

The classification levels in the new ELO system are as follows (Table VIII):

"*Panels* (Wild, Rural, Industrial, Urban) show the regime of land occupation in the order of increasing management by man. *Blocks* indicate the progression of energy input and the shift from one group of processes to another, *types* are the exact kinds of occupation of a wide geographical range, and *trophic levels*, the 4 usual ones plus investment and control."

Some lower categories can occur only on a regional unit.

For the mapping aspect of the work, the limitation to use of the method arises as usual with the increasing generalization required by smaller-scaled maps. The applicability of the method is too detailed for the scales widely in use for mapping. The differentiation of the "panels" on a colored map is easy, but borders between the "blocks" are less easily discerned with the range of colors used. The similarity of textures make black and white map reading more confusing. Nevertheless, these problems are not peculiar to the ELO system.

Canadian Nature Notebook

By Aleta Karstad. 1979. McGraw-Hill Ryerson, Toronto. 144 pp., illus. \$12.95.

In creating this attractive work, Aleta Karstad did what most Canadian naturalists would like to do for a year and a half — crossed the continent twice by van, stopping with her friends for long intervals to draw and describe 25 habitats representative of Canada. One such habitat is the limestone kind, which the author studied near Kingston, in the Gatineau near Ottawa, in Manitoba, and near Inuvik. The text describes the distinctive soil, rocks, plants, and animals that exist among limestone cliffs, dealing with typical trees, common snails, newts and salamanders, snakes, ferns, flowers, lichens, and mosses. Such a list implies a clinical approach which is in fact absent; rather Karstad writes beautifully and with deep understanding about the interrelationships of the habitat. She also gives useful hints: in areas where there are rattlesnakes, she suggests that you lift up ground cover by the edge that faces away from you, so that if there happens to be a rattlesnake underneath it won't see you before you see it.

Karstad's portrayal of the life and moist atmosphere of limestone cliffs is enhanced by careful line drawings which illustrate almost every page. There is a cross-section of a cliff showing layers of rock, talus, till, and mire; a rare fern; enlargements of two minute snails and a cricket; and a sundew and pitcher plant which eat insects to supplement the minerals lacking

There are few errors in the publication. Some were noted in the transcription of the right texture on the map of Figure 10. In Figure 8, the number 22 and 28 should be shifted by one block to the left in the matrix, and the printing of the headings of this matrix is incomplete. The interpretation of the maps also requires reference to a color chart and two tables!

As for other new classification systems proposed by Dansereau, the statement of Colinvaux (1973) might apply: "it (might) not come into wide use . . . partly for the reason that people are seldom ready to learn another new language." ELO might have better survival chances, were the authors in the CLI team. It is to be hoped that ELO will prove very good, because it is a first attempt at integrating and emphasizing ecological criteria for wide geographical mapping purposes. I recommend planners to consider using ELO for its logics and to emphasize the important ecological nature of the space we live in.

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in the acidic and limy soil. All of these are fully labelled, using scientific descriptions and scientific names. There are also superb color drawings of an orchid, a butterwort, a young watersnake, and a young ribbon snake. As this variety of organisms indicates, *Canadian nature notebook* highlights hundreds of species other than the birds and mammals one usually reads about in popular books, although these are described in their place. Karstad of course emphasizes habitats rather than species per se, a welcome change from many recent popular books. The habitats described include not only obvious selections such as Ocean Beach, Tundra, and Western Rainforest, but also places with which most of us are more familiar — Great Lakes Harbor, City, Railroad Embankment. When a habitat is illustrated in soft color or by line-drawing, as most of them are, the exact location is given in a list at the back of the book so that you feel sure every detail is completely accurate.

This is not a work to read straight through at a sitting. Rather it is one to dip into at quiet intervals when you want to remember wild areas you have enjoyed, or to visualize those you hope to visit, or merely to immerse yourself in the minutia of natural history. You will surely pick up many new ideas and be well rewarded. This is a book every naturalist in Canada should savor.

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