

## REVIEWS

**BORN FREE : A LIONESS OF TWO WORLDS.** By JOY ADAMSON.  
Collins and Harvill Press. 25s.

Many lions have been tamed, for a game warden can hardly avoid coming into possession of an orphaned or deserted lion cub at one time or another. These pets soon become too obstreperous to have about ; so they are usually sent to zoos, where the rest of their life history is perhaps less interesting. But Elsa's life was different, for Joy and George Adamson loved their lioness and determined to return her to the wild. *Born Free* tells how they did it. The length of the task and its extreme difficulty, to say nothing of the devotion which the Adamsons accorded it, surely shows that if once we allow an assembly of wild ungulates and their predators to disappear, we can never hope to regain it by releasing animals bred in captivity—or are we to be content with farmed animals only, be they cattle or antelopes ?

The extraordinary developments which accompanied the work of teaching Elsa to be a wild lioness are suggested by the subtitle : how she helped to bring her kill back to camp, how she could be at one moment a wild lioness mated to a wild lion, at the next an animal member of a human family. This story, of which the accuracy cannot be questioned, forms a useful corrective to any who may still believe that animals live in a queer, subconscious world of drives and conditioned reflexes.

Besides all this, *Born Free*, which is illustrated with many fine photographs, takes us right into the life of a game warden and his wife in Africa. How important it is to emphasize the wife's part, for it is a lonely and devoted life to which few women take easily.

This is a wonderful book which well deserves success and which I am glad to say has attained great popularity.

C. L. B.

**UGANDA IN BLACK AND WHITE.** By H. B. COTT. Macmillan and Co., London. 1959. 30s.

This is a quite splendid book which truly gives pleasure, not merely informs. It is a very remarkable book, with its 109 pen and ink drawings, its short Foreword by Sir Andrew Cohen (then Governor of Uganda), its dozen pages of Introduction and then the author's explanatory paragraph relating to each and every drawing. As Sir Andrew says, " to those who know