which is in course of preparation. M. Berland has, for the first time, provided a comprehensive account of the 450 species of French fossorial wasps, and has accomplished his task with notable success. As in previous volumes of the series, full use is made of generic and specific keys, while each genus and species is also separately diagnosed. Under every species there is given a résumé of its distribution and of the chief facts relating to its biology. The biological notes are especially useful, since the author has sifted the literature of the subject with very evident care, and we know of no other work where similar information is available in an equally concise form. As M. Berland remarks, the study of the habits of Hymenoptera is more especially due to French observers, among whom the names of Latreille, Lepeletier, Dufour, Fabre, and Ferton are recalled. The author has wisely dispensed with long detailed lists of synonymy, and has left those who are curious on this subject to refer to the catalogue of Dalla Torre for all questions of nomenclature prior to 1897.

The book is profusely illustrated with 663 text figures, and, with the exception of Figs. 17-19 and 305, all are the original work of M. Berland. The various structural details which are thus represented add materially to the value of the book, and although many of these illustrations appear somewhat wooden in character, they nevertheless fulfil their purpose. We can recommend the book as one which should find a place on the shelves of English entomologists. A. D. I.

(1) *The Animals of New Zealand: an Account of the Dominion's Air-breathing Vertebrates.* By Capt. F. W. Hutton and James Drummond. Fourth edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. 434. (Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington, Melbourne and London: Whitcombe and Tombs, 1923.) 15*s*.

(2) *A Synopsis of the Vertebrate Animals of Tasmania.* By Clive E. Lord and H. H. Scott. Pp. v + 340 + 41 plates. (Hobart: Oldham, Beddome and Meredith, 1924.) n.p.

(3) *Red Deer Stalking in New Zealand.* By T. E. Donne. Pp. xii + 270 + 32 plates. (London, Bombay and Sydney: Constable and Co., Ltd., 1924.) 21*s*. net.

(1) IT is with pleasure that we welcome a new edition of Hutton and Drummond's "Animals of New Zealand." This is a well-written and well-illustrated account of a most interesting fauna, indispensable to all concerned with the vertebrate life of the southern hemisphere. It should do much to stimulate local interest and so help those who are endeavouring to preserve the fauna and flora of the Dominion.

(2) Mr. Lord and Mr. Scott are to be commended for their "Synopsis of the Vertebrate Animals of Tasmania." This work gives a concise account of all the vertebrates known to inhabit the island and the surrounding seas. Its illustrations are satisfactory and the volume contains a great deal of valuable information concerning the habits and distribution of many species. Some useful notes on mammalian osteology are incorporated in the text. Incidentally, here and there, the authors tell a good story, and that relating to the Hobart policeman who tried to arrest a sea-leopard, in the small hours, as 'a drunk and incapable,' is particularly pleasing.

(3) Though "Red Deer Stalking in New Zealand" is naturally a book for the sportsman rather than the zoologist, the latter will find in it a good deal of information relating to the present status of the red deer and of the many other species of deer that have now been introduced and acclimatised in New Zealand. Some very good photographs of heads from the Dominion, accompanied by measurements, add materially to the interest of the book.

A List of British Aphides (including Notes on their Synonymy, their recorded Distribution and Food Plants in Britain, and a Food-Plant Index). By Dr. J. Davidson. (The Rothamsted Monographs on Agricultural Science.) Pp. xi + 176. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1925.) 12*s*. 6*d*. net.

THE volume under notice is the fourth of the recently instituted series of "Rothamsted Monographs on Agricultural Science," and is the first to treat of an entomological subject. The morphological characters separating allied species of aphides are often comparatively trivial, and this fact, coupled with polymorphism and a certain plasticity of host-selection, has led to much confusion in the identification of these insects. Their involved nomenclature has been badly in need of revision, and in many cases it has become a difficult task for the entomologist, who was not a professed aphidologist, to make certain of the genus or species to which a given name is strictly applicable.

Since the 'List' before us is a product of the activities of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, its object is more especially to facilitate the labours of workers in agricultural science. From this aspect only (even if there were no other) the accurate determination of species of aphides is of particular importance. This fact has in recent years acquired additional significance owing to the discovery that certain species of aphides, and apparently no others, are concerned with the transmission of mosaic disease in the case of the raspberry, tomato, potato, and sugar-cane. Dr. Davidson has done a useful service in providing synonymic lists of all the British species and genera of aphides in the light of recent taxonomic changes. The specific names are alphabetically arranged and amount to nearly 400, and the number of genera recognised is 87. The long list of plant genera and species, with the aphides recorded from them, should prove especially helpful. The first clue to the possible identity of a particular species of aphid is commonly obtained by noting, in the first instance, the plant upon which it is found. The book concludes with an extensive bibliography of all the more important papers on these insects.

Exercises in Practical Physics. By Sir Arthur Schuster and Prof. C. H. Lees. Fifth edition, revised. Pp. ix + 373. (Cambridge: At the University Press, 1925.) 12*s*. 6*d*. net.

IT is some twenty-five years since the first edition of this book was reviewed in these columns. In several subsequent editions, including the present one, it has undergone some revision, chiefly necessitated by the steadily rising standard of the courses for which it was intended. It is a long life for any physics text-book, and such longevity is in itself the most eloquent of tributes to its many merits. Yet there may be some who will find lingering about it a suggestion of an old-