

The book consists of rather lengthy descriptions of the sixty-three birds known from the islands mainly compiled from the 'Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum.' There are also some very brief notes and a short preface. It is regrettable that full accounts of the habits of the birds are not presented as a "popular" bird book of the right sort might go far to arouse interest in Samoan bird life and ward off the destruction that the author seems to think inevitable.

The little book is well printed and there are keys to the species included in the various orders and a bibliography.—W. S.

Mrs. Twining's 'Bird Watching in the West.'—We have had an abundance of popular bird books dealing with the familiar birds of the East but in the West until lately the concern of bird students has been with the more serious side of ornithology. Mrs. Twining, however, stands for the growing army of bird lovers both in the East and West, who delight in the bird as a part of nature; furthermore she possesses the ability to express in print her feelings about birds and to picture bird doings that have come under her observation in a way to give pleasure to others of kindred tastes.

The sketches,¹ twenty-nine in number, are arranged in four parts covering the four seasons and to give an idea of the topics we quote from the Autumn section: "Adventures in the Air; From Zone to Zone; The Little Songs of Autumn; Flocks of the Wayside; Robins and Jaybirds; Waxwing Flocks; and Bird Visitors from Mountain Forests."

They deal mainly with the vicinity of her home near Portland, Oregon, but the species are many of them widely spread while an appendix with lists of birds for the western national parks and other spots extends the interest of the book.

There are a number of little pen sketches by way of illustration.

The author says in the preface "I have tried to put into words something of the intrinsic charm of the birds themselves" and "to write about the birds I know the best to the end that those who read may better understand all birds." We think that she has succeeded admirably and her little book should attract a large number of readers.—W. S.

Cassinia for 1929-30.—Financial pressure has made the announcement on the cover of 'Cassinia' somewhat inconsistent as it has, of late years, been a biennial rather than an annual; and for some reason the stated scope "Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware" has in this number been extended to include North Dakota! However, the character and interest of the publication² are amply upheld. There is a biographical sketch of the late Spencer Trotter; an account of southern herons in New Jersey by Chas.

¹ Bird Watching in the West. By Frances Staver Twining (Member, Cooper Ornithological Club). Illustrations by Florenz Clark. 1931. Metropolitan Press, Publishers, Portland, Oregon. Pp. 1-170. Price \$2.00.

² Cassinia. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club. No. 27 1929-30, March 1932. Pp. 1-72. Price \$1.00.