

large amount of information about this species. Information about the distribution, both geographic and local, feeding habits, migration, and distinctive characteristics of the black brant is combined with an appraisal of its present chances of survival, and with suggestions about better management procedures and techniques to preserve, and to augment, its numbers. The author's approach and point of view are primarily that of a conservationist interested in protecting the species as a game bird for the benefit of those sportsmen who like to hunt it.

The book has a number of pen-and-ink illustrations, by Harold Cramer Smith, which are very variable in quality. Some are pleasant enough, but not in any real sense additions to the text, while others are crude to the point where they could easily prejudice the reader against the book. The duck hawk (?) attacking two black brants (p. 61) is more like a cartoon than a rendition of its subject. The volume has a useful bibliography and is well indexed.

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Archeology in Tropical America

They Found the Buried Cities. Exploration and excavation in the American Tropics. Robert Wauchope. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1965. viii + 382 pp. Illus. \$7.50.

The author, an archeologist, who is director of the Middle American Research Institute of Tulane University, has as his theme the proposition that a scientist need not be afraid of making his published material interesting. He laments the fact that in recent years most archeologists have become so pedantic that they feel it unprofessional to include in their reports anything personal, emotional, adventurous, or romantic.

This was not true of the early pioneers in Middle American exploration who managed to include in their archeological reports personal adventures, romances, and frustrations, as well as colorful descriptions of the native peoples, natural history, and the generally exotic atmosphere that surrounded travel in the tropics.

The individualists of those days have been replaced by a breed of sci-

entist cast in the academic mold, who feel that their scientific problems should be completely detached from the matrices in which they occur.

In addition to this, it must be admitted that conditions in the American tropics have changed greatly during the past 30 years. Highway construction and air transport have now largely done away with the need for mules and canoes. This means much less intimate contact with the people and country. Newly constructed hotels and motels have virtually eliminated the need for staying in native houses or primitive camps. When camps are established, it is now possible to equip them with refrigerators, comfortable sleeping quarters, and even electric plants. Modern sanitation methods, insect repellants, and miracle drugs have banished the fear of disease. And more stabilized governments in the Latin American countries have practically eliminated the wandering groups of bandits that formerly were a hazard to the explorer in remote places.

However, there still remain many sites to be discovered and worked. The land and the people are interesting, and there are always local politicians and red tape with which one must cope.

In *They Found the Buried Cities*, the author leads off with a 69-page, condensed account of his own experiences, which began in 1932 when as a young man he joined the staff of the Carnegie Institution's camp at Uaxactun. In describing this experience and later work in Guatemala, his vivid writing loses nothing in comparison with that of his predecessors which he so admires.

Not only are his experiences in the bush described in a way that makes the reader feel that he is present, but his personalized accounts of his involvements with social situations, customs, permits, local rivalries, finances, and the like make one realize that conducting an archeological expedition is considerably more than digging in a ruin. Like an iceberg, in scientific work only a fraction appears above the surface.

Following this entertaining introduction are well-chosen selections from the writings of 17 travelers, mostly archeologists, among whom are John L. Stevens, E. G. Squier, Désiré Charnay, Alfred Maudsley, Teobert Maler, and Sylvanus Morley. In these accounts, which are replete with adven-

ture, humor, tragedy, and romance, the character of each writer emerges in clear perspective. At the same time, each of these men was above all a dedicated scientist.

Each of these fascinating excerpts does much to bolster Wauchope's point that scientific value is not necessarily lost in making a report entertaining.

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The Fungi

The Genus *Aspergillus*. Kenneth B. Raper and Dorothy I. Fennell. With a chapter by Peter K. C. Austwick. Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, 1965. xii + 686 pp. Illus. \$20.

This treatise on the genus *Aspergillus* is the third to appear since 1926. The authors dedicate this volume to the senior author of the previous two, Charles Thom (1872–1956). The work is "designed to provide keys and descriptions for the identification of the *Aspergilli*"; 132 species and 18 varieties are recognized versus 77 species, 8 varieties, and 4 mutations in *A Manual of the Aspergilli* (1945). These taxa are assigned to 18 groups (the authors' category for a subdivision of a genus), of which five are new. The cultural characteristics and morphology of each taxon are described in detail and workable keys provided. Profuse illustrations greatly enhance the utility of the text. Four most useful checklists are included: (i) generic and (ii) specific names applied to *Aspergilli*, (iii) fungi incorrectly designated as *Aspergilli*, and (iv) recognized species and varieties.

Contrary to the rule set forth in the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, utilization of the generic epithet *Aspergillus* for both the asexual and sexual stages is advocated. Whether "most workers" (= "the majority of mycologists?") "accept" this procedure or assign those species forming ascocarps to ascomycetous genera [see C. R. Benjamin in *Mycologia* 47, 699 (1955)] is in question.

The primary objective of this text is to present a comprehensive, yet usable, treatment of the *Aspergilli*. Simultaneously the authors have provided, in the introductory chapters, a wealth of information on special media for