276 Oryx

Certainly his description of them searching every nook and cranny of the continent for pigs to stick is ludicrous. Again how many men with real knowledge of lions would agree that although a 2 ft. 6 in. hurdle is within their capacity as jumpers, a 6 ft. hurdle is not? On the other hand I like his contention that there is no such a thing as a vicious wild animal in Africa unless man has made it so, and I thoroughly enjoyed the chapter in which he discusses the question.

Mr. Denman has, I think, tried to write too much, too quickly, but I recommend *Animal Africa* for its storehouse of facts, its fine illustrations—each animal is really alive and usually doing something—and its easy, interesting reading.

C. L. B.

WAY OF THE WILD. Introduced by C. T. ASTLEY-MABERLEY. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London. £2 2s.

Perhaps four wonderful months spent in Africa is not the best background from which to review a book of photographs of African wild animals. May one not expect too much, or, too favourably reminded of marvellous days, be content with too little? Even apart from these prejudices, was it not too disarming to find in Mr. Astley-Maberley's foreword an exhortation to join the Fauna Preservation Society? I do not know; but I am sure that in commending this beautiful book, I am not being lavish with praise.

The elephants, the lions, the giraffes and the crocodiles took me straight back to Tsavo, Kagera, Wankie and the national parks of Uganda; but those who have never visited these sanctuaries will be no less enthralled. It is hard to choose among such examples of good technical photography and composition, but I admired especially some of those which went right across both pages of this very wide book—the lions with their Kilimanjaro background, the wildebeest quietly walking in the tremendous expanse of the Ngorongoro Crater, the crocodiles basking on a river islet with a great white heron as a companion. I am only sorry I cannot praise all the captions quite as highly as the photographs, a few slightly resemble tourist advertisements.

The foreword with its plea for wild life preservation is admirable.

C. L. B.