

It must be stated at once that the author has succeeded in achieving his object to a very great degree. His task was that of selection and presentation. It is difficult to see how the presentation could be improved and the selection has been wisely made. First year students may have some difficulties with terminology, but the whole book should serve not only to give the basic information required, but should encourage students to look further for more detailed information upon these aspects of the subject in which they are particularly interested. Undoubtedly "Outlines of Entomology" has filled a necessary want and this is shown by the fact that the second edition has been brought out slightly less than two years after the first. To both students and teachers alike the book can be most highly recommended. Professional entomologists will note with pleasure a remark made by the author in his preface, to the effect that when circumstances allow a revised edition of his General Text Book of Entomology will be published.

A.F.C.

New Zealand Geographer. Vol. I, No. 1. Published by the New Zealand Geographical Society (Inc.).

The New Zealand Geographer is published by the recently formed New Zealand Geographical Society. In an excellent foreword the editor, Mr. K. B. Cumberland, explains that the aims of the journal (and of the Society) are "to interpret the Dominion to its people . . . to be of assistance in the further development and conservation of its resources." In principle, all New Zealand foresters must surely be in accord with these aims. In practice, they may be forgiven if they are at first a little suspicious of yet another group with its own formula for the conservation of New Zealand's resources. Any suspicions they may have, however, will be very quickly allayed by a perusal of this, the first, number of the journal. For it is immediately evident that the New Zealand Geographer has just those qualities which are lacking in other publications dealing with similar subject matter. It has, in fact, that unsentimental and scientific approach without which no solution of New Zealand's land-use problem can be forthcoming. The tone is set perhaps by Professor Jobberns in a very comprehensive article called "Geography and National Development." It is more than refreshing to read in his paper such statements as these:—"No adequate understanding of human society can possibly be had without proper appreciation of the habitat or environment on which it is based," and "it is in the systematic explanation, interpretation and future direction of . . . the change in vegetation cover that the botanist contributes to the very foundation of our geography." These are ecological truisms, but they are truisms which are in constant need of restatement and it is the fact that they *are* ecological which makes their appearance here significant.

Other articles include a regional account of pasture growth by P. D. Sears and an academic paper by C. A. Cotton on "Gemorphic Provinces in New Zealand." This accent on regionalism is to be seen throughout the whole journal. Forestry in New Zealand is itself intensely regional and any interpretation of regional differences in other respects is bound to lead to a more complete understanding of local forestry problems. For this reason, if for no others, the New Zealand Geographer should be welcomed by all foresters.

The remaining contributions consist of a racily written account of Canterbury high country by John Pascoe, a study of political geography in the Pacific by L. K. Munro and the results of an enquiry into the basic geographical knowledge of young New Zealanders, by B. J. Garnier. Pascoe's article, though interesting and stimulating, makes a strange bedfellow to, say, Professor Cotton's. Such juxtaposition of the popular and the academic is evidently a deliberate attempt to gain the widest possible circulation. It is to be hoped that the attempt will be successful and that the journal will not, as a result, fall between two stools. Foresters should wish it every success.

A.P.T.

Good Soil. By S. G. Brade-Birks, M.Sc., D.Sc.

Hodder & Stoughton Ltd., for the English Universities Press Ltd. First printed June, 1944, pp.296. 77 figs. With 5 appendices; glossary and index. 5/-. (Available in N.Z.)

This attractive little book is strongly recommended to all New Zealand foresters and to student foresters in particular.

It is not a text book but rather an introduction to the science of pedology, written in a form which cannot fail to capture the interest of any reader who is really interested in crops of any kind.

The book was written primarily for the farmer, but also for the general scientific reader and the forester will find in it a readily understandable approach to the development and broad classification of soils.

T.C.B.