

calling the hyrax a member of a large family of rodents and picturing a ground-squirrel, calling the huemul—which is an Andean deer—an antelope, etc.? I must admit I enjoyed this book in a ghoulish sort of way, especially perhaps the roaring ape and the bit about the red deer which “if forests are too greatly reduced will go to the remotest place possible and finally vanish altogether”.

There is no index but the book is well got up with many beautiful photographs and there is useful information about national parks and reserves. Nevertheless it is a pity that it was ever put forward as a plea for the preservation of wild life.

C. L. B.

**WILD ANIMALS OF THE WORLD.** By T. L. C. TOMKINS. Illustrated by REIN STUURMAN. Blandford Press. 15s.

The blurb of the dust cover says that this is the ideal book for the general reader and for the student wanting an accurate reference. It is in fact a pocket book describing some typical animals of the world, each with an illustration and two or three hundred words of text. It takes the world by continents, giving examples of the mammals of each in turn. Unfortunately the Animal Kingdom does not fit into this structure. The lion is not mentioned under Asia; under Africa, is said to be practically extinct in Asia—in fact the lion is carefully preserved in the Gir Forest in India. The grey seal, whose principal breeding places are around the British Isles, comes under “the Americas and the Arctic”. The wolverine comes under Europe but “ranges eastwards into northern Asia”—no mention of its equally important Canadian habitat.

The introduction to Asia says that forest-dwelling ungulates are not numerous as to species, the Cervidae being represented only by the Sambar, the Chevrotains, and Muntjacs. There are many other Cervidae in Asia—Chital and hog deer, for instance. We are told that Grevy’s zebra comes from Southern Africa. It really comes from Northern Kenya, Somaliland, and Ethiopia.

The illustrations are variable, some good, but a squirrel illustrates the bushy-tailed murkat (a mongoose); the water vole is illustrated by a shrew.

C. L. B.

**TREETOPS HOTEL.** By E. SHERBROOKE WALKER. Robert Hale. 18s.

I approached this book with trepidation, fearing that it would be either just a boost for the author’s well-known wild life look-out hotel in Kenya, or reminiscences. It is neither. It is an unaffected story of how a simple man fulfils the hard task which he has set himself. Unreservedly recommended.

C. L. B.