

manner gained the regard and confidence of all who knew him and his courage throughout his long and painful fatal illness was an example to us all.

G. S. C.

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## REVIEW

BIRDS OF CEYLON—I. By W. W. A. PHILLIPS. *Ceylon Daily News Press, Lake House, Colombo.* In full cloth, 9s. In thin board cover, 5s. 6d.

In his interesting introduction to this small but colourful book the author tells us that there are in the neighbourhood of 386 species, residents and visitors, on the bird list of Ceylon. Twenty of these are described in this volume and illustrated with plates from the able brush of Mrs. G. L. Lushington.

Exceptionally useful features of the book are the map, the short description of the climatic zones of the island, and the Tamil and Sinhalese names of the birds. The few photographs hardly do justice to the birds portrayed, partly due no doubt to poor reproduction, but the coloured plates are an important part of the book and should be a real help in recognition.

Descriptions of plumage are good and concise, but perhaps fuller details of voices might be included with advantage. Many of these birds have clear and distinctive notes, for example the attractive "twit-oo-lee" of the Red-vented Bulbul; then have neither the resident nor the migratory *Paradise Flycatcher* in Ceylon the lovely "I'm wide awake, I'm wide awake" call of the same species at its nesting site in Kashmir?

The book ends with some general hints on bird watching, which must bring great rewards in Ceylon with her wealth of lovely birds. We look forward with pleasure to further books in this series.

C. L. B.

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## THE SOCIETY'S BUSINESS

Since the publication of the last *Journal* in March, 1950, four General Meetings have been held, five meetings of the Council, and one meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee. A summary of the points of most interest to members generally is given below.