

as indefensible and they have incorporated both groups in one system of classification. However sound this may be in theory, the result as shown in this volume is somewhat incongruous. The Nematoda are assembled into five orders in all, and the whole of the vast and varied assortment of free-living worms is included with *Ascaris* and *Oxyuris* in the single order *Ascaroidea*.

Apart from questions of classification, however, upon which there is much present-day difference of opinion, the work will prove a trustworthy and succinct guide to the various genera of roundworms together with the habitat usually taken up by the species of each genus and the name of its typical species or genotype. Under each genus is listed the papers most useful for reference. The general arrangement of the volume is admirable and should form a boon to the specialist; as, however, it does not list species, its use to the general reader is unfortunately limited. The year 1923 has been chosen as the closing date for the admission of new genera to the volume, and although a few names made since that date have been included, these are limited to synonyms of earlier genera or to new names to replace those already preoccupied.

*The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma.* Edited by Sir Arthur E. Shiple. (Published under the Authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council.) Birds. Vol. 3. Second edition. By E. C. Stuart Baker. Pp. xx+489+7 plates. (London: Taylor and Francis, 1926.) 30s. net.

WITH the publication of this volume, which, like its two predecessors, deals solely with the Passeres, the author has brought to a conclusion his work on that great order of birds. In the three volumes issued up to date, 1336 species and subspecies have been recognised. In the first edition of the Avifauna, the Passeres were dealt with in two volumes, and the number of species then acknowledged was 936. The advance of ornithology has therefore given Mr. Stuart Baker much more ground to cover, largely owing to the necessity for his dealing with the numerous racial forms which have of late years been described.

The high standard set in the first two volumes has been fully maintained in the present one, which, in addition to numerous woodcuts, contains seven coloured plates by the author, that of the *Zosterops* being particularly pleasing.

The map of India which accompanies the volume would have been more instructive had the topographical features of the country been more clearly shown. The account of the birds of British India will probably be completed in three additional volumes.

*The Statesman's Year Book: Statistical and Historical Annual of the States of the World for the Year 1926.* Edited by Sir John Scott Keltie and Dr. M. Epstein. Sixty-third Annual Publication, revised after Official Returns. Pp. xxxvi+1496. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1926.) 20s. net.

EACH issue of this work of reference adds new features without sacrificing the old. The arrangement of countries remains the same, except that the kingdom of Hejaz has lost its place among the independent states. It is in regard to India that the principal

changes occur. That section of the book has been expanded from forty-four to sixty pages, the increased space being devoted to the provinces of British India and the independent states over which the Indian Government exercises certain control. Each of these entities is now treated in the same way as the provinces of other parts of the Empire. Among the introductory matter, which includes a section on the League of Nations, new features are sections on the International Institute of Agriculture, a list of European and North African air routes, and tables showing taxation, national debt charges, and paper currency of various countries. The coloured maps are two, showing the distribution of republics and other political divisions in the Soviet areas in Europe and Asia. In spite of additions the bulk of the volume is not increased.

*A Report on the Sugar Cane Mosaic Situation in February, 1924, at Soledad, Cuba.* By Prof. Edward M. East and Prof. William H. Weston, Jr. (Contributions from the Harvard Institute for Tropical Biology and Medicine, 1.) Pp. vi+52+9 plates. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1925.) 8s. 6d. net.

IN this, the first of a new series of publications from Harvard University devoted to tropical biology and medicine, an account is given of the mosaic disease of sugar-cane as seen by the authors on the Soledad estate, Cuba. The disease is thought to be of long standing in Cuba (unlike most of the British West Indies), but, at Soledad, it is not appreciably reducing the yield and quality of the *Crystallina* cane ordinarily grown in the island. The extensive bibliography, and the plates (some in colour) showing mosaic and certain other types of chlorosis in sugar-cane and maize, are useful features of the book.

*Geography in School.* By James Fairgrieve. Pp. x+364. (London: University of London Press, Ltd., 1926.) 7s. 6d. net.

THERE is little that is new in this book, but there is nothing that is not said in an interesting way. Every thoughtful teacher of geography has faced the problems which the author discusses in the light of his long experience of school work, and no teacher could fail to derive something of value from what Mr. Fairgrieve has to say. Especially valuable is his insistence on reality in geography and his warnings of misunderstandings that are liable to be caused by the necessarily small scale of so many maps and the lack of personal knowledge of the world of most teachers. The book has a useful bibliography and full index.

*Pression de la lumière.* Par Pierre Lebedef. Traduit du russe par T. Kousmine. (Collection de monographies scientifiques étrangères, No. 9.) Pp. 71. (Paris: Albert Blanchard, 1926.) 7.50 francs.

PIERRE LEBEDEF devoted twelve years of his life to the study of the pressure of light, and this little monograph gives us, in a convenient form, a description of his experiments. The work practically consists of two papers, one on the pressure exerted by light on solids, and the other on the pressure on gases, the latter being important because of its application to the tails of comets. Some bibliographical notes are appended.