Manaus, Brazil, is authored by Richard O. Bierregaard, Jr. The data presented are

confined to mist netting of the understory bird community. The forest is located on ancient nutrient-poor soils and the study areas are on three 15,000 ha cattle ranches, comprising a mosaic of pasture, second growth, isolated forest fragments, and virgin forest. A total of 352 species were seen of which 143 were netted. Ninety percent of the netted species were considered to be numerically rare. Mixed species insectivorous flocks predominated but there were also obligate ant followers among the most frequently netted species. The only North American migrants netted were Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) and Gray-cheeked Thrush (*C. minimus*).

Following the four chapters on birds is a brief summary chapter by Karr, Robinson, Blake, and Bierregaard. The differences among the four sites are not insignificant. North American migrants were much more represented in the two Central American sites. The Amazonian sites demonstrated the importance of habitat diversity (many species are affiliated with specific habitat types), and the prevalence of high richness but general rarity of individual species. The authors present an impressive summary but note accurately that our general knowledge of Neotropical birds still remains "rudimentary."

I recommend this book to anyone seriously interested in Neotropical ecology. Each chapter is well-referenced, citing other studies from that particular area. The editing is sound and the book is free of typos and other annoying errors. One strong criticism, however, is that only in the chapter by Bierregaard do common names of bird species appear. The other bird chapters use only scientific names, which is no longer necessary since common names of Neotropical bird species are well standardized. Many, if not most readers of *The Wilson Bulletin* will need to have the relevant field guides or some other volume at hand to understand which species are being discussed.

I also wish to note that the other chapters dealing with floristics, forest ecology, mammals, and reptiles and amphibians are insightful to anyone with a general interest in the Neotropics.—JOHN C. KRICHER.

ÉCOLOGIE ET COMPORTEMENT DES GOBE-MOUCHES (AVES: MUSCICAPINAE, PLATYSTEIRINAE, MONARCHINAE) DU NORD-EST DU GABON. Volume 2: Organisation sociale et Écologie de la Reproduction des Muscicapinae. By Christian Érard. Mémoires du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Série A, Zoologie, Tome 146, Editions du Muséum, Paris. 1990:233 pp., 101 figs., 15 tables, ISBN 2-85653-178-4. 320 FF or 125 Dutch Guilders (available, plus 10% postage, from Universal Book Services, Dr. W. Backhuys, Warmonderweg 80, 2341 KZ Oegstgeest, The Netherlands).—In the first volume of this work (which I reviewed in Wilson Bull. 101:669–760, 1989), Érard discussed the community structure of 30 Old World flycatcher species living in rainforests of northeastern Gabon. In this volume, Érard analyzes in detail the 13 species of Muscicapinae occurring in his study area. He approaches the problem of how this restricted community is organized by "examining this time the eco-ethological characteristics that are particular to each species, in order to better define the relationships between the community [*peuplement* in French] and its environment" (p. 19). Further, Érard explains that he introduces "the ethological dimension in the structure of the community at the same time as [he] analyzes, with a population-level and a species-level emphasis, the organizational systems that each species has adopted, in response to its fundamental biological requirements, to best utilize the resources of the environment" (p. 19).

The data presented in Volume 2 were gathered, as were those in the first volume, during Érard's eight trips to northeastern Gabon for a total of 25 months of work in rainforest; over 5000 hours were devoted to observations of flycatchers in the field. This sample size is very impressive.

In the first part of the book (Socio-ecological characteristics of the species belonging to the Muscicapinae community, pp. 23–193), Érard describes for each species (*Muscicapa striata, M. cassini, M. sethsmithi, M. epulata, M. olivascens, M. caerulescens, Myioparus griseigularis, M. plumbeus, Pedilorhynchus comitatus, Artomyias fuliginosa, Stizorhina fraseri, Fraseria ocreata,* and *F. cinerascens*), social units, territorial systems, vocalizations, breeding biology, and molt. For five of these species (*Muscicapa striata, M. cassini, M. sethsmithi, Fraseria ocreata,* and *F. cinerascens*) he also discusses breeding productivity and mortality. The depth of treatment varies from species to species, from 3 pages for *Myioparus plumbeus* to 20 pages or more for five species (*Muscicapa cassini, M. sethsmithi, Stizorhina fraseri, Fraseria ocreata,* and *F. cinerascens*). Apart from *Muscicapa striata,* a Palearctic species that does not breed in his study area or, indeed, in the Afro-tropical Region, the twelve other species studied by Érard breed in northeastern Gabon. For each of these twelve species, the information available in the literature prior to Érard's work was scattered and largely anecdotal. Thus, these treatments represent a giant step forward in our understanding of the fundamental eco-ethological characteristics of these species. Furthermore, since Érard studied these species as members of a functional biological community, the accounts are comparative and highly informative. Each account is richly illustrated with diagrams, tables, sonagraphs, and photographs, documenting aspects of their biology such as displays, vocalizations, nest sites, and data on breeding seasonality.

In the second part of the book, entitled "Discussion" (pp. 195–221), Érard focuses his attention on three main themes: (1) socio-ecological patterns based on taxonomic comparisons, (2) socio-ecological patterns based on habitat comparisons, and (3) patterns based on comparisons of social systems. In spite of the wealth of data, Érard, in the present work as well as in his previous monograph, is very cautious about how to interpret this information. He reminds the reader that "the data [he] gathered were, for the most part, the first information available on the biology of these species" (p. 219) and that "it is also the first time that a community of tropical birds is analyzed in such a detailed manner," so that the lack of comparative information from other similar communities and the lack of uniformity in amount of data across species place severe constraints on the generality of his conclusions. I commend Érard for his prudence, but I must warn the reader who might take Érard's caution too seriously that, in my opinion at least, few, if any, data sets on any comparable tropical avian community exist, hence that the observations and conclusions reported by Érard in the two volumes of this series represent a set of baseline studies against which all others will be measured.

On the whole, it seems that north-temperate Muscicapinae differ from their tropical counterparts in Gabon in several important respects. Tropical taxa are more diverse morphologically and eco-ethologically, are more complex in their social behavior, and are K-strategists. The spatio-temporal environmental mosaic provided by the Gabonese rainforest (including biological factors as well as random, catastrophic-type events), is a very important source of background heterogeneity that modulates or is tracked by the various facets of diversity of the birds themselves, thus producing a rich array of responses in terms of adaptive strategies. Whereas interspecific competition plays a clear role in this tropical flycatcher community, the exact roles of predation remain to be fully worked out, although predatory pressures are important. A puzzle is why these flycatcher species should be territorial, when in fact their low population density would at first sight seem not to be conducive to their having evolved territorial systems. What set of resources, then, act as the limiting factors that allow territorial behavior?

Once again, I congratulate Érard for an extremely thorough and stimulating piece of work on Afro-tropical birds. Once more, I urge him to publish some of his work in English, so

that his unique data set and insights into tropical forest ecology and behavior become as widely known as they deserve. In the meantime, I urge all tropical avian ecologists, ethologists, and evolutionists to acquire Érard's monographs and to study them.—FRANÇOIS VUILLEUMIER.

WINGS FOR MY FLIGHT. By Marcy Cottrell Houle. Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Inc., New York, New York. 1991: 187 pp., $17.95.—Marcy Cottrell Houle's narrative account of observing a nesting pair of Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) at Chimney Rock, Colorado in 1975 not only gives us insight into the behavior of these magnificant birds of prey but also portrays a realistic and not always so pleasant or romantic view of a field biologist's working conditions. Just out of college and working for the state of Colorado, Ms. Houle and her partner, Ms. Alex Porter of the U.S. Forest Service, were caught in the conflict between those who wanted to develop this ancient Anasazi Indian site for tourism and the few who felt the falcons should be left relatively undisturbed during the nesting season. The fact that they were young and women in a traditionally male role added to the difficulties in dealing with some members of the community.

Aside from the excessive anthropomorphic interpretations of the falcon's behavior, we get an in depth description of the peregrine's activities in different stages of development from the time of incubation until the two young could hunt for themselves, approximately four months. The blend of biology and ecology, with a touch of history of the Anasazi Indian site where the falcons chose to nest, make for enjoyable and easy reading.

Ms. Houle's perseverance and dedication to the protection of the Peregrine Falcon is admirable and an incentive not only to young biologists just getting started but to those of us who get a little more than discouraged with the struggle to protect endangered species and their habitats. *Wings for my Flight* should be suggested reading for science students from age 16 on.—DONNA MITCHELL.

BIRD TRAPPING AND BIRD BANDING. By Hans Bub (Translated by Frances Hamerstrom and Karin Wuertz-Schaefer). Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y. 330 pp, 456 black and white photos and diagrams. $69.50.—Have you ever thought of building a Helgoland trap for banding purposes? Or is the Bal Chatri the solution to your raptor banding project? Is a research program being held up by your inability to capture and color mark the study species? Or are you just curious about the many ways the human mind has devised to capture live birds, whether for research purposes or as in some societies, to add to the evening's menu? All of these questions might have answers in this book, which is a English translation of a book originally published in Germany in 1978. We owe a debt to Fran Hamerstrom and her co-translator for translating this useful compendium of bird capture techniques.

Bub has combed the international literature going back as far as the Sixteenth Century for discussions of bird trapping. It is difficult to imagine that there are methods of trapping not discussed in this book. Some of the methods included are: small or medium funnel traps, large funnel traps, cage traps, pit traps, stationary nets, bow nets, clap nets, pull nets, and cannon nets. There are specialized chapters on capturing ducks and other waterbirds, on the use of nooses, catching by hand, and catching at night. All these methods are profusely illustrated with drawings of traps, diagrams of netting sets etc.

Directions are given for the construction of most of these trapping devices. These include proper knots on a Bal Chatri, the proper way to erect a line of mist nets, and devices for

triggering clap nets. Full directions are given for the operation of large scale netting projects such as cannon nets.

A long chapter discusses the use of lure birds to entice new birds into the traps. As is pointed out in a forward by George Jonkel, formerly Chief of the U.S. Bird Banding Laboratory, this practice is illegal in the United States and Canada.

American bird banders faced with unusual problems will certainly profit from this book and the newcomer to banding whose experience does not go beyond mist netting will find much of interest and instruction.—GEORGE A. HALL.

WISCONSIN BIRDLIFE. POPULATION & DISTRIBUTION PAST & PRESENT. By Samuel D. Robbins, Jr., Univ. of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin. 1991:xvii + 702 pp, colored frontispiece by Owen Gromme, 54 halftones, 170 maps. $75.00.—After a long lull, the day of the sumptuous "state birdbook" apparently is back. The present volume is the third to appear in the last few years. Others are on the way. Wisconsin had had no full treatment of its birds since Kumlien and Hollister's 1903 publication until Owen Gromme, of the Milwaukee Public Museum, set out in 1939 to prepare a state book in the classical tradition. Gromme spent most of his time painting a set of plates for the book and in ferreting out specimens of the more unusual records of the past. By 1960 it was apparent that these plates might well be published alone, and in 1963 Gromme's "Birds of Wisconsin" appeared with a set of color plates, accompanied by simple range maps and brief statements about the status of each species. In 1969 the project for a more complete text was turned over to the present author, long one of the leading bird students of the state.

The data base that Robbins had to work with was enormous, and it is apparent that he has mastered it. The Wisconsin Society of Ornithology is a large and active group and has published detailed bird records for nearly 50 years. A bibliography of 25 pages of fine print and a long list of observers follow the text. Robbins made an effort to become personally familiar with all parts of the state, and he has lived in several different places.

Part 1, The Background, starts with a chapter on the development of Wisconsin Ornithology which traces the history of bird observations through the years, and concludes with summaries of work done by the W.S.O. and the state agencies in recent years. One gets the impression that not much was done between the pioneering efforts of men like Kumlien, Hoy, and others until the 1940s when the W.S.O. was founded, although a list of 41 ornithologists active from 1850 to 1940 is given. Names such Leopold, Stoddard, and Schorger on this list are known beyond the borders of Wisconsin.

The second chapter is a unique discussion of the ecology of the state. While Wisconsin lacks dramatic changes in topography, it does present an interesting and complicated ecological picture. The southern forest region meets the northern forest region along a "tension zone" which stretches diagonally across the state from northwest to southeast. Interspersed in both regions are areas of transition to the prairie formation. In a 56-page chapter, The Landscape and the Birds, a perceptive and articulate ecologist, James Hall Zimmerman, discusses this complexity. This is the best description of ecological background that I have seen in a state bird book.

Zimmerman makes a return in the final part of the book with a long discussion of habitat preferences, which includes a table of breeding species showing the occurrence of these species into 29 habitat types. A less detailed table does the same thing for wintering species. This is a unique feature in a state bird book.

Robbins recognizes 394 species confirmed for the state, with 13 additional hypothetical species. Thirty-three of these have been added to the list since 1960. Is this a biologically significant indication of dispersal trends, or is it an indication of increased birding activity and increased sophistication of the birders?

The species accounts, which constitute the bulk of the book, occupy a little more than one page each. Besides a table briefly outlining status, and a range map, the accounts follow no set formula. Rather they are readable discussions of whatever Robbins found interesting about the distribution of the species or the timing of its migration. As is usual in state lists the author finds it hard to avoid giving more detail about the unusual species than about the common ones. There is little mention of population numbers except for the use of Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data for the species who breed throughout the state. These data from 1966–1980 are averaged within the eight avifaunal zones recognized by the author.

The range maps usually include only those records made since 1960 and vary in quality. For widespread species the BBS averages are given. For species whose breeding range, or wintering range embraces only part of the state the ranges are indicated diagrammatically and other records are also included. The inclusive ranges seem to be stippled in approximately rather than accurately plotted. In some cases they disagree slightly from those plotted by Temple (1987, Wisconsin Birds. A Seasonal and Geographic Guide). One notes that a suite of boreal species all essentially have the same range.

My only serious criticism of the book is that the reader gets the impression that bird distributions and populations are constant. Little attention to changes in range over the 150 years is given. There is no good information about the avifauna of northern Wisconsin in the 19th century, but the southern half of the state was reasonably well known then so that historical comparisons could have been made. For a few species such as the Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) which have made dramatic invasions of the whole state within the memory of living people, there is a map showing the dates of arrival county by county.

Other than a rather perfunctory listing in the introductory chapter of species thought to be declining, there is little mention that bird populations are changeable. The averaging of the BBS data obscures any trends that might have occurred in the 16 years covered. Since current interpretations of the BBS data consider that most declines have occurred since 1980 this may not be as serious as it seems.

Since Gromme's earlier book had featured colored paintings of all species there are no bird pictures in this book, except an excellent painting of Pileated Woodpeckers (*Dryocopus pileatus*) by Gromme which serves as a frontispiece and also graces the dust jacket. The only other illustrations are photographs of some of the important ornithologists of the past.

The book was written with three groups in mind: (1) serious-minded amateurs, (2) professional ornithologists, and (3) the growing number of people interested in birds in a more casual manner. There is something for all of these, and it is hoped that the book will have wide circulation throughout the state. There is little about Wisconsin birds that cannot be learned from it. In brief this is one of the very best state bird books and as a one time author of a state book I wish mine could have come close to matching it.—GEORGE A. HALL.

SHORT REVIEWS

CURRENT ORNITHOLOGY. Volume 8. Edited by Dennis M. Power. Plenum Press, New York, New York. 1991:xiv + 335 pp. $75.—The latest volume of this useful work follows the high standards set by the earlier issues. There are seven review papers: A Review of New Zealand Ornithology by Allan J. Baker; Avian Radioecology by I. Lehr Brisbin, Jr.; Facultative Manipulation of Sex Ratios in Birds: Rare or Rarely Observed by Patricia Adair Gowaty; Enemy Recognition and Response in Birds by Ian G. McClean and Gillian Rhodes; Parasites and Sexual Selection in New Guinea Avifauna by Stephen G. Pruett-Jones, Melinda A. Pruett-Jones and Hugh I. Jones; Deceit and Mating Status in Passerine Birds: An Evaluation of the Deception Hypothesis by Hans Temrin; and Age-Specific Foraging Proficiency in Birds by Joseph M. Wunderle, Jr.—G.A.H.

ATLAS DES OISEAUX DE FRANCE EN HIVER. By Dosithée Yeatman-Berthelot. Société Ornithologique de France, (55, Rue de Buffon, 1500S) Paris. 1991:575 pp, many maps, black & white sketches. 650 francs.—After completing a breeding bird atlas in 1976, the French ornithologists under the late Laurent Yeatman applied the Atlas methodology to the wintering birds, and we now have this impressive publication as a result. The now-familar atlas grid maps show the winter distribution of 246 regular and 56 occasional species as determined in the years 1977–1981. Each account is accompanied by a page of comment and a small breeding season map if the species breeds in France.—G.A.H.

THE OHIO BREEDING BIRD ATLAS. By Bruce G. Peterjohn and Daniel L. Rice. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, Ohio. 1991:xiv + 416 pp., colored cover, many black & white photos and maps. $20.—The latest addition to the growing shelf of state breeding bird atlases is this handsome volume from the Buckeye state. The book follows the now well-known Atlas format. Each species occupies a double-page spread with a large grid map showing the distribution occupying one page. The opposite page gives a short discussion of the species and each species is shown a black-and-white photograph. Over 500 volunteers found evidence of 193 species breeding in the state (182 confirmed). An appendix lists 10 species which were sighted during the atlas project but apparently do not breed. Another appendix discusses the physiographic regions of the state and is illustrated with 16 habitat photographs.

Ohio is a state without dramatic habitat changes, but the student of avian distribution will note how many breeding ranges are delimited by the line of glaciation which extends diagonally across the state. One also notes the several isolated pockets that support some presumed "boreal" species.

This very successful atlas project supplies the detail of distribution that was one of the few gaps occurring in the senior author's recently published "The Birds of Ohio" (review in Wilson Bull., 103:157–159 (1991).—G.A.H.

BIRDS OF THE SMOKIES. By Fred J. Alsop III. Great Smoky Mountains Natural History Association, Route 2 Box 272B, Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738. 1991:167 pp, 100 colored photographs. $9.95 (paper).—This attractive little publication discusses 100 common birds of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Each species is illustrated with an excellent colored photograph taken by the author. A few paragraphs of descriptive text and a diagram showing the seasonal distribution at different elevations accompanies the photograph. Also included is a complete check-list of the birds recorded in the Park, descriptions of a few good birding sites, and "The Birder's Dozen," suggestions as to where to find the 12 most sought after species. This is an excellent buy for the first-time park visitor.—G.A.H.

NEW JOURNAL: BIRD CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL. Published for I.C.B.P. by Cambridge University Press. Vol. 1 No. 1, March 1991. £25 (Inquiries for subscriptions to Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th Street, New York, New York 10011).—This new quarterly journal will focus on major conservation issues facing birds, especially globally threatened species and their habitats. The first issue has articles on birds from Dominica, Madagascar, Guinea, and French Polynesia.—G.A.H.