of the Food Administration for occupied areas. Previous reports include those on the Ukraine, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania, China, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Norway, and Siberia. Japan, with a land area slightly less than that of California, over one-half of which is covered by forest, over three-fourths by mountain land, and less than one-sixth of which is under cultivation, covers a latitudinal range corresponding to that from central Nova Scotia to southern Florida. Frost-free periods range from 157 to 278 days. The diversity of crop plants and representative native plants corresponding to the great diversity in climate is indicated in detail with the aid of 20 maps and many more charts and graphs. Agronomic data covering cultural methods, diseases and their control, and details of climatology, including the corresponding climatological areas of the U. S., are thoroughly treated.—H. A. WARD.

LET THERE BE BREAD


Dr. Brittain’s ideas are by no means new to agronomists. Dr. Firman E. Bear had some interesting things to say in this same direction in his presidential address before the American Society of Agronomy in 1949.

Let There Be Bread, nevertheless, is a book which agronomists can call to the attention of their non-agronomist friends. Dr. Brittain points out that the world has resources and knowledge to produce an abundance of good food for all people now living. He goes further and suggests that we can take care of any increases in population for some time to come. The Point IV people are saying this in many parts of the world, Dr. Brittain’s book helps in telling a story which ought to be brought before many of our people in America.

Among the possibilities which the author considers are the greater utilization of desert land, by techniques which permit farming in the Arctic, the development of the Amazon area, the use of so-called waste lands, investigation of food production in the ocean, more irrigation, use of shelters and windbreaks to temper the wind, and to permit a production increase in protected areas, and the control of plant, animal, and human diseases, with a resulting increase in productive facilities and resources.

Dr. Brittain appreciates that there are practical obstacles to achieving these ends. Nevertheless, it is clear that the obstacles can be overcome by planning and work. The world doesn’t need to starve if it doesn’t want to. In a time when other writers are trying to scare us into hiding under the bed, it is heartening to find someone who says we can handle our problems.

LAS LEGUMINOSAS ARGENTINAS—SILVESTRES Y CULTIVADAS


Through the collaboration of Dr. Burbart (Director del Instituto de Botanica Darwinismo y Profesor en la Universidad Nacional de La Plata) and Acme Agency a new book of great importance to the scientific world of legume identification and culture has made its appearance. This book, revised and enlarged from an earlier edition, is as Argentine as anything you can name, either partio or criollo.

Profusely illustrated and with a bibliography of 665 entries, this book is undoubtedly the most complete work on legumes in existence. While taxonomy takes up a large part of the book the other branches of science are not neglected. The first 25 pages give a detailed morphological study, the next 11 a study of nitrogen fixation, and in the following pages one may learn about ecology, parasitology, phytogeography, and many other related fields as they are reflected in the legumes. The volume is indexed and includes 16 names new to science, 7 of them new species.

Of particular interest is the key to the seeds of legumes, confined in the first volume to the subfamily Papilionoideae but enlarged in the second volume to include the subfamilies Ensiformes and the Césalpinioideae. The material covered in these last two subfamilies is contributed largely by the young Argentine botanist, Oswaldo Boedeker, including the many additional plates which simplify identification even when the technical words are strange.

Many new keys to species are included in the second edition which could not be found in the first; thus one may now identify quickly 20 species of *Acacia*, 57 species of *Mimosa*, 26 species of *Prosopis*, 7 of *Caliandra*, 30 in *Cassia*, and so on through many important genera. Not least of the features of this *Adesna* which some now hold to be the most likely source of a good dry-land legume for the West.—ALAN A. BEETLE.

DISEASE IN PLANTS


Disease in plants, an introduction to agricultural phytopathology, is an original textbook concerned primarily with the general principles of plant diseases. The studies of specific diseases and control measures are left for the laboratory. The material, presented as a series of 20 lectures, is designed for agricultural students in any field of specialization. Following two chapters on plant diseases and human welfare and the effect of disease on plants, the lectures are grouped according to causal agents, factors influencing disease development, and disease control. The book is wonderfully illustrated with pictures, maps, and drawings and also plates and extracts from older classical works.—J. H. GRAHAM.

PLANTS FOR MAN


This book gives the reader a brief but intensely interesting glimpse at the major plant products—and the plants producing them—in all parts of the world. The author, formerly assistant professor of botany at the Henry Shaw School of Botany at Washington University and now research assistant at the Missouri Botanical Garden, presents his factual data in the field of economic botany in an unusually readable manner.

The first of the four parts into which the book is divided serves as an introduction. Part two deals with the products of the plant cell wall, particularly lumber and fiber. The third part covers cell wall exudates and extractions including rubber, oils, waxes, and sugars. Part four is devoted to plants and plant products used for food and beverages.

Plants for Man makes both an excellent reference and absorbing reading, even for an evening of relaxation. It will be of particular value to students of economic botany and a valuable addition to the library of anyone even casually interested in plants and plant products.—A. F. BULL.

PHOSPHATES IN AGRICULTURE


Although this second edition of *Phosphates in Agriculture* will be especially valuable to fertilizer salesmen and to fertilizer manufacturers, county agricultural agents, vocational agriculture teachers, fertilizer dealers, and many farmers will also find the book interesting. It can be read with disregard for the advanced chemistry and chemical formulas included. All in all, it gives an interesting picture of the history of the use of phosphorus as a fertilizer and shows the steps in processing from raw phosphate rock to the finished superfosphates. Additional material covers the phosphorus nutrition of plants and animals. The author is director of research for the publisher, a manufacturer of fertilizers.—A. F. BULL.

PRINCIPLES OF FARM FINANCE


The first sections of this book discuss the history of farm finance and the major problems in financing agricultural enterprises. The two following sections are devoted to federal and private lending agencies. The concluding section deals with the individual problems in farm finance, particularly with types of loans and repayment methods available. Maintenance of a healthy balance between borrowed and owned capital and between farm and nonfarm assets is discussed along with legal problems which may be encountered. The author, a professor of economics at the University of Georgia, is also an owner-operator of a farm. This