

REVIEWS

WATERFOWL IN AUSTRALIA, by H. J. Frith, published by Angus & Robertson, 1967, 328 pp., illustrated. Price \$10.00.

This book is without doubt one of the outstanding books on Australian birdlife. No group of birds in Australia has been studied with such thoroughness, and it will stand as a classic in the literature on Australian wildlife. Its unique quality lies not only in the scientific information it imparts, but in the style in which it is written. There are far too many scientific books today that may be read only for their scientific information and one gets little pleasure from the actual reading. The style of this book is such that it will appeal not only to the professional and amateur biologist, but to those individuals who may have a wide interest in natural history but not necessarily a deep interest in Ornithology.

Each species is dealt with in some detail under the general headings of Description, Field recognition, Habitat, Distribution, Feeding and Breeding. The book is well illustrated with high

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quality photographs and coloured plates. However, despite the high standard of this work there is still a lot to be learned concerning the habits of Australian wildfowl as the author himself points out. It is hoped that this book will encourage further investigation into this particular field.

C. R. JENKIN.