likely have helped the author to sharpen his own concepts of the main types and their significant variations. Although the geography of soils is discussed a great deal and some geological maps and climatic maps are presented as well as a good outline map of the region, it is unfortunate that soil maps are not included.

Perhaps because of some partial isolation, Mohr has developed many individual methods of symbolization and nomenclature for certain soil features and processes. In this book, however, he makes more use of work done in Russia and the United States than in his former one. Although the American student may be somewhat irritated by his special nomenclature, especially where the commonly accepted international terms could have been used as conveniently, he will have no real difficulty with it.

Even though this reviewer may not fully understand all of Mohr's theories, nor agree with some of his generalizations, he regards this book as "must" reading for all general soil scientists and more particularly for those concerned with any aspect of soils in tropical regions.—CHARLES E. KELLOGG.

A LIFE OF TRAVELS

By C. S. Rafinesque. Waltham, Mass.: Chronica Botanica Co. 80 pages, 3 portraits. 1944. $2.50.

THIS is a verbatim reprint edition of Rafinesque's autobiography published in Philadelphia in 1836. There is little in the booklet of direct professional interest to agronomists, but anyone interested in travel and the early development of descriptive biology in the United States may find the booklet worth reading. It is a simple narrative of a life of travel giving places visited and persons met, together with brief references to collections of biological material, particularly plants, and to the miscellaneous ventures of the author including some of his numerous publications.—R. J. GARBER.

AGRONOMIC AFFAIRS

NEW GRAIN INSPECTION REPORTS

THE trends in crop improvement or in crop deterioration have been indicated by the grain inspection records maintained by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Beginning with the 1943 crop, much more comprehensive records will be available in that the inspection records for every inspection point in the United States will be compiled on mechanical tabulators. Many members of the Society and others who are interested in the inspection data at particular markets have already indicated the particular information which they desire. Because of the large number of reports, it will be impossible to publish data for every inspection point. Requests for information at any particular markets can be addressed to W. B. Combs, Extension Service, 1108 Post Office Building, Chicago 7, Ill. Mr. Combs