

to such an extent that lions were driven to seeking refuge in trees, and there was a lion wastage of 75 per cent from the onslaught of myriads of these irritating little pests. One notices an occasional inexactitude, such as "less than three yards wide" for the Murchison Falls cleft (which is actually 19 feet), or the "flapping" ears of a chameleon.

There is originality in Jonathan Kingdon's charcoal drawings. "Hope" is the operative word in the title. Above all it is a book which is highly recommended.

C. R. S. PITMAN.

TO THE ZOO IN A PLASTIC BOX. By JOHN and GEORGE NEWMARK. Routledge and Kegan Paul. 15s.

Though the title may seem light-hearted and the text even more so in places, there is more genuine natural history in this book than in many of its kind, and it is never pretentious nor over-dramatised—both common failings. Partly autobiographical and partly an account of the authors' collecting abroad, it abounds with sound knowledge and advice, and should serve aspiring collectors as an excellent guide. The brothers Newmark are familiar figures at the London Zoo, for they spend much of their leisure time there, and do fine work for young naturalists. As well as photographic illustrations there are good drawings by the authors and by George Gammon.

MAXWELL KNIGHT.

"I NAME THIS PARROT . . ." By ARTHUR A. PRESTWICH. The Author, Edenbridge, Kent. 21s.

"My name may have buoyancy enough to float upon the sea of time," said Mr. Gladstone. One way in which a name may "float" in perpetuity is by being bestowed upon a species of animal or plant, and one has sometimes wondered, on seeing an unknown person's name commemorated, who that person could have been. This book supplies the answer so far as parrots are concerned, and gives additional and interesting information in the form of brief biographical notes.

This is the second edition, enlarged and revised, of a book published in 1958. The names of the persons, in alphabetical order, are taken from the Psittacidae in Peters's *A Check-list of Birds of the World*, III, 1937. The appendices include miscellaneous names that do not qualify for inclusion in the main part; the personal names published since 1936, and the entire list of Psittacidae according to the Check-list. An interesting and well-compiled little work on which the author is to be congratulated.

J. J. YEALLAND.

ANNELIDS. By R. PHILLIPS DALES. Hutchinson. 15s.

The phylum Annelida comprises the segmented, coelomate, free-living worms; the better known classes being the Polychaeta (marine worms), Oligochaeta (earthworms, etc.), and Hirudinea (leeches). Although they are united by having a common, basic body-plan, these worms show considerable morphological, ecological, and behavioural divergences. As a result, they have been studied by workers of different disciplines and comprehensive books on the annelids are rare. Dr. Dales's title suggests that this deficiency has been made good, but this is regrettably not the case, for the book deals primarily with the Polychaeta, on which he is an authority, while the Oligochaeta, Hirudinea, and the smaller groups Archannelida and Myzostomida receive less attention. Nevertheless, it is valuable as a concise

synthesis of present knowledge of the functional morphology and physiology of the annelids (i.e. mainly the Polychaeta) with useful discussions on the annelid body-plan and the origins and evolution of many of the families. Although some aspects of the biology of the annelids are not mentioned, a considerable amount of information is packed into this little volume of 200 pages, and Dr. Dales is to be congratulated on producing this succinct, first account of the phylum in the English language.

R. W. SIMS.

**DIE BEZIEHUNGEN ZWISCHEN TIER UND UNWELT.** By Professor Dr. FRITZ SCHWERDTFEGER. Paul Parey : Hamburg and Berlin. 68 DM.

"The Animal and its Surroundings" is the first of a series of three volumes in German, each complete in itself, covering the whole field of ecology. This volume deals with the ecology of the individual; the two succeeding ones will treat the ecology of populations and of complex communities. It is very erudite and rather forbidding for the ordinary reader, but it is likely to become an important textbook. The similarity of so many technical words in both languages should make it fairly simple for specialists to find material relevant to their studies, even for those who are not completely at home with German. The clear division into subjects and the ample indexes, both specific and general, help to make the material easily accessible.

**DIE EINBURGERUNG VON SAUGETIEREN UND VOGELN IN EUROPA.** By Professor Dr. GUNTHER NIETHAMMER. Paul Parey : Hamburg and Berlin. 54 DM.

"The Introduction of Mammals and Birds into Europe" describes, in German and in great detail, the efforts to introduce some forty-seven species of mammals and eighty-five of birds. The word "introduction" here has a wider meaning than we would normally use in Great Britain, for the author includes all efforts to extend the natural range of a species, such as the alpine marmot, even into a country so close that colonisation might well have occurred naturally, and also re-introductions into areas from which man had driven out part of the original population, for example, the alpine ibex. The explosive possibilities of unwise introductions are well illustrated by such species as the rabbit, and also the musk-rat which now extends across the greater part of Central and Eastern Europe and over much of Asiatic Russia, providing (in 1957) no less than 12 per cent of the total Russian fur production. The section on deer is extremely full and useful in showing how complicated the situation can become. The sporting value of red deer has encouraged extensive movement of specimens within Europe, including many imports into Great Britain. Even wapiti have been brought in from America, to add to the confusion and make any division into sub-species or races almost meaningless. The distribution of the fallow deer is clearly shown to be closely tied up with the spread of Western civilisation. Birds also are dealt with thoroughly and with the equally full documentation that is one of the most valuable features of the book. Here again it seems marginal to include efforts to encourage the white stork to return to former nesting areas or to increase the number of mallards, but these points are covered briefly. Much fuller treatment is afforded the game birds, especially those now well established and it is interesting to note the many unsuccessful efforts made to establish such species as the turkey in the wild.

GEORGE CANSDALE.