

(1) Bird-Lovers' Manuals

How to Know British Birds. By Norman H. Joy. Pp. 136+40 plates. Birds of the Green Belt and the Country around London. By R. M. Lockley. Pp. xix+236+4 plates. 5s. net each.

(2) The Birds of the Firth of Clyde :

including Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, Buteshire, Dumbartonshire and South Argyllshire. By John McWilliam. Pp. 164+10 plates. 12s. 6d. net.

(London : H. F. and G. Witherby, 1936.)

THE house of Witherby, under the direction of a distinguished ornithologist, is justly renowned for its bird-books, both technical and popular. Two of the works named above belong to a new series of "Bird Lovers' Manuals" which seem likely to have a wide appeal.

(1) Dr. Joy's volume is a handy work of reference, intended primarily as an aid to identification. To this purpose it is admirably suited. Emphasis is laid on distinguishing characters rather than on general descriptions, and the value of song and call-notes in this respect is recognized. The numerous illustrations are well designed for their particular aim, and make the book very good value indeed for its modest price. Mr. Lockley's volume is a guide to bird haunts in the neighbourhood of London. Each chapter deals with a particular type of habitat, ranging from chalk country to salt marsh, from orchard and park to heather and pines, and pleasantly describes its characteristic bird-life. Actual localities are named, even means of getting there being indicated, and the book should prove very helpful to many who wish to explore the home counties in search of birds.

(2) Mr. McWilliam's book fills a gap among the local faunistic studies of its kind. It gives a straightforward and useful account of the occurrence of different species in the Firth of Clyde and the counties bordering it : the area, of course, includes the great sea-bird nursery of Ailsa Craig.

Das Zooplankton der Binnengewässer :

Einführung in die Systematik und Ökologie des tierischen Limnoplanktons mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Gewässer Mitteleuropas. Von Prof. Dr. W. M. Rylov. (Die Binnengewässer : Einzeldarstellungen aus der Limnologie und ihren Nachbargebieten, herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. August Thienemann. Band 15). Pp. x+272+30 plates. (Stuttgart : E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung (Erwin Nägele) G.m.b.H., 1935.) 30 gold marks.

THIS work should perhaps have been entitled "Introduction to the Study of the Zooplankton". It is essentially a book for the student or one about to embark upon some limnological problem, and in these cases it should prove of the greatest value.

In the general introductory chapter, as well as in the sections dealing with the main groups of planktonic animals, there will be found in outline the present-day knowledge of such problems as reproduction, food, adaptations and vertical and horizontal distribution of the freshwater zooplankton. There is given, too, a brief introduction to the question of seasonal form variation and to the hypotheses of

Wesenberg-Lund, Ostwald and Woltereck. References to a full literature list enable any particular aspect to be pursued in greater detail. Finally, the diagnostic keys, descriptions and plates of only those animals most likely to be encountered will greatly facilitate the task of sorting and identifying collections made in the field.

For the more advanced worker the book is naturally of less value, since the greater part is devoted to systematic descriptions of the commoner Rotifera, Cladocera and Copepoda of the plankton. The list of synonyms (pp. 221-224) is of service to those whose interests are only secondarily systematic. From it they will learn, surely with regret, that the genus *Keratella* disguises such characteristic rotifers as *Anuraea cochlearis* and *An. aculeata*, and that the latter now becomes *K. quadrata*.

General Chemistry :

an Elementary Survey ; emphasizing Industrial Applications of Fundamental Principles. By Prof. Horace G. Deming. Fourth edition, rewritten and revised. Pp. xiii+774. (New York : John Wiley and Sons, Inc. ; London : Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1935.) 17s. 6d. net.

PROF. DEMING's popular text-book has been extensively revised in its new edition, and many new sections have been added. It now contains brief, but accurate, accounts of numerous modern physico-chemical topics, such as photochemistry, the Raman effect, atomic structure and valency (Chapter xxiii), activity theory of electrolytes and pH values. The industrial sections have also been revised and amplified to take account of modern practice.

Although the interest and value of the book have been greatly increased, its appeal to the more elementary student is lessened. The reviewer is not altogether in sympathy with the plan of introducing unbalanced equations in the earlier part of the book, as this will encourage a habit which teachers find it hard enough as it is to eradicate among students. Balancing equations should be taught as soon as they are used.

Prof. Deming's book, although it does not fit in with any English course, will be found very interesting and suggestive by teachers.

The Self in Psychology :

a Study in the Foundations of Personality. By A. H. B. Allen. (Psyche Monographs, No. 5.) Pp. 282. (London: Kegan Paul and Co., Ltd., 1935.) 10s. 6d. net.

MR. ALLEN, with whom we are familiar as the author of "Pleasure and Instinct", gives us his views on the relation of the self to psychology. Many of the moderns will find it difficult to accept his definition of psychology as the natural history of the *conscious* experience of *men*. Are the rest of the animal kingdom to be denied any consideration under the caption psychology ? That the study of subjective experiences is the sole province of psychology, and that those phenomena which are only open to inspection by another observer are not to be included seems to us an alarming doctrine, to say the least of it.