

BOOK NOTICE.

ANIMAL COMMUNITIES IN TEMPERATE AMERICA. A study in animal ecology—designed to serve as a reference work and text-book. By Victor E. Shelford, Ph.D., of the Department of Zoology of the University of Chicago. Illustrated with 300 figures, maps and diagrams; 380 pages, 8 vo, cloth; price, post-paid, \$3.22. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill.

A copy of this recently published book has been received. Following the introduction, the work is divided into fifteen chapters, in addition to which there is an Appendix (methods of study), a Bibliography, an Index of Authors and Collaborators and an Index of Subjects. The chapters are again divided into sub-sections, as, for instances, Chapter I on "Man and Animals"—i, Introduction; ii, The Struggle in Nature; iii, Man's Relation to Nature; iv, The Economic Importance of Animals. Chapter II on "The Animal Organism and the Environmental Relations"—i, Nature of Living Substance; ii, The Relation of Form or Structure to Function; iii, The Basis for the Organization of Ecology; iv, Scope and Meaning of Ecology; v, Communities and Biota; and so forth.

The book, which is designed to serve as a reference work and text-book, is indeed a most valuable contribution to the subject of field ecology. The material used by Dr. Shelford in the preparation of the volume has been accumulated during ten years of field-study, from the view-point of modern ecology, in various parts of the United States, though most of the material is drawn from the Chicago region. The habitat records include: Lower Invertebrates, 32 species; Mollusca, 95 species; Crustacea, 54 species; Spiders and Arachnids, 80 species; Insects, 457 species, divided as follows: Aquatic Insects, 52 species; Orthoptera, 53 species; Hemiptera, 100 species; Coleoptera, 175 species; Lepidoptera, 30 species; Diptera, 47 species; Fishes, 75 species; Amphibia and Reptiles, 27 species; Birds, 85 species; Mammals, 28 species.

Much care has been exercised by the author in choosing good illustrations to represent the various types of animal communities and their characteristic modes of life. The printing and the paper used in the book are excellent and the whole subject matter presented in a most interesting manner. Canadian students should find this book of much value in connection with their work.

A. G.