

grazing. Man may, as with the Army Corps of Engineers, wantonly destroy the Everglades, but he may also, as I have seen for myself, create another Eden for wildfowl like the Kern Wildfowl Refuge, simply by using those same bulldozers beneficently to create a vast duck marsh in the middle of that same ghastly Californian desert.

For making this volume possible, we have to thank the Conservation Foundation, which brought together 45 ecologists, geographers, economists and allied specialists for a five-day meeting in Virginia in April, 1965. Their deliberations ranged over the vast canvas of the ecological, economic, cultural and regional aspects of the future land use of North America. Anybody who used this as a bedside book, and read one paper or summation a night for seven weeks, would emerge at the end a much more thoughtful man. I commend it to planners and ecologists – in or out of bed – on both sides of the Atlantic.

RICHARD FITTER

The Elephant People, by Dennis Holman. John Murray, 35s.

This brilliant account of Kenya's anti-poaching campaign of many years' duration, primarily concerned with elephants and conducted mainly in the eastern sector of the Tsavo National Park, inevitably will have only limited appeal – even for a large proportion of the immigrant local populace. The graphic description – no matter how vivid – of the thousands of square miles of featureless, waterless thorn bush and the blistering heat is meaningful only to those who have experienced the rigours of this terrible terrain. The story of the arduous campaign against the traditional elephant poachers of the region, the primitive Liangulu, who use a long bow of incredible dimensions and equipped with a deadly arrow, smeared with a vegetable poison for which there is no known antidote, is intriguing though apt to indulge in too much detail. Infuriating and humiliating is the account of the manifold frustrations in the rangers' endeavour to outwit the coastal Asian and Arab "millionaire" receivers who so skilfully bribed their way out of trouble. The Park was at last cleared of its expert and most destructive poaching fraternity, but at what cost? For now, lacking systematic wastage, it is overstocked with elephants which are disastrously destroying their own habitat.

"The most tragic part of the whole affair is that, in their dedicated efforts to save a wildlife species, the game men really succeeded in virtually destroying the Liangulu, an ethnic minority of very great interest and one on whom no anthropological work has ever been carried out."

C. R. S. PITMAN

The Deer and the Tiger, by G. B. Schaller. University of Chicago Press, 72s.

Hitherto most wildlife in India has been viewed by sportsmen over the sights of a rifle. Observers may have spent time in the jungles without shooting, but little in the way of critical study of animal behaviour has resulted. The literature is diffuse, anecdotal, and frequently downright misleading, based upon what the author thinks ought to happen rather than on what actually does.

Dr. Schaller has rectified this with an outstandingly competent study of several species of deer, the gaur, and the predators that affect them—tiger and leopard. He worked in the Kanha National Park, most of which is a park only in name, poached by villagers and over-grazed by domestic stock. The basic behaviour of chital, sambar, barasingha and hog deer and also blackbuck is outlined as never before, and compared and correlated with that of related species elsewhere—deer in America and Europe, and antelopes in Africa. Factors affecting population dynamics, survival and dominance are all fully discussed;