

reading. A brief but useful index is supplied. The all-gold cover while in harmony with the Golden Jubilee theme is a trifle gaudy, but on the shelf only the spine will appear.

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**Birds of Midway and Laysan Islands**

By ALFRED M. BAILEY. Denver, Colorado, Denver Museum of Natural History, 1956. 130 p. (Museum Pictorial No. 12)

Freely illustrated with black-and-white photographs, largely by the author, and with a colored portrait of the extinct Laysan Honey-eater, this book provides much information on the birds of these small islands of the western part of the Hawaiian chain. Birds of casual oc-

currence are also listed; and introductory chapters deal briefly with the history of the islands, their plants and mammals, and their ornithological history.

Here is the all too familiar story of the destruction of island endemics by thoughtless introductions; in this case the introduction of rabbits was the most serious single mistake. Some of the birds will be seen no more, and most of those that survive will not be seen by the majority of readers—a few, such as the Black-footed Albatross, we may see casually on the Pacific Coast. This excellent collection of photographs is thus of marked value in providing information that is difficult for the amateur to obtain about a number of unfamiliar species.

D. B. O. SAVILE



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