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**Ontario Birds.** *L. L. Snyder.* Clarke, Irwin & Company Ltd. Toronto. 1951. First Edition. x+248 pp. Illustrated by T. M. Shortt. \$4.50.

The author has written this book primarily for the amateur ornithologist, who desires to know something about the bird-life so commonly seen in northern and middle North America. He first introduces the reader to the subject by asking "What is a Bird?". The question is then carefully answered with comparisons made to the human being in so far as structure is concerned. Following this introduction, he discusses clearly some of the most fundamental aspects of bird distribution, and without difficulty some of the relationships which exist between birds and their habitats. A concise explanation of bird migration is then followed by a discussion on the classification of birds. A list of the birds of Ontario, with both common and scientific names appears in the chapter on classification. This list comprises a handy reference for bird watchers, of not only Ontario, but of adjacent areas. The remainder of the text, which makes up, for the most part, the major part of the book, presents the natural history of these different species of birds, in brief and interesting form.

This book will prove useful not only to the amateur ornithologist, but will be of considerable value to secondary and elementary school teachers as a source of useful information about our most common birds. In addition, it is recommended for colleges that try to explore the fields of knowledge beyond the strictly academic level. Mr. Snyder imparts to this book both his ability to tell about birds and his interest in the subject.

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