

## BOOK REVIEWS (Continued)

of Australia's species. The remainder are presumably covered by the third book in this trio, *Water Birds of Australia*. Each of the above two works has eight colour-plates of good quality. The information about each species seems adequate in most cases to enable a beginner to identify what he sees—provided he knows at which page to look. This means that the books are remarkably good value, at 35c each. But the qualification is important. It is hard to see how a field-guide for beginners can serve its purpose without abundant illustrations, which these works lack. The drawings are relatively few and generally poor.

D. H. CLOSE

I. SMALLER LAND BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA. II. LARGER LAND BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA, by Gordon Beruldsen, published by Rigby Ltd., Adelaide, 1972, in the Rigby Instant Books series. Each has 64 pp., and costs 35c.

These two booklets, each of which can be fitted into a shirt-pocket, provide brief descriptions and notes about the distribution and habitat of 527