practice, I prepared bibliographic cards for each of the last twenty-five book advertisements which I have received. As the twenty-five were not selected in any way, even this small series may be presumed to give a fair sampling of publishing practice. These brochures represented twelve leading publishing houses in the United States and Great Britain. In only *one* instance was a date given on the brochure itself, and in only three additional cases could the year of publication be inferred from a dated sales letter which accompanied the advertising folder. The number of pages was stated in eleven instances, but the number of illustrations was given only nine times. In every case the price of the book was mentioned, but I can recall having received advertisements in which even the price was omitted!

It is my considered opinion that the publishers of scientific books would sell more copies and would earn the gratitude of scientists by reducing the elaborateness of their brochures and by sending with each advertisement a $3 \times 5$ bibliographic card patterned after a Library of Congress card. I am aware that several American publishing houses now follow this practice, and I hope that the custom will become general. Many of us would take the trouble to file such cards where they would be available for reference, even though we might not be able to purchase many of the volumes. Every one has had the experience, I think, of being called upon to recommend a book in some borderline field and being unable to recall the author or title of a book which would exactly meet the request and about which one's only memory is that the bulky advertisement which called it to his attention was chucked into the waste basket some months previously.

Another valid complaint against publishers, I believe, is their almost uniform failure to send announcements of children's books in a given field to their mailing list of scientific workers in that field. Those of us who are located in museums are called on to recommend fully as many children's books as technical works. As the Christmas season approaches many a puzzled mother, anxious to cater to the strange tastes of her son, telephones to me for a list of popular books on reptiles, and only the kindness of a local library which allows me to preview each new herpetological children's title enables me to answer such inquiries.

M. GRAHAM NETTING

CARNEGIE MUSEUM

## NOTICE OF POSSIBLE SUSPENSION OF RULES OF NOMENCLATURE IN CERTAIN CASES

ATTENTION of the zoological profession is invited to the fact that request for the "Suspension of the Rules" has been made in the following cases, on the ground that "the strict application of the Régles will clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity." According to procedure one year's notice is hereby published, "making it possible for zoologists, particularly specialists in the group in question, to present arguments for or against the suspension under consideration."

Note A.—Suspend rules.

Note B.—Insert in Official List with the type as given in parentheses.

COELENTERATA.—*Monograptus* Geinitz, 1852 (*priodon*); A, B.

*Retiolites* Barrande, 1850 (*geinitzianus*); A, B.

*Graptolithus* Linn., 1768, to be suppressed; A.

ECHINODERMATA.—*Luidia* Forbes, 1839 (*fragilissima*); A, B.

NEMATODA.—*Anguina* Scopoli, 1777 (*Vibrio tritici*) to be suppressed; A.

CRUSTACEA.—*Squilla* Fabricius, 1787 (*mantis*); A, B.

INSECTA.—The so-called "Erlangen List" of 1801 to be suppressed.

ORTHOPTERA.—*Locusta* Linn., 1758 (*Gryllus Locusta migratorius* Linn., 1758); *Phaneroptera* Serville, 1831 (*Gryllus falcatus* Poda, 1761); A, B.

HYMENOPTERA.—*Cimbex* Olivier, 1790 (*Tenthredo lutea* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Crabro* Fabricius, 1775 (*Sphex cribraria* Linn., 1767); A, B. *Lasius* Fabricius, 1805 (*Formica nigra* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Anthophora* Latreille, 1803 (*Apis pilipes* Fabr., 1775); A, B. *Ichneumon* Linn., 1758 (*Ichneumon extensorius* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Pimpla* Fabr., 1804 (*Ichneumon instigator* Fabr., 1793); A, B. *Ephialtes* Gravenhorst, 1829 (*Ichneumon manifestator* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Bracon* Fabr., 1805 (*Bracon minutator* Fabr., 1798); A, B. *Pompilus* Fabr., 1798 (*Pompilus pulcher* Fabr., 1798); A, B. *Bethylus* Latreille, 1802 (*Omalus fuscicornis* Jurine, 1807); A, B. *Prosopis* Jurine, 1807 (*Sphex signator* Panzer, [1798]); A, B. *Ceraphron* Jurine, 1807 (*Ceraphron sulcatus* Jurine, 1807); A, B. *Torymus* Dalman, 1820 (*Ichneumon bedeguaris* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Proctotrupes* Latreille, 1796 (*Proctotrupes brevipennis* Latreille, 1802); A, B. *Sphex* Linn., 1758 (*Sphex flavipennis* Fabr., 1793); A, B. *Ammophila* Kirby, 1798 (*Sphex sabulosa* Linn., 1758); A, B.

LEPIDOPTERA.—In interpreting the generic names assigned by Freyer in his *Neuere Beiträge zur Schmetterlingskunde* to the species there described, each species is to be regarded as having been described by Freyer as belonging to the genus cited by him at the head of each description and not to the genus with which he actually associated the specific name. For example, Freyer described, under the genus *Hipparchia* Fabricius, a species to which he gave the

specific name *eriphyle,* and which he proceeded to name *Papilio eriphyle* Freyer. Freyer is to be deemed to have described this species under the name *Hipparchia eriphyle* and not under the name *Papilio eriphyle;* A.

*Potamis* Hübner, *Rusticus* Hübner, and *Mancipium* Hübner to be suppressed in favor of *Morpho* Fabr., *Helicopis* Fabr., and *Pontia* Fabr.; A.

LEPIDOPTERA (RHOPALOCERA).—*Euploea* Fabr., 1807 (*Papilio corus* Fabr., 1793); A, B. *Satyrus* Latreille, 1810 (*Papilio actaea* Esper., [1780]); A, B. *Argynnis* Fabr., 1807 (*Papilio paphia* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Vanessa* Fabr., 1807 (*Papilio atalanta* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Euthalia* Hübner, [1823] (*Papilio lubentina* Cramer, 1777); A, B. *Nymphidium* Fabr., 1807 (*Papilio caricae* Linn., 1758); A, B. *Colias* Fabr., 1807 (*Papilio hyale* Linn., 1758); A, B.

Species in parentheses are to be declared the types: *Lycaeides* Hübner, [1823] (*Papilio argyrognomon* Bergstrasser, 1779); A. *Agriades* Hübner, [1823] (*Papilio glandon* Prunner, 1798); A. *Polyommatus* Latreille, 1804 (*Papilio icarus* Rottemburg, 1775); A. *Euchloë* Hübner, [1823] (*Euchloë ausonia* Hübner, var. *esperi* Kirby, 1871). *Princeps* Hübner, [1807] and *Orpheides* Hübner, [1823] (*Papilio demodocus* Esper, 1798). *Carcharodus* Hübner, [1823] and *Spilothyrus* Duponchel, 1835 (*Papilio fritillarius* Poda, 1761); A.

C. W. STILES,
*Acting Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*
U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM
MAY 1, 1936

# SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

## THE MIGRATIONS OF ANIMALS

*The Migrations of Animals from Sea to Land.* 1936. By A. S. PEARSE. 176 pp., 4 figs. Duke University Press, Durham, N. C. $3.00.

THIS book expresses a philosophy, no less than an epitome of the researches of its writer and more than 500 other cited authorities into an intricate history. Animals which have struggled up the evolutionary trail from marine habitats to stand on dry land are the dominant ones of the earth. They have achieved success, which Professor Pearse defines as continual improvement. A successful creature is both plastic and progressive; it must live in the world as it is and yet with greater efficiency than its rivals, and must avoid the "soft berths" in which certain degraded forms may exist almost without struggle. On land animals have developed greatest power to solve complex problems. It is with the obstacles that have been met and conquered along the road between primitive aquatic associations and human civilization that this study is concerned.

After an introduction relating to the origin of life in the sea and a comparison of biotic conditions in salt and fresh water and ashore, the author develops his subject in four main chapters covering routes from sea to land, causes of the migrations, the changes in creatures that have crossed one of the several thresholds and a consideration of what land animals have attained. Always the physiological difficulties, requirements, mechanisms and adjustments are uppermost in his plan, and their elucidation makes both terse and rich reading. As nearly as possible the argument is developed in words condensed directly from the sources, and the text bristles with references. Such an eclectic method is not without its pitfalls; we encounter now and then the equal acceptance of more or less contradictory conclusions, as for instance Case's dogma that "environment changes before changes appear in organic forms" (p. 12), together with Banta's belief that "cave species are fitted for cave life before entering caves" (p. 33). Furthermore, Professor Pearse appears ultimately a bit uncertain as to just where he stands with regard to "adaptive" geographic changes. Are not all "adaptations," indeed, to be interpreted as "fortunate accidents," as is done with selected examples on pp. 85 and 115? Perhaps the genetic basis in the general problem of acclimatization might well have been further emphasized. The remark that subspecies "may be so stable that they will breed true for generations when isolated" is surely a marvel of understatement for every tested case.

As life on earth may have come into being on discrete occasions during a favorable stage in cosmic history, so too we find that complex yet diverse organisms later exhibit a marked parallelism in their biophysical responses at equivalent levels of altering environment. Between the extremes of the migration of which this book treats, for instance, the regulation of osmotic concentration and of respiration among various animals constantly calls for active processes in integument, glands, hormones, blood pigments, renal organs, gills, swim-bladder, etc. It is illuminating to learn of the general similarity, or even identity, of the resulting interactions. The gradual transition from aquatic to terrestrial life may be suggested by a series of fishes arranged according to the alkali reserve, *i.e.,* the bicarbonate content, of their blood. Within cer-