Some Aspects of Applied Pedology
(ASPECTS DE PÉDÖLOGIE APPLIQUÉE)

According to a statement on the jacket, this is the first book in French to summarize practical aspects of soil survey. This volume supplements the U. S. Soil Survey Manual and explains in detail its principles. Soil maps are included for nearly tenfold, of artificial irrigation on Hungarian soils. Under the semiarid conditions of the Great Hungarian Lowland, this practice is complicated by the effect of applied water on biological and physico-chemical properties of soils, many of which belong to the Solonchak and related alkali soils. Successful irrigation, therefore, requires careful regulation of the amount and manner of watering, taking into consideration the morphology of the soil profile and the supply of Na+, Mg²⁺, and other exchangeable bases in both soil and irrigation water.

Hungarian soil scientists are well known for their meritorious contributions to our knowledge of alkali soils. These were advantageously used by the author, considerably extended by his own research, and correlated with practical aspects of irrigation. The outstanding features of his treatise include: a comprehensive pedogenetic classification of simple terminology, a careful description of physico-chemical characteristics of each major soil type, and detailed management recommendations for irrigation of different soils. The volume is supplemented by four maps showing geographical distribution of soils requiring different irrigation treatments and of the chemical nature of surface and ground water.

The Hungarian text takes up 56 pages; the remaining 55 pages contain very well written, inclusive summaries in Russian, English, German and French. A very attractive cover of a durable plastic material and a looseleaf binding are very appropriate for this type of publication and deserve to be imitated. Soil specialists in different parts of the world especially those concerned with artificial irrigation and broader aspects of soil genesis, are likely to find that the contents of this publication merit their attention.—A. Wilde, Soil Science Department, University of Wisconsin.

**Advances in Agronomy, Vol. 15**

This latest volume in the series published under the auspices of the American Society of Agronomy continues its broad coverage in reviewing progress in agronomic research. The long-time editor of the series, Dr. A. C. Norman, points out the difficulty in identifying the exact boundaries of agronomy and that, realistically, there cannot be a separate "soils" treatment or "crops" treatment.

Articles included in Volume 15 are as follows:
1. Competition Among Crop and Pasture Plants, by C. M. Donald of the Wasfe Agricultural Research Institute of Adelaide, South Australia.
4. The Physic of Wind Erosion and Its Control, by the late W. S. Chepl and N. F. Woodruff, of the ARS, USDA, at Kansas State University.
5. Plant Nutrient Losses from Soils by Water Erosion, by H. Bartows and V. J. Kilmer of the ARS, USDA at Beltsville, Md.
7. Silica in Soils, by J. A. McKee of the Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont., and M. G. Cline of Cornell University.—RCD

A Place to Live
Yearbook of Agriculture 1963

The editor points out in the preface that no subject is more meaningful than this to Americans and that the purpose of this Yearbook is "... to inform all Americans about the effects of urbanization and industrialization on rural America and the need for plans and action so that people will have a proper place to live. Many of the forces and trends which are making in the urban-rural fringe, but our interest is in... the interaction of rural and urban influences wherever they occur." General topics covered are: changes in people, land, water and air, financing, communities, government action, what can be done, and examples of what has been done to make it possible to achieve a proper place to live.—RCD.