

sixteen units in the Indian and Coloured neighbourhood on the other side of town.

Finally, there are simply too many unnecessary errors. I mention only a few. The author of a pilot P.D.L. survey is given as Roger instead of Rogers (fn., p. 235). Dr Weinrich claims (p. 29) that employment figures cannot be released under the Emergency Regulations. It is true that unemployment statistics are hard to come by and where they are available (such as from the Labour Exchanges) they are so unreliable as to be useless. But national employment figures are routinely published by industry in the Central Statistical Office's bulletin every quarter. Where she refers to a new 'comprehensive' secondary school, she probably means an F2 (practically oriented) school (p. 30). Her claim that railway employees in other major centres, unlike in Fort Victoria, are accommodated in six-roomed houses would hold only for very few (p. 112). Later she indicates that the five hundred people who were detained during the 1959 Emergency were not released until 1962 (p. 184); this, again, is only true for a few, since the vast majority were released within the first three months after the Emergency. This, of course, is not to say that it was necessary or should be condoned.

Nonetheless, in an area in which little has been published in Rhodesia, this book, due to its wealth of detail, is an important and useful contribution. For those who would wish to understand change, or absence of change, in the urban Zimbabwe of tomorrow, *Mucheke* would provide a valuable background.

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C. M. BRAND

A Bibliography of the Birds of Rhodesia, 1873-1977 By M. P. Stuart Irwin.
Salisbury, The Rhodesian Ornithological Society, 1978, 241pp., Rh\$5.00.

This is definitely a book for the specialist worker in ornithology, and cannot, therefore, be expected to have a wide popular appeal. It is, however, one of the most comprehensive works of its kind ever produced. Even in a greatly condensed form, it runs to over 200 pages, with another seventeen blank pages at the end (presumably for the user to make his own additions). It covers 636 species, most of which have one or more major and several minor references, amounting to something like 5000 all told. Truly a *magnum opus!*

While it could under no circumstances be called a book to take up and browse through, I found a number of comments under various species which intrigued me and made me want to read further. For example, 'The reference in Ostrich 169 was originally listed under *Gallinago nigripennis*, but is a misidentification of the present species' (Great Snipe); 'The reference in *Ibis* 25 to a bird perhaps near *M. olivaceus* is probably an allusion to the present species and is included on this presumption' (Orange-breasted Bush Shrike); 'The occurrence of this recently proposed species within Rhodesia still requires confirmation as does its specific status' (Brown Firefinch Indigobird).

Having said that this book is one for the specialist in ornithology, it is certainly one that nobody seriously interested in Rhodesian ornithology can afford to be without. In the Introduction, the author says, 'It was the original intention that this bibliography would form part of an updated book on the birds of Rhodesia, a work which at present remains in manuscript'; it is to be hoped that the latter work will not be long in appearing.

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R. M. HARWIN

Prominent African Personalities of Rhodesia Salisbury Cover Publicity Services, 1978, illustrated, xi, 196 pp. no price indicated.

This is the second edition of this publication. It contains some 500 African personalities (nearly half the book being in fact taken up by advertisements, which, however, give an interesting glimpse of the African market in Rhodesia). The potential value of such a work of reference is negated by the apparent lack of clear criteria by which entries are chosen for inclusion; the result is, therefore, something of a 'rag-bag'. It is particularly noticeable that the better educated and the more political members of the African community are either left out or given a write-up that is misleading by its omissions.

R.S.R.

Rebel People By *D. Hills*. London, George Allen & Unwin, 1978, 248 pp., £5.50.

The first sixty pages of this book carry on from *The White Pumpkin* and the author's imprisonment in Uganda. Thereafter, the book concerns Rhodesia, where the author came (for reasons never really explained) and spent part of the years 1976-8 in teaching at the Teachers' College, Gwelo. The survey of the Rhodesian situation is little more than journalism; but, at a time when the professional journalists in Rhodesia rarely venture beyond Salisbury's bars and Government press-releases, this has a refreshing touch of immediacy, of contact with Africans, and indeed Europeans, outside Salisbury. It is interesting to see how an uncommitted, sceptical traveller, who knows other parts of Africa and its literature, finds little that is praiseworthy in Rhodesia of today — whether the guerillas, the silent African majority, or the Europeans. The picture is depressing but accurate (except in spelling of proper names — the publishers apparently no longer employ editors); no-one it is to be feared, will come well out of the 'Rhodesian problem'.

R.S.R.