

Fauna and the Flora will be dealt with in separate volumes. We are glad to know that along with the published records there is growing up a local collection of actual specimens—in short, a regional survey museum. For these "Faunas" and "Floras" are not appreciated at their highest value when considered by themselves; their larger importance is as components of an integrated survey; and those who may think that we are saying too much about a book consisting mainly of careful records of the finding of hundreds of spiders, insects, molluscs, and worms have yet to understand that one of the factors in secure progress must be—more than heretofore—an intimate and scrupulously accurate survey of all the facts of every region.

#### OUR BOOKSHELF.

*A Handbook of Briquetting.* By Prof. G. Franke. Translated by F. C. A. H. Lantsberry. Vol. ii., *Briquetting of Ores, Metallurgical Products, Metal Swarf, and Similar Materials, including Agglomeration.* With Appendices. Pp. xi+214. (London: C. Griffin and Co. Ltd., 1918.) Price 15s. net.

THE promised second volume of the translation of Prof. G. Franke's work on briquetting has now appeared, dealing with the briquetting of materials other than fuels. These materials are, first and foremost, iron-ore, to which the greater part of the work is necessarily devoted; next flue-dust and certain other metallurgical by-products; and, finally, metallic borings and turnings, which the translator is pleased to designate "swarf." The work is distinguished by the same amount of careful detail, particularly in the description of the mechanical appliances, that characterised the first part, but it is evident that the author has not the same practical familiarity with this portion of his subject as he displayed in dealing with fuel in his former volume. Much of his information is derived from current literature, and is neither so complete nor so accurate as it was in the case of coal. His handling of the important subject of the briquetting of iron-ores is far inferior, for example, to the paper on the same subject read before the Iron and Steel Institute last autumn by Messrs. Barrett and Rogerson. For instance, the list of Swedish briquetting works given by the author refers only to the year 1906, and is now hopelessly out of date. Still worse is the total omission of the entire group of modern sintering processes, such as the Dwight-Lloyd, Huntington-Heberlein, Greenawalt, etc., which are generally looked upon as the most promising of any of the methods hitherto devised for treating iron-ores. It cannot be denied that these defects rob the work of much of its value, though anyone desiring detailed accounts of the older methods will find them given very fully.

As regards the translation, it is possibly an improvement on that of the first volume, but still leaves very much to be desired.

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*State Geological and Natural History Survey.* (State of Connecticut. Public Document No. 47.) Vol. v., Bulletin 22. *Guide to the Insects of Connecticut.* Part iii. *The Hymenoptera or Wasp-like Insects of Connecticut.* By H. L. Viereck, with the collaboration of A. D. MacGillivray, C. T. Brues, W. M. Wheeler, and S. A. Rohmer. Pp. 824+plates x. (Hartford: Printed for the State Geological and Natural History Survey, 1916.)

COLLECTORS and observers of insects in New England are fortunate in having at their disposal such a "guide" as this to lead them in the discrimination of genera and species in that most fascinating, but systematically most difficult, order, the Hymenoptera. Some of the most eminent of American entomologists have collaborated in the production of this volume, and their careful diagnoses and analytical tables are rendered the more comprehensible to the beginner by clear structural text-figures. As very many genera are common to both the western and eastern continents, this book will be of value to European workers, who will be interested to find that not a few of the Connecticut species of ants, wasps, and bees are identical with familiar British insects. Although the treatment is predominantly systematic, information on the habits of many of the families is furnished, and the plates illustrating gall-forming and nesting activities are instructive. Good line-drawings would have been preferable to the photographic reproductions of museum specimens of insects, many of which are badly set and some mutilated. The great merit of the book consists in its presentation of the modern classification of all the families and the more important genera of Hymenoptera in a single, if somewhat bulky, volume. G. H. C.

*The Baby.* ("Manuals of Health," ii.) By Dr. S. Seekings. Pp. 63. (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 1918.) Price 9d. net.

WE do not find anything particularly novel in this little book on baby management, nor does it seem to present anything that cannot be found in several other books of a similar type. It is written clearly and simply, and the directions can be easily followed. For artificial feeding it is recommended that the milk be always scalded, but no direction is given on the importance of cooling in hot weather. In the chapter on common ailments (or elsewhere) we find no mention of vaccination and the treatment of the arm, while, though comparatively infrequent in the infant, measles and whooping-cough are discussed. It is stated that measles causes more deaths among children under a year old than at any other age. This is incorrect: almost twice as many children die in their second year from this cause as in the first year, and the measles death-rate in the second year is nearly eight times that in the first year. Some useful directions are given in an appendix for the preparation of barley and albumin water, etc., and for knitting infants' garments. R. T. H.