

THE WORLD OF BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS, by Alexander B. Klots, 207 pp., illustrated, 24 plates in color. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York [1958]. Price \$15.00.

Dr. Klots, author of "A Field Guide to the Butterflies," is to be congratulated on the publication of his newest work. "The World of Butterflies and Moths" gives an excellent summary of the biology of the Lepidoptera documented with a profusion of magnificent color plates and black and white photographs and drawings. The colored plates are some of the finest that have been published, and the black and white photographs are the result of skilled photography, most of which was the work of Dr. Klots.

In the introduction the author says, "When it was suggested that I might contribute a book on butterflies and moths to the series of *La Nature Vivante* I was both flattered and elated; for I realized that this was an unprecedented opportunity to present, not only something of the familiar beauty of these animals, but also much of their unique interest. The abundance of photographs with which these books are illustrated increases this opportunity in a way that has seldom, if ever, been equalled.

"Now that the book is finished, I am all too conscious of its shortcomings, for the subject is so large that many times the present text would be needed to cover it adequately. But the wealth of illustrations compensates for many of the enforced textual brevities and, best of all, does much to introduce the reader to these insects as living members of their environmental communities, not as mere dried cabinet specimens." He has certainly achieved this result in his work.

There are seven chapters discussing the evolution and phylogeny of the Lepidoptera, anatomy, life cycles, ecological relationships, specialized senses, habits, behaviors, and finally relationships with man.

McGraw-Hill Book Company has done a real service to the science of entomology by publishing this splendid volume.—L.B.