BOOK REVIEWS

SOIL AND PLANT ANALYSIS

By C. S. Piper. Adelaide, South Australia: University of Adelaide. XIV + 368 pages, illus. 1942. 16s. 6d. postpaid; in Canada, 15s. 9d. postpaid (both amounts in Australian currency).

This volume, a laboratory manual of methods for the examination of soils and the determination of the inorganic constituents of plants, is a monograph of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute of the University of Adelaide and the author is the chemist of the Institute. The book aims to bring together methods for chemical examination of the very diverse soils and plants of Australia, methods which not only through experience have proved entirely trustworthy, but which also meet the demands of a growing science of pedology. It covers quite comprehensively not only the usual subjects under such a title, such as soil sampling, hydrogen-ion concentration, mechanical analysis, hydrochloric acid extraction, base exchange, and many others, but also single-value soil constants, soil color, and determination of trace elements.

The book has reference lists after each chapter and separate indices for soils and plants. Anyone dealing with soil and plant analysis should find much of interest and value in the volume. (R. C. C.)

POTASH IN NORTH AMERICA


This volume is a contribution to the monograph series of the American Chemical Society and is written by the president of the American Potash Institute. It not only reviews the work of the past 15 years on the problem of developing an American potash industry, but also outlines foreign developments in the same field. The uses of potash in industry are extensively discussed as well as the technology of production. Practically all phases of this growing American industry are covered and the book, besides its factual matter, makes very interesting reading. Anyone interested in recent developments and methods which have succeeded in giving this country potash independence will find the volume worthwhile. (R. C. C.)

AGRONOMIC AFFAIRS

MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRONOMY SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Practically every member of the American Society of Agronomy is assisting in the war effort of his country in some capacity. Certain individuals are contributing the most by continuing in the work they have been doing for many years, others are contributing the most by entering specialized fields of production, others are making their greatest contribution in technical fields requiring