

Fauna Japonica: Cottidae (Pisces)

By MASAO WATANABE. Published for the Biogeographical Society of Japan by Tokyo News Services Ltd., Ginza Nishi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, 1960. 74 text figures, 40 plates, 218 p. \$10.

This beautiful book, bound in cloth and leather and with clear plastic wrapper, is the first of a series on the fauna of Japan. In this series leading Japanese taxonomists will revise the various animal groups of Japan. A second volume, on the sea basses or Serranidae, has also appeared.

Watanabe's study surveys the freshwater and marine sculpins of Japan. It includes descriptions of the families, subfamilies, genera and species, but omits subspecies. A short synonymy including only references on Japan is given for each species. This is followed by a descriptive paragraph on morphology and color, the distribution in Japan and a table with 30 measured and counted characters. Five to 50 specimens of the 74 species were examined. Most of the keys are excellent in that they employ several characters. However, it is sometimes awkward to find that some characters in the couplets are unrelated.

The illustrations are superb. All of the species are depicted in the plates, 15 of which are in natural color. The text figures further elucidate structural details. The illustrations alone make this book a worthwhile purchase.

This volume is a translation of a portion of Watanabe's 1958 work. Ichthyologists will regret that the sections on comparative morphology, ecology, biogeography, embryology, phylogeny and osteology were not included in the present translation. The taxonomic treatment is conservative; only a few generic limits are modified from Matsubara's work on Japanese fishes. At least two subspecies have been raised to species. Twelve new species are named. The chief contribution is in the redescription of the sculpins of Japan and the arrangement of them in subfamilies.

The latter cannot be considered complete, however, until the whole family is studied. Many errors could have been eliminated if someone with a thorough knowledge of English had read the manuscript.

One cannot help comparing *Fauna Japonica* with a similar series, *Fauna U.S.S.R.* The quality of the binding, paper and illustrations are far superior in the Japanese work. It is hoped that the Japanese example will lead to the support of similar richly illustrated works on Canadian fauna.

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The Map That Grew

By SELWYN DEWDNEY, Toronto, Oxford University Press, 1960. 32 p. \$2.75.

In the field, the laboratory or the armchair maps find their place with manuals as necessary tools of the naturalist. Then, over the years, maps pass from being sheets of keen and fascinating interest and become, at least for this reviewer, objects of warm and constant affection.

The Map That Grew attempts to introduce to young children, in story form, what grandpa calls "one of the finest reading pleasures a man can enjoy." And the maps in particular, the excellent ones of our government's Topographical Survey, can rightly be given such high evaluation.

Regrettably, the expectation just isn't fulfilled. The characters don't come to life. The story has the same lack of joy, eagerness and excitement that the boys show in the author's illustrations of them. The bird's-eye views are moderately successful and the bits of cartography are good. But unless in thumbing over the pages a young child finds a natural curiosity aroused by the symbols and other conventions of the map maker he may want to wait several years before he again tries to explore the magic world of maps.

ROBERT A. HAMILTON



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