cuted, and revered by the populace. The aye-aye has also been variously regarded by taxonomists, "its seemingly haphazard combination of curious features—continuously growing front teeth, inguinal nipples, a long bushy tail, large naked ears and extraordinary, attenuated fingers—[having] resulted in its being classified at various times as related to tarsiers, squirrels, and even kangaroos" and its position among the primates still not beyond question. Known to Western science since the 1780s, the species was thought to be extinct at the middle of this century, and it is only in the last few decades that it has become the subject of a serious research effort. This volume brings together a sampling of the results. The treatment opens with a historical and taxonomic overview, including an account by E. L. Simons of the giant subfossil form *D. robusta*. The remaining 16 papers include reports of both captive and field studies, the former predominating. The field studies of these nocturnal, somewhat solitary animals document diet, ranging and nesting patterns, and social and motor behavior and give particular attention to foraging behavior; the aye-aye uses its highly adapted hands to accomplish "percussive foraging," occupying a niche that has been compared to that of the woodpecker elsewhere. The first recorded births of aye-ayes in captivity occurred only in 1992, and many of the captive studies reported have been of short duration; their subjects include sexual behavior, infant development, hand preference, olfactory communication, vocalization, and maintenance issues. Comparative studies of field and captive aye-ayes suggest that the species has an extended breeding season and does not require a diet high in fat or protein. It appears to be generally adaptable in terms of habitat preference. The editors of the volume see conservation as important for its future but do not address the issue directly because of the current insufficiency of relevant data.

Katherine Livingston

The Ecology of Loch Lomond. K. J. MURPHY, M. C. M. BEVERIDGE, and R. TIPPETT, Eds. Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1994. xvi, 170 pp., illus. $144 or £94.50 or Dfl. 225. Developments in Hydrobiology, 101. Reprinted from *Hydrobiologia*, vol. 290. From a symposium, Stirling, Scotland, 1992.

Loch Lomond, a 70-square-kilometer body of fresh water near Glasgow, Scotland, not only is known through song for its bonny banks but has, in the words of Roger Tippett's introduction to this volume, "a long and interesting place in the history of the study of limnology." Scientific studies of the loch date back at least to the work of Harry Slack in 1938 and to the establishment by the University of Glasgow of a field station—the first of its kind in Britain—in 1946 at Rossdhu on its western shore. This collection of papers derives from a symposium held to mark the 25th anniversary of the re-establishment of the station at Rowardennan on the eastern shore. Following some introductory material is a set of six papers describing the physical and chemical environment of the loch. The loch, in brief, lies on the boundary between the Lowlands and the Highlands and is "formed of a chain of discrete basins of increasing width and decreasing depth from North to South," thus offering a "gradient of environmental conditions." It has a catchment of 781 square kilometers, but its hydrology has been relatively little studied. Chemically it is regarded as generally oligotrophic, and data obtained from sediment cores reflect both the Flandrian marine transgression of 5500 to 7000 years ago and anthropogenic environmental changes. The other main section of this anniversary volume consists of ten papers devoted to biology and ecology. The first two of these deal with land and aquatic vegetation, two others are devoted to plankton, and one focuses on the River Endrick, the loch's main inflow. The remainder are devoted to the fish that inhabit the loch. Included are an overview of the relatively diverse fish community and an account of the three species of lamprey present, as well as several more specific studies. Given the heavy recreational use the area receives, conservation is of considerable concern in all these cases, and the volume closes with a summary of a discussion focused on this issue.

Katherine Livingston

Vignettes: Objects of Wonder

I remember birding with Roger Tory Peterson—or the "King Penguin," to refer to him by his bird name—on a small plot of land called High Island, which is on the Texas coast down the line from Galveston. . . . On this particular day the word got around that King Penguin was in the sanctuary. Someone recognized him. Instantly he became the center of attention. I don't believe that the arrival in the treetops of such a rare sighting as, say, a Cape May Warbler, would have unfocused their attention.

—*George Plimpton*, in *Roger Tory Peterson: The Art and Photography of the World's Most Famous Birder* (Roger Tory Peterson and Rudy Hoglund, Eds.; Rizzoli)

In the past the Grand Canyon invited reflection on human insignificance, but today much of the public sees it through a cultural lens shaped by advanced technology. The characteristic questions about the canyon reported by Park Service employees assume that humans dug the canyon or that they could improve it so that it might be viewed quickly and easily. Rangers report repeated queries for directions to the road, the elevator, the train, the bus, or the trolley to the bottom. Other visitors request that the canyon be lighted at night. Many assume that the canyon was produced either by one of the New Deal dam-building programs or by the Indians—"What tools did they use?" is a common question.

—*David E. Nye*, in *American Technological Sublime* (MIT Press)

Books Received

Anthropoid Origins. John G. Fleagle and Richard F. Kay, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1994. xvi, 708 pp., illus. $139.50. Advances in Primatology. Based on a conference, Durham, NC, May 1992.

The Apartheid of Sex. A Manifesto on the Freedom of Gender. Martine Rothblatt. Crown, New York, 1995. xiv, 178 pp. $21.

Approaching Hysteria. Disease and Its Interpretations. Mark S. Micale. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1995. xii, 327 pp. $29.95 or £24.95.

Beyond the Crisis. Preserving the Capacity for Excellence in Health Care and Medical Science. Henry M. Greenberg and Susan U. Raymond, Eds. New York Academy of Sciences, New York, 1994. xiv, 199 pp., illus. $30. Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, vol. 729. Based on a conference, New York, Feb. 1994.

Biogeography and Ecology of Turkmenistan. Victor Fet and Khabibulla I. Atamuradov, Eds. Kluwer, Norwell, MA, 1994. viii, 653 pp., illus. $270 or £185.50 or Dfl. 475. Monographiae Biologicae, vol. 72.

Biological Degradation and Bioremediation of Toxic Chemicals. G. Rasul Chaudhry, Ed. Dioscorides (Timber Press), Portland, OR, 1995. 515 pp., illus. $69.95.

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Evolution. Steve Jones, Robert Martin, and David Pilbeam, Eds. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1994. xiv, 506 pp., illus. Paper, $34.95. Reprint, 1992 ed.

The Chocolate Tree. A Natural History of Cacao. Allen M. Young. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC, 1995. xvi, 200 pp., illus., + plates. $24.95. Smithsonian Nature Books.

Chromosome Techniques. A Manual. Arun Kumar