

dices and a very full bibliography. The illustrations are from line drawings by the author.

With all this wealth of useful and interesting information the book would be a valuable manual for the 'older schoolchildren, college students, their teachers and instructors' for whom it was primarily written. It would be a pity if its somewhat high price puts it beyond their reach for there never has been a time when it was more urgent for a population largely divorced from direct contact with the natural environment to be brought back at least to some awareness of its many facets so that they may begin to learn how to use it properly.

JOHN CLEGG

Brief Reviews

So much has happened in the past ten years that a revised edition of *Environmental Conservation* (Wiley, 80s) by Raymond Dasmann, one of the ablest expositors in the conservation field today, is very timely. Alas, he has had to point out the widespread deterioration in the environment since he first wrote: 'Today we know that the world we live in is one biosphere, and that, unless we take a global view of environmental problems, our chances for survival are slim. The first edition was launched with hope. Today prayer is more appropriate'.

The Long Bay of Druridge, by Henry Tegner (Frank Graham, Newcastle upon Tyne, 30s) is an enjoyable account of one small stretch of the Northumberland coast by an observant and knowledgeable naturalist who has watched and walked it for nearly 30 years, with observations on seals and whales, mackerel and cod, sharks and shells, lampreys and waders, and many more.

The Nervous System, a Pelican Original (10s) by Peter Nathan, who is a research neurologist at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, is a most readable account for the layman of the human nervous system, which of course has nothing to do with "it's me nerves, doctor". It is a pity that animals cannot read it; they might find out why we are so often callous and cruel to them.

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