

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.