

obviously concluded before the disease had covered the country, and there is an excellent bibliography. It is interesting to note that Australian scientists think 5–10 years will see the end of myxomatosis as an effective means of biological control.

J. K. STANFORD.

NATURECRAFT IN AUSTRALIA. Edited by THISTLE Y. HARRIS.  
Angus and Robertson. £A.1 5s.

This is a very elementary account of the Australian landscape and its wildlife and it is edited by a person with a very real sympathy for her subject. The book begins with a brief consideration of geology, followed by chapters on “ animals without backbones ”, land vertebrates, animals of the sea-shore, bush plants and how plants are distributed. The three final chapters are concerned with constellations (easily seen throughout the year in the clear Australian atmosphere), camping techniques and nature conservation. The book is illustrated by excellent sketches and numerous small photographs.

The many who have admired Miss Harris's *Wild Flowers of Australia* may be disappointed in the present book. The subject that she has been set to cover is so vast that there is an inevitable failure really to get to grips with any single aspect in the 240-odd pages at her disposal.

A. J. M.

## SHORTER NOTICES

THE KENYA WILD LIFE SOCIETY. P.O. Box 20110, Nairobi.  
1st Annual Report, 2s. 6d. (3s. postage paid).

The Kenya Wild Life Society has existed only a year but has already gained more than 1,300 supporters. At its birth three main problems called for its immediate attention and the society very wisely restricted its efforts to them: Poaching, Amboseli, the Serengeti National Park.

The report tells how these problems, particularly poaching, have been tackled. It includes the Governor's exemplary directive to all Administrative Officers, on their duty to enforce the animal protection and national park ordinances. A vivid description of the cruelty and waste of poaching for gain is given; it will enlighten any reader who fears that “ game preservation ” may be unjustly depriving the African of meat. And, as the report says, it is paradoxical to realize that land