

hensive summary of capture techniques now employed in Africa and as such will be of considerable use to wildlife biologists and veterinary surgeons in this field.

D. M. JONES

The African Ark, by R. J. Prickett. David & Charles, £3.25.

The Mitchell Beazley Atlas of World Wildlife. Mitchell Beazley, £9.50.

The first of these two remarkable publications describes a bold enterprise that achieved astonishing success, despite almost insuperable obstacles; the second is a most ambitious project with Dr Gwynne Vevers as Editor-in-Chief and Sir Julian Huxley as Consultant Editor.

Two wildlife-viewing sites in the heart of Kenya's Aberdare montane forests were selected for the Ark, developed under difficulties, and a safari lodge built that affords unique opportunities for seeing bongo, rarest of large forest antelopes, the fearsome giant forest-hog and the elusive leopard. There is a comprehensive and graphically illustrated list of the mammals and some of the more interesting birds; the author also describes some of the lodge guests and their reactions. On one occasion the usual placid spectacle became too realistic when the visitors were witnesses of a grisly demonstration of how the spotted hyena will hunt, pull down and then feast on its still living victim.

Well illustrated—there are two particularly beautiful colour shots of bongo by night, and outstanding monochromes of a greater kudu bull and of a cheetah in three postures—most informative, and highly entertaining, it can be thoroughly recommended.

With the world wildlife atlas the general layout is what one would expect. Broadly, it begins with *The World before Man*, *The Evolution of Life*, and *Zoogeography and Ecology*, followed by the salient details of the zoological and botanical wildlife of continents, sub-continents, oceans and island habitats—in all 88 magnificent and most instructive double-spreads in colour. It concludes with *Man and Wildlife*, and another 11 double-spreads, covering such important subjects as *The Impact of Industry*, *Changing Role of the Zoo*, *Man the Protector*, *Endangered Species*, and *National Parks and Reserves*. Of particular benefit is a really splendid index, as well as a comprehensive list of references.

This atlas is not merely concerned with animal and vegetable life; it also emphasises the importance of various relationships, such as the complex relationship of animals, which is further influenced by vegetation, the terrain and climate. Particularly valuable is the profusion of maps—territorial, physical, distributional and climatic.

For so lucid a reference compendium on the world's wildlife, its modest price is commendable.

C. R. S. PITMAN

Animals and their Colours, by Michael and Patricia Fogden, Peter Lowe, £3.50.

The importance of colour in the lives of animals must be obvious to almost anyone, but it needs someone like the authors, a husband and wife team of professional biologists who have made a special study of the subject in the field in several parts of the world, to make us aware of all its implications.

Starting with an explanation of the nature and variety of animal colours, they review the ways in which colour is used by animals in camouflage, disguise, warning coloration and mimicry. They make a clear distinction between Mullerian mimicry, in which both mimicker and model are