

lay-colored Sparrow

Gary W. Seib

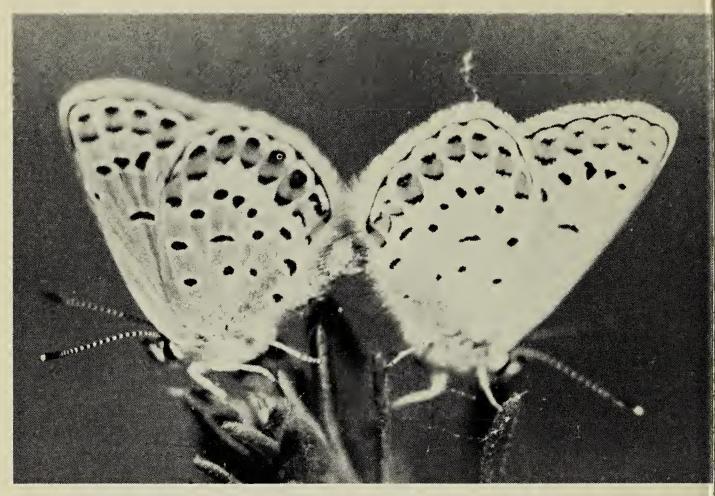
These few criticisms are minor and o not detract from the overall high uality of the book. All serious orithologists and naturalists in the rairie provinces and adjacent states hould have a copy of this important ddition to the avifaunal literature of the Northern Great Plains. Knapton and the Saskatchewan Natural istory Society are to be contatulated on an excellent piece of ork. — Reviewed by Martin K. Mclicholl, c/o Beak Consultants Ltd., 530 11A St. N.E., Calgary, Alberta, 2E 6M7.

RIGHT WINGS OF UMMER

AVID G. MEASURES. 1976. rentice-Hall, Inc., Eaglewood Cliffs, J. 160 pp. \$12.95.

This is an ideal book for the novice, for the person just becoming interested in butterflies. It presents a fairly extensive, general background of butterflies without becoming too technically involved in scientific names, etc. For the experienced professional or amateur, it is an enjoyable book to read, bringing back memories and events as the author's and one's own experiences coincide. The book is filled with excerpts from his diaries, including field notes, delightful watercolors of butterflies in action, drawings and charts. The field notes, however, are somewhat illegible. There are also some very fine color photographs of live butterflies.

In Part One: "Beginnings", the author tells how, upon growing up in southern England, he discovered the natural world on his own. Today he is an artist, and he became interested in butterflies through their pleasing, colorful appearance.



Melissa Blues

Fred W. Lahrmal

The author gives an account of butterflies and their habits in Part Two. Among the topics covered are sites, butterfly identification, general behaviour, breeding, feeding, colonial and territorial habits, life history, and death and predation. I found this part of the book especially interesting; in remarkable detail, it describes courtship rituals, egg laying, hibernation, and other related butterfly phenomena. Most of the information is drawn from the author's own observations.

In the last section of the book, "You and Butterflies", the author describes how you can get to know butterflies in your own locality, making careful notes and observations. He shows which plants attract which species, as well as indicating with charts when to look for certain species.

This is a beautiful, well-written book, a must for every naturalist and eager butterfly fan.

I question, however, the author's view that specimens should not be

collected, that it is even necessary to urge people to stop killing butterflies He maintains that butterfly collecting is a major menace to their pop ulations. This may be true in some special cases, e.g., tropical areas where butterflies are extensively collected for commercial purpose such as use in jewelry, or where, ow ing to habitat loss, a species ha become rare and should b protected. Generally, though collecting is done on a small scal and has no actual effect on the species. The real peril to butterflie lies in our increasing encroachmen the land from intensified agricultural practices, extensive us pesticides and environmenta pollutants discharged from industria plants. All of these factors, especially through the eradication of habitat, ar the real danger. Collecting, records and experimentation are necessary to get a better understanding of animal and their ecology. — Reviewed b Brook Alder Nero, 546 Coventr Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3R 1B6

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