

Some are fragrant, others not. The berries are edible; European Cranberry is a viburnum. Check with your nursery for those best adapted to your climate and your needs.

**Perennials.** Aside from perennials that you would commonly grow in your area, there are a few that should have special mention.

**Cypripedium spp., LADY'S SLIPPER.** These native orchids can be had from some nurseries. Like Azaleas, they are protected and almost impossible to transplant from the wild. In the Northeast the Pink Lady's Slipper (*C. acaule*) grows in moist woods. The South and West have yellow flowered forms (*C. calceolarus*) for example. In the Northcentral parts of the country is a pink and white form (*C. regina*). Commercial orchid growers don't bother with our native, but do grow the related genera *Paphiopedilum* and *Cypripedium*. Some of these are hardy enough in Florida and Southern California.

**FERNS.** When using ferns, try to stick to those that remain in scale and are not invasive. Boston Fern is one that will quickly get out of control, so avoid it.

**Viola spp., VIOLETS, JOHNNY-JUMPS, ETC.** Don't forget these favorites for shade, semi-shade or full sun.

**Aquilegia spp., COLUMBINE.** Many kinds of Columbine are perfect at the edge of the forest. Lots of birds relish the seeds.

I would recommend bluegrass for a ground cover in the open since it rarely becomes too tall and will permit the planting of many annuals and perennials within it. Bluegrass needs some babying in the Southwest, but it does well on its own in the rest of the country.

In the open, the seeds of both annuals and perennials can be scattered among the grasses. You don't have to be a purist so you can include such plants as daisies, dandelion, zinnias, marigolds, larkspur and delphiniums, lupine, poppies, asters, calendulas, phlox, rannunculus, etc.

Generally speaking, the care of such a garden can be limited to watering and some pruning. The years growth of annuals, perennials and grasses will be levelled by the elements and this refuse will act as a kind of nursery for newly emerging seedlings. Much of it will be prized by the birds for the next seasons nesting materials.

**BIRDS.** The list of birds for this kind of aviary is extensive.

Almost any thrush, most of the Old and New World warblers, small lorikeets, hanging parrots, most of the babblers (including Pekin Robins), titmice, Old and New World flycatchers, sunbirds, serins, linnets, wattle-eyes, kingfishers, rosefinches, antbirds, ovenbirds, pittas, etc. ■

# EX LIBRIS



by Sheldon Dingle

The first thing you might observe when you go to purchase a book is the category into which it falls — expensive, or not expensive. The following factors have a bearing on a book's worth: 1) supply and demand; 2) qualification and authority of the writer; 3) quality of the physical volume, i.e., binding, paper, color plates, etc.; 4) practicality of the contents — can you actually use the information in the book?

The right combination of the above factors will produce a very valuable book. Most books fall down in several areas and never acquire much worth.

The reason that first editions are usually more valuable than reprints is supply and demand. Dr. William Beebe's *A Monograph of the Pheasants* was first published in just six hundred sets. Thousands of people want them now but there are still just six hundred sets. And many of those are on the shelves of libraries and universities, hence forever lost to the public market. Each set was worth well over \$2000.00 in late 1974. Books that have limited editions generally have a greater chance for appreciation than those published for the book trade.

A book that is not a first edition can still gain much value if its author was a person highly respected in the subject he writes of. A bird book by Dr. Jean Delacour has more value than one by Danny Dimwitt.

And, of course, a book that is printed on vellum, bound in gilt calfskin, and containing many exquisite hand-colored plates is expensive no matter who wrote it or how many editions there are.

Lastly, if a book contains information that is accurate, clearly written, and usable, it is a valuable book if you want that information.

Condition is a factor when considering old books. A book that you can shuffle like a loose deck of cards is really a book no longer. Its value decreases with each

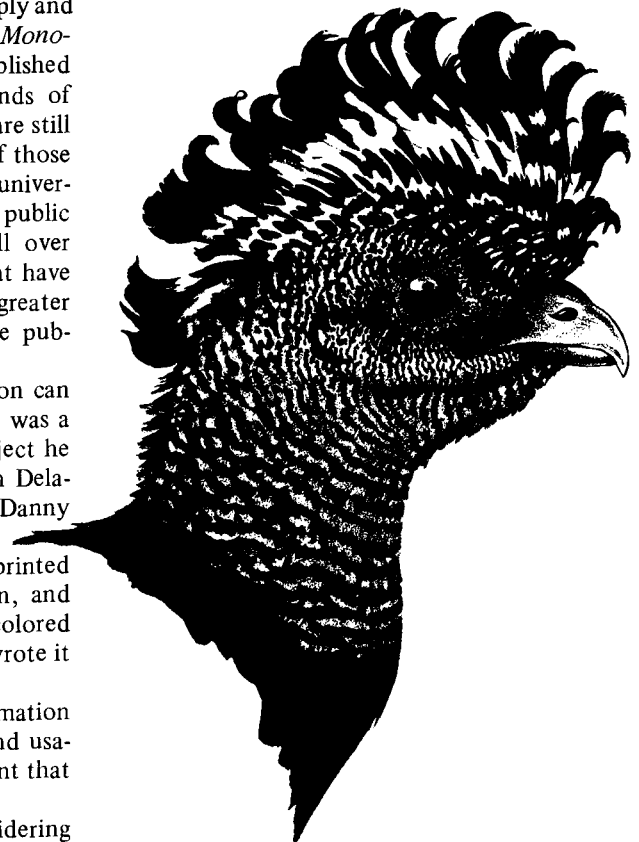
injury. On the other hand some books (Audubon's *Elephant Folio* for example) are so valuable that each leaf has its own value when separated from the book itself.

A well known bibliophile summed up the whole of book collecting when he defined a rare book as "... a book I want but can't find."

With the above thoughts in mind, lets consider a recent bird book that I feel is a valuable addition to any ornithological library. It is *Curassows and Related Birds* by Jean Delacour and Dean Amadon.

Many of you know Dr. Jean Delacour, long considered the world's leading aviculturist. He maintains a fine collection of birds at Cleres, France. Dr. Delacour has written many books including a four volume work on the birds of Indo-China and monographs on pheasants and waterfowl. He is a former Director of the Los Angeles County Museum and is a Research Associate of the American Museum of Natural History.

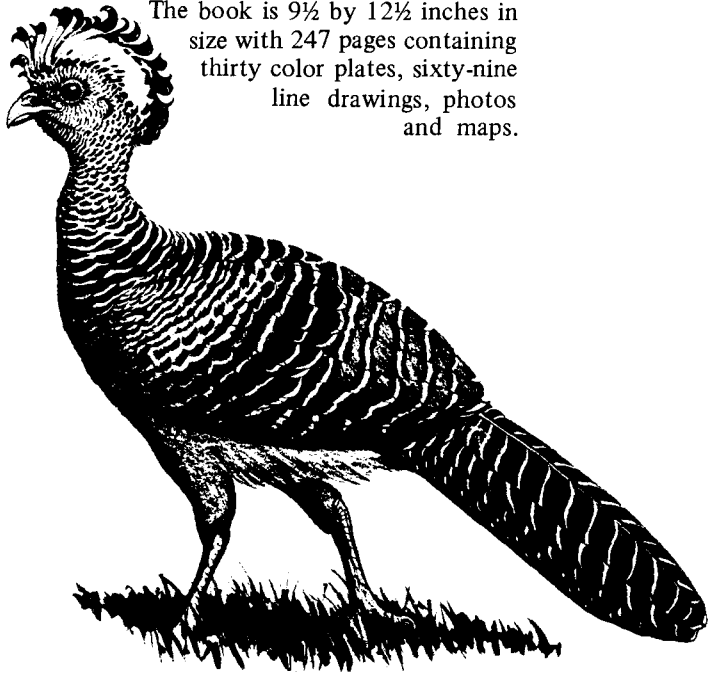
Dr. Dean Amadon is also an eminently qualified ornithologist. He is the Lamont Curator of Birds and Chairman of the Department of Ornithology at the American Museum of Natural History. He is co-author of *Eagles, Hawks, and Falcons of the World*. The credentials of both authors are impeccable.



Drawings of Curassows by Al Gilbert

The book is profusely illustrated by Albert Earl Gilbert with four plates done by George Miksch Sutton. Al Gilbert is a well known wild-life artist who has helped illustrate *Eagles, Hawks, and Falcons of the World, The Audubon Handbook of American Birds*, and a number of other articles and publications. While visiting Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert we spent hours hearing about the expeditions to Central and South America that Al joined to study the birds in the wild. By observing and photographing the birds under natural conditions, Mr. Gilbert gained a feel for their stance and postures. Even the background flora is authentically portrayed.

The book is 9½ by 12½ inches in size with 247 pages containing thirty color plates, sixty-nine line drawings, photos and maps.



The volume is organized into three parts. Part I gives a general background and history of the Family Cracidae-Chachalacas, Curassows and Guans. It explains unique features such as wattles, windpipe variation, sexual displays, reproduction, aviculture and conservation.

Part II then deals with the eight Genera and forty-four Species of birds. Each species is treated with much detail and is illustrated in a way that shows the variations amongst the closely related birds. This section is by far the largest and contains most of the beautiful color plates.

Part III contains references; scientific nomenclature, general bibliography and a special bibliography on origin and relationships of the Cracidae. For the serious student or researcher this section is a delight.

*Curassows and Related Birds* was published in limited edition in 1973 by the American Museum of Natural History. The price was twenty dollars off the press but will undoubtedly increase as the book becomes more difficult to find. In my opinion the book is a bargain at twice the price ■

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