land. All I said about the age of irrupting Woodpeckers was that "... out of 1,500 ringed at four stations, only about 9 % were adults"! Second, the only evidence Eriksson presents for his claim that even breeding birds of Fennoscandia may move eastwards in the autumn, is based on regrettable misconceptions. The bird ringed at Hauho during breeding time on 23 June, 1957, and recovered in the USSR, Leningrad, on 5 December, 1957, which Eriksson declares to be an adult male, was in fact a nestling, as is clearly stated in the ringing report (NORDSTRÖM 1959. Die Vogelberingung in Finnland im Jahre 1957. Mem. Soc. F. Fl. Fenn. 34:1—48). Two other ringing recoveries mentioned by Eriksson as proof of long-distance eastwards movements by adult Great Spotted Woodpeckers, actually prove nothing of the sort. These birds were ringed in March—April in South Finland and recovered one and two years later respectively in the USSR. Eriksson declares them to be adult males which "may have nested in Finland", but as juveniles cannot be separated from adults after their first autumn moult, there is no justification for this statement. On the contrary, bearing in mind the strong preponderance of juveniles among irrupting Woodpeckers, it seems probable that even these two birds were juveniles from the previous summer, which had remained in Fennoscandia in the course of the autumn irruption and returned to their eastern native region the following spring. Thus, it is more likely that the birds had nested in the USSR than in Finland before being recovered.

The same objection can be made to Eriksson's statement in the second sentence of the last paragraph, that even "... adult males that have wintered in Fennoscandia may move eastwards in the following spring, apparently returning to their earlier nesting places, which indicates a tendency to true migration". Again, the single piece of evidence for this is a bird ringed at Pori on 10 March, 1959, and recovered in the USSR, Udmurtien, on 3 May in the same spring. But here, too, nothing certain can be said about the bird's age. However, the fact that this very bird was found no less than 1,940 km from the ringing place, the remotest recovery so far of Great Spotted Woodpeckers ringed in Finland, strongly suggests that it was a young bird — it appears me hardly probable that an adult woodpecker would migrate from Siberia to Fennoscandia and then return the following spring to its earlier breeding grounds.

Summarizing, then, evidence that adult Great Spotted Woodpeckers perform large-scale migratory movements as juvenile birds is still lacking. All that can be said so far is that a small fraction of irrupting Woodpeckers ringed in late summer at bird stations consists of adult birds, but how great distances they can migrate remains open to discussion until more recoveries are available.

OLAVI HILDÉN

On the irruption of Great Spotted Woodpeckers in 1962: some corrections and remarks

In some papers it has been stated that in 1962 130,000 Great Spotted Woodpeckers were observed at Signilskär Bird Station, Åland, during the peak day of the woodpecker irruption. As a member of the Editorial Board of Ornis Fennica and as secretary of Societas pro Fauna et Flora Fennica, in whose archives all records from the Signilskär Bird Station are deposited, it is my duty to inform that the observations on Signilskär at the actual time do not fulfill normal demands on reliability.

The number of woodpeckers actually counted was much smaller than 130,000 and there is no satisfactory explanation of the way in which the number 130,000 has been calculated. Even the day of the migration peak and the description of the flight direction are somewhat uncertain. Despite many requests and promises the observer has not delivered any reports on his observations and the conclusion is, that he never made any field notes. Only through personal communication he has given some informations. The data given in *Die Vogelwarte* 1963 (22, editorial, p. 41), by WILLIAMSON 1963 (in *Bird Migration* 2, pp. 224—251), by v. HAARTMAN, HILDÉN, LINKOLA, SUOMALAINEN & TENOVUO 1967 (in *Pohjolan linnut värikuvin* II; p. 618), and by ERIKSSON 1971 (in *Ornis Fennica* 48, pp. 69—76) are based on such personal communications.

According to ERIKSSON the migration peak on Signilskär occurred already on 26 July, 1962, but according to the other reports mentioned above the peak was on 26 August, 1962. The results of a request sent by the Zoological Museum, Helsinki University, to all Finnish bird ringers suggest 26 August as the main peak day at Signilskär. Along the whole W coast of Finland there were rather few reports of woodpeckers in July, but a very strong migration has been reported from several places along the coast in August, first from the northern parts, after the middle of August even from the southern coastal bird stations. On the island Säppi (off Pori) about 200 km NE from Signilskär the migration culminated on 17 August (estimation: more than 10,000 woodpeckers on the island). On the other hand, there are some valid observations of a considerably smaller irruption peak already

during the last days of July, especially from the Quarken Straits region (off Vaasa), and ERIKSSON (l.c.) mentions observations even at Tvärminne southernmost Finland.

In July the flight direction of the birds (apparently a wave arriving at the Finnish coasts from E or NE) varied strongly in different areas; even flight towards W and NW was reported; in August the eastern or northeastern directions dominated (apparently birds returning from northern Fennoscandia, cf. HILDÉN 1969, in *Ornis Fennica* 46, pp. 179—187). ERIKSSON (l.c.) has not used this material for his study. At Signilskär the flight direction, contrary to WILLIAMSON's (l.c.) statement, was towards SW Åland and not towards the Swedish coast, but we do not know whether the birds arrived from Sweden or from the northernmost Åland islands. On 27 and 28 August the irruption wave was observed at the southern coast of Finland: Close to the town Tammisaari/Ekenäs (about 10,000 woodpeckers counted, flight direction NE or ENE) and one day later about 80 km towards E, in the Helsinki region (at the bay Espoonlahti/Esboviken 8,550 counted, estimated number 13,000).

GÖRAN BERGMAN

Kirjallisuutta

GLUTZ VON BLOTZHEIM, U. N., K. M. BAUER & E. BEZZEL: *Handbuch der Vögel Mitteleuropas*. Band IV: Falconiformes. Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main 1971. 943 s., 128 kuvaa + 3 väritaulua. Hinta 138,— (koko sarjan tilaajille 119,—) DM.

Vasta ilmestynyt osa on lähes kaksi kertaa laajempi kuin aikaisemmat osat ja käsittää koko päiväpetolintujen lahkon. Tekstiä pelkästään tässä osassa on saman verran kuin *Pohjolan lintujen* tähän asti ilmestyneissä 11 osassa yhteensä!

Einhard Bezzel on tullut teossarjan kolmanneksi tekijäksi, ja kahdeksan muuta asiantuntijaa on avustanut kirjoittamalla kokonaan tai osaksi eräiden lajien tekstin. Varmaankin satojen ornitologien apua on saatu nimenomaan tätä teosta valmisteltaessa.

Kuten aikaisemmissa osissa, ainakin yksi alaheimon tai suvun laji on käsitelty erityisen perusteellisesti. Suomessa pesivistä lajeista hiiri- ja muuttohaukkaa käsitellään yli 50:llä, ruskosuohaukkaa ja kotkaa n. 40:llä, kalasääskeä, mehiläishaukkaa, merikotkaa, sinisuo-, varpus-, kana- ja tuulihaukkaa n. 30:lla sekä piekanaa, ampu-, nuoli- ja tunturihaukkaa 20—25 sivulla. Esimerkiksi muuttohaukan (kuten muidenkin lajien) teksti jäsentyy seuraaviin pääosiin: Verbreitung der Art — Rassengliederung — Feldkennzeichen — Beschreibung — Mauser — Stimme — Brutgebiet — Verbreitung in Mitteleuropa — Bestand und Bestandsentwicklung — Wanderungen — Biotop — Siedlungsdichte — Fortpflanzung — Bruterfolg, Sterblichkeit, Alter — Verhalten — Nahrung — Literatur. Informaation määrä on mykistävä. Yhtenä erityisenä ansiona on mainittava tekijäin pyrkimys synteesiin, mitä osoittavat monet vertailevat taulukot ja tarkat rengastettujen lintujen löytökartat.

Kuvat on piirtänyt F. Weick ja ne ovat korkeatasoisia, erityisesti lentokuvat eläviä.

Nuoren lintujenharrastajan ostettavaksi *Handbuch der Vögel Mitteleuropas* kokonaisuudessaan on kallis. Koska teossarja kuitenkin on ja tulee ilmeisesti pitkään olemaan monipuolisin ja täydellisin lintutieteellinen käsikirja, ornitologiset yhdistykset eri puolilla maatamme voisivat hankkia teoksen kirjastoonsa, vaikka eivät muuta kirjallisuutta *Pohjolan lintujen* lisäksi hankkisikaan. Näin tämä erinomainen lähdeteos olisi mahdollisimman monen suomalaisen ornitologin luettavissa. — M.S.

ALI SÁLIM & S. DILLON RIPLEY: *Handbook of the Birds of India and Pakistan*. Vol. 3 (Charadriiformes loppu — Strigiformes) ja Vol. 4 (Caprimulgiformes — Passeriformes alku). Oxford University Press, Bombay 1969 ja 1970. 325 + vii ja 625 + vii s., 13 ja 11 väritaulua. Hinta 6.00 ja 6.25 £.

Viittamme käsikirjan aikaisempaan esittelyyn OF:ssa 46(3):s. 146 (1969). — M.S.

KUMARI, E. (toim.): *Lindude rändest Eestis. Ornitoloogiline Kogumik V*. Eesti NSV Teaduste Akadeemia, Loodusuurijate Selts, Tartu 1971. 222 s, hinta 1.18 rpl.

Teos sisältää seitsemän artikkelia: Kevään ensimmäisten muuttolintujen saapumisesta Jõgevan seudulle 1936—69 (R. Tamm), Rastaiden muutosta Eestissä kenttä- ja laboratoriohavaintojen valossa (Ene Helm (Kumari)), Naakkojen ryhmäyöpymisestä Tartossa (A. Lint), Kurkien muutosta Eestissä (H. Veroman), Haukkojen ja pöllöjen muutosta Baltian alueella (T. Randla), Eräiden haukkojen muutosta rengastuslöytöjen valossa (A. Jõgi) ja Kevätmuuttofenologiasta Vilsandin saarella (L. Aumees). Artikkelit ovat eestinkielisiä, mutta ne on varustettu venäjän ja englanninkielisin yhteenvedoin, jotka sisältävät kuvien ja taulukoiden selitykset. Meille suomalaisille kirjassa on paljon kiinnostavaa luettavaa. — M.S.