of the Food Administration for occupied areas. Previous reports include those on The Ukraine, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Jugoslavia, 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 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. WAHL.

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 the 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 lands, new 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 shelterbelts 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. Burkart (Director del Instituto de Botanica Darwin 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 porteño or criollo.

Profusely illustrated and with a bibliography of 665 entries, this book is undoubtedly the most complete work on legumes in

Many new keys to species are included in which could not be found in the first; thus one quickly 20 species of Acacia, 57 species of Mimosoideae, 7 of Calliandra, 30 in Cassia, and many important genera. Not the least of these are some now hold to be the most likely source of the legume for the West.—ALAN A. BULL.

DISEASE IN PLANTS


Disease in plants, an introduction to agricultural plant pathology, is an original textbook concerned primarily with principles of plant diseases. The study of specific control measures are left for the laboratory. Represented as a series of 20 lectures, is designed for students in any field of specialization. Following the plant diseases and human welfare and the effect on plants, the lectures are grouped according to factors influencing disease development, and the book is wonderfully illustrated with pictures, drawings and also plates and extracts from older works.

J. H. GRAHAM.

PLANTS FOR MAN


This book gives the reader a brief but interesting glimpse at the major plant products—and the them—in all parts of the world. The author, professor of botany at the Henry Shaw Botanical Garden, presents his factual material on economic botany in an unusually readable manner.

The first of the four parts into which the book divides as an introduction. Part two deals with the plant cell wall, particularly lumber and paper; part three deals with cell wall adhesives and extractions; oilseeds, waxes, and sugars. Part four is devoted to plant products used for food and beverages.

Plants for Man makes both an excellent reference work and a reading, even for an evening of relaxation. It should be a permanent value to students of economic botany and a contribution to the library of anyone even casually interested in plant products.—A. F. BULL.

PHOSPHATES IN AGRICULTURE


Although this second edition of Phosphates in Agriculture will be especially valuable to fertilizer salesmen and manufacturers, county agricultural agents, vocational agricultural teachers, fertilizer dealers, and many farmers will also find it interesting. It can be read with disregard for the technicality and chemical formulas included. All in all, it presents the interesting picture of the history of the use of phosphorus, fertilizer and shows the steps in processing from raw phosphate rock to the finished superphosphates. Additional interest is added by the phosphorus nutrition of plants an animal by the director of research for the publisher, a manufacturer.—A. F. BULL.