book will be of interest not only to students of farm finance but to farmers and others concerned with problems in this field.—A. F. BULL.

**IMPROVING THE WORLD'S GRASSLANDS**


In preparing this booklet (paper cover) the author consulted freely with grassland experts located in various countries of the world. It was written to call attention to the potentialities of grasslands in supplying food for the world's ever growing population and in conserving agricultural resources. It contains useful information for the technician concerned with improving grasslands. The scope of the work is indicated by the following chapter headings: The Importance of Grasslands; The Place of Grass in Agriculture; Rangeland Improvement; Livestock Management; Seeding and Fertilizing; Some Examples of Mechanical Treatment and Burning; National Programmes of Grassland Improvement; Fodder from Trees and Shrubs; Supplemental Feeding; The Need for Research.—R. J. GARRER.

**AGRICULTURAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE WORLD**


Ecological factors affecting the crop plants of the world are presented in this treatise, which includes chapters on plant growth, ecological classification of crops, climates with reference to crop production, plant growth with reference to seasonal rhythm, types and formation of soils, and (much the lengthiest chapter) agricultural regions of the world, their climatic characteristics and crop suitabilities.

*Written in English by a Greek author and published in Argentina, the text is not without linguistic imperfections; but these in no way detract from the extensive factual information concerning world crops, soils, and climates. Four world maps showing soils, vegetation types, growth rates and rhythms, and agricultural climates, and three sets of graphs, showing for selected localities the annual march of mean daily temperature, of growth indices, and of water need, are included.—H. A. WAHL.*

**MENTION**


*The Sacred Plum (a description of the maize tassel). By Edgar Anderson, Pioneer Hybrid Corn Co., Des Moines 9, Iowa. 1951.*


*Makers of Millions (biographical sketches about leading Tennessee in agriculture). Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture, Nashville, Tenn. 1951.*

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**Agronomic Affairs**

**MEETINGS**

International Crop Improvement Association, September 9-12, Bakersfield, Calif.

American Society of Agronomy and Soil Science Society of America, November 17-21, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Northeastern Branch, A.S.A., meeting postponed until 1953.

**NEWS ITEMS**

J. A. RICHARDS, president of the Soil Science Society of America and soil scientist at the U. S. Salinity Laboratory, Riverside, Calif., was presented with an honorary doctorate in technical sciences by the Hebrew Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel. The presentation was made following the International Symposium on Desert Research at Jerusalem, held early in May. Dr. Richards presented a paper before the Symposium, the paper having the title, "Water Conducting and Retaining Properties of Soils in Relation to Irrigation." In addition to appearing on the Symposium program, Dr. Richards also visited various irrigation installations in Israel. At the request of the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture, he later visited Egypt and conferred with members of that agency.

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ALBERT F. SANDER, formerly agronomist, Headquarters, Far East Air Forces, Tokyo, Japan, transferred to Headquarters, Technical Training Air Force, Gulfport, Miss., effective April 9. At the new headquarters, he is continuing his same duties as agronomist in charge of grounds, erosion control and drainage for all Air Force installations assigned to Technical Training Air Force. Sander completed a tour of approximately 5 years in the Far East, first going to Manila, P. I., early in 1947 and later, in November 1947, joining the Installations staff at Headquarters, Far East Air Forces. He remained there until late December 1951, when he returned to the U. S. on furlough. He has developed a wide knowledge of the Zoysia grasses, which, he reports, were used almost exclusively in Japan for establishment of general and special-purpose turf at various bases.

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The 150th anniversary of its founding was celebrated July 18 by the E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Company at Wilmington, Del.

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R. W. JUGENHEIMER, professor of plant genetics, in charge of corn improvement at the University of Illinois, has accepted a 1-year appointment with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. He was named to the newly created position of Hybrid Corn Liaison Officer in the FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy. In that position, he will guide and stimulate cooperation among corn breeders from 25 countries in Europe, the Near East, and North Africa. The FAO hybrid corn program involves testing promising hybrids from the U. S., and developing carefully planned scientific research programs to produce hybrids that are especially suited to widely different conditions in the cooperating countries.

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Formerly with the Standard Milling Co., Chicago, E. G. BAYFIELD is now associate professor in the Department of Baking Science and Management, Florida State University, Tallahassee. Dr. Bayfield served as director of products control and research while with the Standard Milling Co.

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FRANKLIN P. GARDNER has taken a position as assistant professor of agronomy at the University of Georgia. His duties include both teaching and research on pasture and forage crops at branch stations. Dr. Gardner was previously an instructor in agronomy (farm crops) at Iowa State College. He served in this capacity from 1950 until June 1952.

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H. N. WATENPAUGH has accepted a foreign assignment from the U. S. Department of Interior and is now in Baghdad, Iraq. He is helping set up a land classification program for the M11 Sref (Public Lands) Irrigation Project. Dr. Watenpaugh is head of land classification, Project Planning Section, Bureau of Reclamation, Region 1, Boise, Idaho.