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COVER PHOTO: Cliff Swallows (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) at a colony in western Nebraska, USA. Swallow colonies exhibit temporal and spatial unpredictability in size, with one such as this hosting over 2000 active nests in some years and unused by any birds in other years. Over a 30-year period, annual colony size distributions were relatively stable and suggest that variation in colony size is maintained in part by fluctuating selection on group size (see Brown et al., pp. 511–530). Photo credit: C. R. Brown.