

BOOK REVIEW

ORNITHOLOGY IN LABORATORY AND FIELD (Fourth Edition). Olin S. Pettingill Jr. Burgess Publishing Company, 426 S. Sixth Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55415, 1970. 524 p. illus. Index. \$11.95.

If you wonder how birds cope with certain problems in their environment and why they behave as they do, you are probably looking for a book that will take you beyond the field guides and Bent's *Life Histories*. One of the best references of this type, also the most comprehensive and up-to-date I have seen, is Pettingill's *Ornithology in Laboratory and Field*. Written on the level of a good college biology text and generously illustrated by Walter J. Breckenridge, this book gives the bird student the necessary vocabulary and background for independent study. Each chapter, and sometimes each topic within a chapter, ends with a list of references to encourage further reading.

A partial list of chapter headings offers an idea of the scope of Pettingill's *Ornithology*: Feathers and Feather Tracts, Anatomy and Physiology, Distribution, Behavior, Migration, Territory, Song, Mating, Nests and Nest-building, Young and Their Development, and Parental Care. Nine appendices cover such topics as research methods, preparation of papers for publication, ornithological bibliographies and current journals, clutch sizes, and ectoparasites. Originally written for class work in laboratory and field, this widely used text book also serves as a desk encyclopedia of ornithology because it is fully indexed and carefully organized.

I hope every CBC member will at least read the chapter on behavior. Some aspects of bird study require access to skin collections or other scientific tools not available to most bird watchers. The knowledgeable amateur, however, can study behavior with little more than a binocular, notebook, pencil, timepiece, and patience. If the rare species elude you, do not despair. Pesky Starlings and House Sparrows are fine species for behavior studies!—EFP



REQUEST FOR GULL REPORTS

During May through July of each year for a five year period, Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) from three Great Lakes colonies will be wing-marked with 1.5 inch-diameter "Saflag" tags. Each colony is represented by a specific color. An attempt is being made to determine the dispersal pattern, migration route, and winter range for each population. Anyone observing such wing-marked gulls is asked to notify DR. WILLIAM E. SOUTHERN, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. Please report each observation of marked individuals even though the same bird may be sighted on different days. The following information is desired: **date, exact location, marker color, and the observer's name.** Your assistance in this aspect of the project will be greatly appreciated. Respondents will receive information pertaining to colony locations and the date of marking.