

## TWO CANADIAN BIRD REFERENCES

*Birds of the Rosetown - Biggar District, Saskatchewan.* Wayne E. Renaud and Don H. Renaud. 1975. Saskatchewan Natural History Society (Box 1211, Regina). Special Publication No. 9. 121 pages. \$4 (paper).

*Manitoba Bird Studies.* Martin K. McNicholl. 1975. Manitoba Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management (Box 9, 989 Century Street, Winnipeg R3H 0W4). 146 pages. Paper. No charge.

The Saskatchewan volume represents the work of two young residents of the area, whose interest in birds is augmented by a scientific regard for accurate and careful documentation. Most of their information was gathered in 1968-75, although they include data from other observers. Introductory material includes descriptions of the major habitats in the region along with some maps and photos. The authors also define terms used to describe the abundance and frequency of birds.

Most of their book is taken up by species accounts, which include the usual information about status and abundance, observations of nests and eggs, and occasional habitat descriptions. In addition, the reading is made more enjoyable by a few noteworthy observations such as the loggerhead shrike that strung five queen bumblebees along a 3-foot stretch of barbed wire fence.

Their book makes a valuable contribution to the ornithology of our northern neighbor. It can be recommended not only to travelers headed that direction, but also to more sedentary types who seldom leave North Dakota, as many of the habitats and birds found in Saskatchewan are similar to those of North Dakota.

The second book is a bibliography of Manitoba ornithology and includes not only published references, but also numerous theses and government and museum reports. A brief introduction gives the history of ornithology in the Province.

The utility of the bibliography is limited by having only a few annotations to the entries. Nonetheless, it will certainly be useful to researchers concerned with Manitoba and its birds.

Staff