

subject, and the second volume maintains its exceptionally high standard of scholarship.

Despite the severe compression necessitated by the style of the work, the Autolytus type of reader may yet pick up some unconsidered trifles, such as that pheasants occur wild in the city parks of Tokyo, and that the last Arabian ostriches were probably killed in northern Arabia in 1939.

R. S. R. FITTER.

The Wood-Pigeon, by **R. K. Murton**. New Naturalist Monograph No. 20. Collins, 25s.

Anyone interested in the vital statistics of woodpigeons will find this book a mine of detailed information. Yet those who are particularly interested in the admirable scientific study of this species, carried out over the last ten years or more by Dr. Murton and his colleagues, can examine the results in slightly greater detail in the same author's series of scientific papers quoted in the bibliography. On the other hand, the general reader, for whom the New Naturalist books are expressly intended, may well find the presentation here too detailed for easy reading.

The introductory chapters—largely historical accounts of the changing status of pigeons in the world in general and Britain in particular—and the concluding chapters—on the pest status of the woodpigeon and the feasibility of various control methods—I found the most interesting, for in them the enthusiasm which Dr. Murton presumably has for the whole of

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his subject conveys itself to the reader. Elsewhere he could have made greater efforts to adapt the material to the readership. Most of the text-figures are reproduced unaltered from the original scientific papers, and many require a magnifying glass to read the legends; many could well have been simplified. The same is true of the tables, which are stuck at the end of the book far away from the relevant pages of text. To sum up; this is an interesting and informative book, but rather hard going.

P. R. EVANS.

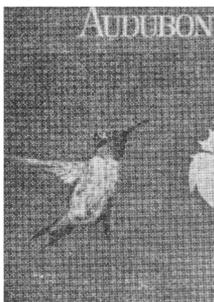
BRIEF REVIEWS

A new edition of the classic account of African game survey and census work by plane, *Serengeti Shall not Die*, by Bernhard and Michael Grzimek, is published by Collins (25s) with a postscript bringing the story of the Serengeti up to date since 1959, when Michael Grzimek was killed in a plane crash. This includes a brief account of the present international Research Project, which stems directly from the Grzimeks' work.

A Check-List of East African Birds, by John G. Williams (Charles Hayes Co., Nairobi, 5s 6d., post free), a complete list for Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, with a space opposite each name for the reader to enter where and when he saw it, is just the thing for those members of the FPS who are going on the Society's two East African tours in January and February, 1966—and for all other bird-minded visitors to the region.

Wildlife photography, particularly of African animals, has reached a very high standard, but W. H. Stevens can hold his own with his excellent black and white photographs in *East African Safari* (Collins, 25s). Combined with some very good portraits of the people and brief explanatory text, it makes an attractive introduction to the three most visited countries in Africa.

Audubon Magazine



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