ensuring that the results of this work reached a wider audience. Another desirable development would be the publication of short notes. Many fishery workers have information which should be placed on record and which is unlikely to be included in a fuller paper. The *Journal of Fish Biology* would be a very appropriate place for the publication of such records.

K. A. PYEFINCH

GUIDE TO THE DEEP

The Fishes of the British Isles and North West Europe
By Alwyne Wheeler. Pp. xv+613+16 plates. (Macmillan: London, May 1969.) 170s.

"THERE is no modern book which deals with British Fish as a whole." So begins the preface to the first edition of Travis Jenkins's *The Fishes of the British Isles*, and this compact and handy volume has run to two editions, several reprintings, and is now being revised. Wheeler's *The Fishes of the British Isles and North West Europe* covers more ground (396 species compared with 372) in greater detail. It is a big book and provides keys and figures for the identification of all the species likely to be encountered in north-west European waters. There is a real need for such a work and the requirement is met neither by Travis Jenkins nor by the Identification Charts (Faune Ichthyologique de l'Atlantique Nord) of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

A picture key is provided to assign a fish of unknown affinities to a particular order or family. The key is a series of silhouettes typical of the members of each group, accompanied by a summary of the critical features. Silhouette picture keys are better known to ornithologists than ichthyologists, but Wheeler's key works well and there should be little difficulty in placing a fish in the correct order or family within the main body of the book, where the arrangement is based on the classification proposed by Tate Regan. Descriptive and general biological information is included at this level which is followed by dichotomous keys to identify the species. These are illustrated by good line drawings, each accompanied by a 400-500 word description with the subheadings identification, biology, and distribution. The latter is generally illustrated by a map. The prefatory section includes a species list, and the arrangement and layout of the book are clearly explained in the introduction. The bibliography includes a number of general works and refers to over 300 original papers grouped at the order or family level within which they are arranged alphabetically. The index uses both Latin and common names and there are sixteen plates, in which forty-eight species are shown in colour and twenty-nine in line and wash.

My colleagues at the Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft, have tried a number of the keys and found them clear and simple. The line drawings are excellent and a lot of information is summarized in the text and figures: the drawings of the pharyngeal teeth in the Cyprinidae (Figure 69) and the outlines of common gadoids (Figure 94) are particularly useful.

This is a book for any research establishment which has to deal with fish, university departmental libraries, the reference section of public libraries and those angling associations that have a club room and buy books. I hope to see a copy on all British research ships. But the price may deter the private buyer. Books, like petrol, are becoming very expensive and the purchaser has a right to expect the best value for his money: this book is good value, but not perhaps the best. Such a volume belongs on the desk and not on the wet bench, and fish are almost inseparable from slime and water. My opinion, which is shared by several of my colleagues,

is that the plates add nothing to the practical value of the book. These could have been omitted with a reduction in price or, alternatively, with the substitution of a separate field or wet bench key, such as is provided in Vernon Watson's *British Mosses and Liverworts*.

Wheeler has written a first-class reference book and I shall profit from the use of our library copy. I look forward, however, to having a personal copy of the revised edition of Travis Jenkins, which should please my pocket in more ways than one. It comes as no surprise to learn that the reviser is none other than Alwyne Wheeler.

F. R. HARDEN JONES

TAME EXPERIMENTS

A Laboratory Introduction to Psychology

By John W. P. Ost, James Allison, William Vance and Frank Restle. Pp. x+214. (Academic Press: New York and London, January 1969.) 39s 8d.

THIS book contains accounts of nineteen elementary practicals in experimental psychology. It does a very workmanlike job and is more useful than any of its rivals. The practicals are described with great lucidity and with no wastage of words. The amount of background information given is sufficient for the student to grasp the rationale behind each experiment but not so much that he cannot readily take it all in within a few minutes. The experiments are intended to form part of an introductory course so that they are not particularly novel. They are, however, well chosen and require a minimal amount of apparatus. They include experiments on operant conditioning of rats, on sensory processes in man and on human learning and performance. An appendix contains a very useful account of elementary methods of data analysis including a lucid introduction to non-parametric statistics. The book is completely self contained and includes data sheets and usable reproductions of some of the visual stimuli involved in the experiments.

Most experimental psychologists running practical classes know what to aim at, but most of them are too lazy or too busy to prepare their classes and the accompanying notes as carefully as they are prepared in this book. It could prove a godsend to the lazy lecturer faced with the problem of running an introductory practical class, and the price is modest.

N. S. SUTHERLAND

DIGGING UP BONES

Animal Bones in Archaeology

Book of Notes and Drawings for Beginners. By Michael L. Ryder. (Mammal Society Handbooks.) Pp. xxiv+65. (Blackwell (Scientific): Oxford and Edinburgh. Published for the Mammal Society, 1969.) 17s.

THIS small volume is intended as a "field guide", with the purpose of aiding and encouraging aspects of mammalogy. It is, of course, a fact that archaeological sites, as a prolific source of data relating to animals and man/animal relationships have in the past been neglected by both zoologists and archaeologists. Bone assemblages from this source fall between two disciplines which are far apart in their interests and in their concepts and few people have so far broadened their interests sufficiently to encompass both. This is in part due to a narrow professional unionism which encourages the strict separation of disciplines, and it may be that a change in this situation is now more likely to come by demand from the bottom up, rather than by direction from the top down. There is therefore a need for such books as these and their influence in the long run may be greater than that which might be expected.