
Reviews

["Philippine Birds for Boys and Girls." By Richard C. McGregor and Elizabeth J. Marshall, with illustrations by Macario Ligaya, Manila Bureau of Printing, 1922. 138 pages, 32 illustrations including six well drawn and well printed coloured plates].

This well-illustrated, brightly written book makes a notable contribution to nature-study literature. All the birds described are Philippine species. Most of them are abundant in the islands, and some are not found outside the islands. Care has been taken to make the descriptions of birds, nests, eggs, and habits true to life. The illustrations so clear and striking were specially prepared for the book.

Several of the birds treated, such as the Grass Owl, the Brown Booby, the Greater Man-of-War (Frigate) Bird, the Pacific Golden Plover, the Island Painted Quail (King Quail), and

Broad-billed Roller (Dollar-Bird), are identical with Australian birds; others are closely related, while many of the most interesting are not found in Australia, some not even outside the Philippine Islands.

The authors are to be congratulated on having produced a work scientifically correct, yet full of interest to all nature students, and especially to the children of the Philippines.

SPOTTY, THE BOWER BIRD.

"Spotty, the Bower Bird" is an original book, in which the author, Mr. E. S. Sorenson, R.A.O.U., gives nature truths in the form of pleasantly-written tales. Three chapters concern birds, three animals. These tales are most informative and interesting, describing really the life histories of familiar bush creatures. Although in the story of "Spotty," the Spotted Bower Bird is dealt with in particular, all other Bower Birds are incidentally mentioned. Likewise with "Jack, the Kookaburra," all his Kingfisher brethren are named, and so with the animals treated.

As has been truly stated, the fascination of the subjects, combined with the author's graphic style and delightful humour, are such as make an irresistible appeal to Nature-lovers, both young and old. Mr. Sorenson is to be congratulated on his original book, which is well illustrated by line drawings by the late Mr. E. E. Barker, R.A.O.U., and by some excellent photographs by various nature photographers.

The publishers are Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs Ltd., 189-191 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. Price, 4/6; postage, 3d. extra.

[*"Australian Bird-Maps,"* by Robert Hall, C.M.Z.S., Past President R.A.O.U., Honorary Colonial Member B.O.U., Corresponding Fellow A.O.U., and author of many articles and books on Australian birds].

As we go to press this little book (220 pages) most valuable to the student of bird distribution, migration and differentiation, has reached us.

Original in conception, with its 100 maps of Australia and the part of the world north to Siberia showing the range and distribution of Australian birds (residents and visitors) this work will prove of the greatest assistance to those studying Australian birds. Its opportune issue is a piece of good fortune to the members of the committee completing the second edition of the Official Check-List.

Himself, a great traveller along the migration routes of Australian birds, Mr. Hall here presents the results of the study and experience of a lifetime in a striking form readily intelligible to all.

At 4/6 the book is cheap to the bird student and ornithologist.
Mr. Hall (Bellerive, Hobart) is acting as his own publisher.
