

## REVIEWS

**The Birds of Borneo** by **Bertram E. Smythies B.A., M.B.O.U. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh** 1960. pp. *i-xvi*, 1-562; 45 col. pls., 4 half-tone pls., 49 phot. plates, 1 map., £4.4.—.

This fine work was subsidised to some extent by the late **Dato Loke Wan Tho**, particularly in so far as the coloured plates are concerned. These, by **Commander A.M. Hughes, O.B.E., R.N.**, are good and of particular value to the ornithologist in South Thailand. 432 species are depicted and of these 317 occur in Thailand — 40% of the Thai list — 121 of those are species which in Thailand are so far only known from the Peninsula Provinces. The sequence of species followed is that of *Delacour's 'Birds of Malaysia'* which is broadly the sequence of the present Thai Checklist: the treatment is usually good except that as in the author's previous work '**Birds of Burma**' the text descriptions are rather thin, the author clearly relying heavily on the illustrations.

The special chapters contributed to the work by **Tom Harrisson, Lord Medway** and **Dr. J.D. Freeman** enhance the book and the introductory sections by the author are first class — though *Alcippe brunneicauda* has been listed as an endemic species (a later publication lists the species from Thailand).

In all this book is well worth the price asked for it.

*E.C.D.*

**Checklist of the Birds of Thailand.** By **Herbert G. Deignan.** **Smithsonian Institution.** U.S. National Museum, **Bulletin 226**, pp. *i-x.*, 1-263, 1 map. 1960. (Obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington D.C., 20402, U.S.A.; price \$1.25).

The distribution of each of the 1173 species and subspecies of birds known to occur in Thailand is succinctly set forth in terms of major geographic regions and provinces. A handy map of numbered provinces is provided, together with an alphabetical and numerical list of them so that one can at a glance look up those referred to in the