

last five years have shown little progress at least so far as photography and identification are concerned. The author has, however, performed a valuable service in pointing out that the species is almost certainly a stranded variant of the misnamed "Sea-Serpent"—Leviathan of the Old Testament—and that identical accounts, both legendary and recent, come from Canada, Ireland, other Scottish lochs and Sweden. In all cases the lakes concerned were connected with the sea until a few thousand years ago.

Owing to its accessibility, the road that runs its full length and the coldness of the water which discourages water-ski-ing, speed-boats and other disturbance, Loch Ness remains the key to this most fascinating mystery. Dinsdale can assuredly claim to be the locksmith.

DAVID JAMES.

## BRIEF REVIEWS

A small well illustrated field guide for the tourist is **Wildlife of Kafue and Luangwa**, by B. L. Mitchell and W. F. H. Ansell, published by the Zambia National Tourist Bureau, PO Box 17, Lusaka, 4s 6d). The text, which covers 72 animals and three reptiles, with emphasis on identification, is admirably supplemented with drawings by C. T. Asterley Maberly, and would be helpful for the tourist in East Africa too.

**The Shell Nature Lovers' Atlas**, by James Fisher (Michael Joseph, 7s 6d) is a guide to nearly 700 places in England, Wales and Scotland of interest to field naturalists, including archaeologists. Attractively designed, with the relevant map opposite each page of text, it includes large gardens, nature reserves and wild places, and indicates where permits are necessary. But why no road numbers?

**Ospreys in Speyside**, by George Waterston, a small illustrated booklet published by the RSPB (The Lodge, Sandy, Beds., 5s. 6d.), gives a short account of the osprey saga up to the end of 1965.

Two outstandingly well illustrated and attractively produced American books for the young would-be naturalist are **Birds** and **Snakes** in the Young Pathfinder's Series, by Hilda Simon (Muller, 13s 6d). Text and drawings are excellent, and both books are remarkable good value.

## ABOUT WHALES

**A Hundred Years of Modern Whaling**, by E. J. Slijper. Netherlands Commission for International Nature Protection. Obtainable from the FPS, c/o Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, NW1, free, 8d postage.

A brief (30-page) illustrated, readable and authoritative résumé of the past 100 years in the whaling industry, the situation to-day, and the prospects for the future, by the Dutch expert, Professor Slijper. Reprinted from *Mededelingen*, No. 19.

**Catalog of Living Whales**, by Philip Hershkovitz. Bulletin 246, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., 1966. US Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, \$1.

A comprehensive taxonomic list of the living whales of the world, with full treatment of synonyms and brief data on distribution.