

EIDER DUCKS IN EASTERN CANADA. Reed, A. 1986. Ottawa, Canadian Wildlife Service (Canadian Wildlife Service Report Series 47). 177p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-660-53257-3. Can\$19.50 in Canada, Can\$23.40 elsewhere.

A compilation of 18 papers (12 in English, five in French, conclusions in both) on the common eider *Somateria mollissima*, for long a species of economic importance, and under severe hunting pressure until protected early this century. Includes sections on distribution and abundance, races, winter distribution, ecology and harvesting; conclusions cover the status and size of populations in eastern North America.

THE LIFE I'VE BEEN LIVING. Cruikshank, M. 1986. Fairbanks, University of Alaska Press. 132p, illustrated, soft cover. ISBN 0-912006-23-4. US\$14.95.

The biography of an Athabaskan elder and storyteller, born about 1906, raised in Episcopal missions, who worked as a builder, railroad worker, dog-sledger, prospector, hunter and trapper. The stories were recorded and edited by the Elmer Rasmuson Library of the University of Alaska; their historical significance and techniques used in collecting them are covered in the second half of the book.

UMBERTO NOBILE. Ferrante, O. 1985. Roma, Claudio Tatangelo Editore (Monografie Aeronautiche Italiane). 2 vols boxed, 462 p, illustrated, hard cover.

Two-volume definitive biography of the Italian polar explorer and airship aviator who flew dirigibles *Norge* and *Italia* in the 1920s, dying at a ripe old age in 1978. Published in the hundredth anniversary year of his birth, this book has so far appeared only in Italian; it is lavishly illustrated with excellent black and white photographs, which make it worth while even for non-Italian readers.