BOOK REVIEW

PHOSPHATES AND SUPERPHOSPHATES


The object of the first edition, as stated by the author, was to present in compact form a full statistical history of the phosphate and superphosphate industries. In the second edition, these matters are brought up-to-date, and in addition the nonstatistical part is amplified.

The book consists of fourteen chapters. The first six deal successively with early history and use, production, grades, deposits, consumption and prices and sales of phosphates. The next five chapters deal with the history, production, cost, consumption, and sales of superphosphate. In the remaining three chapters, double superphosphate, calcined and ammonia phosphates, basic slag, and phosphoric acid are discussed as regards manufacture, properties and use. The text is well illustrated with numerous pictures and drawings.

Besides numerous tables in the text giving analyses, properties, production, and sales of phosphates, there is included an appendix of 155 tables giving annual production, consumption, and trade in phosphates in the various countries of the world during past and recent years, including 1942 where possible.

An interesting and detailed discussion is given of the early history of the superphosphate process. Late information regarding the direct use of finely ground raw phosphate rock in various countries is given, and it is pointed out that the great increase in recent years in this connection has been in Russia.

Phosphate producers and manufacturers, agronomists, and many others interested in food production and agriculture in general will find this book to be a real storehouse of information of the field covered.—E. Truog.

AGRONOMIC AFFAIRS

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Under the terms of an agreement entered into with the American Library Association, a prescribed number of sets of the Journal were set aside in the name of the Association for distribution at the close of the war to foreign libraries that were unable to maintain their files of American scientific journals. Requisitions on these stocks are now being made by the Library Association.

Through circumstances over which we had no control, the Society is confronted with the inability to meet its quota of the March, 1941, issue (Volume 33, No. 3) to the extent of twenty copies. The Society, therefore, is exceedingly desirous of purchasing from members who would be willing to part with them unbound copies of this missing issue at the prevailing rate of 60 cents each. The magazines should be addressed to the Editor of the American Society of Agronomy, P. O. Box 353, Geneva, N. Y.