

*Handbuch der Pflanzenanatomie.* Herausgegeben von Prof. K. Linsbauer. Allgemeiner Teil: Cytologie (Die Organe der Zelle). Band 1., Zelle und Cytoplasma. Von H. Lundegårdh. Pp. 192. Band 2., Allgemeine Pflanzenkaryologie. Von Prof. Dr. G. Tischler. Pp. 384. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1921.) 2l. 5s.

THE volumes under notice are the first two in a series to be published under the general title "Handbuch der Pflanzenanatomie." The complete series as projected will number 15 or 20 volumes by various authors, under the general editorship of Prof. K. Linsbauer. It will include volumes on cytology, histology, galls, experimental anatomy, and a series on the "anatomy" of the various plant groups from Mycetoza to flowering plants. Two volumes—both unfinished—have already been issued, the first, by Dr. H. Lundegårdh, dealing with the cell and cytoplasm; the second, by Prof. G. Tischler, giving a general account of the plant nucleus. The price quoted in English money for the two volumes, in paper covers, is unjustifiably high, and must mean a huge rate of profit for the publishers. The sale on these terms is not likely to be very wide.

The first volume begins with a history of plant anatomy and the cell theory, occupying 60 pages, and illustrated by figures from Hooke, Malpighi, N. Grew, and others. Then follows an account of cell structure and form, with numerous illustrations. The protoplasmic connexions between cells are considered at some length. Other topics considered are the arrangements of cells in tissues, and the physical and chemical organisation of the cell.

The second volume treats of the plant nucleus in considerable detail, beginning with the morphological and chemical organisation of the resting nucleus, and its relations to the cell as a whole. This part occupies 232 pages. The remainder of the volume, which is as yet incomplete, deals with nuclear division and its various forms in different plant groups. The numerous figures are taken from the cytological literature of the last thirty years.

*Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.* 1913-1914. In 2 Parts. Part 2. Pp. viii+795-1481. (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1921.)

THIS volume forms an important supplement to that which preceded it, giving a collection of bardic chronicles and songs illustrating the beliefs and customs of the Kwakiutl, a fishing-tribe on the coast of Vancouver Island. It has been compiled by Mr. G. Hunt, a member of the tribe, and the text is given in the tribal dialect with an English translation. It is not easy reading, but the report in the preceding volume supplies an adequate commentary. It forms an impressive picture of life in the lower culture. We have traces of totemism in the shape of paintings of animals on the sides of the house door and posts erected with special ceremonies. Much of the ritual consists of orgiastic dances, performed by men and women in a state of nudity, wearing masks, their faces being painted with charcoal, on which swan-down is stuck, their heads and necks adorned with pieces of red cedar. It also assumes a more brutal form. In one account

we read: "The Rich-Woman carried in her arms a body, leading the Cannibal; and the Tamer went on the right-hand side of the Cannibal, and the One-Who-Presses-Down went on the left-hand side of the Cannibal, and each of the four eats part of the corpse—that is, the Cannibal and the Rich-Woman, and the Fire-Dancer and his Grizzly-Bear-of-The-Door." Scattered through the book are interesting accounts of the initiation of novices, the magical effect of names, magical songs sung to secure the capture of salmon, pre-nuptial incontinence, marriage by purchase and the levirate, burial in trees, magical transformation of men into animals, and much other matter of interest to anthropologists. It is well that these facts should have been recorded, as the tribe is rapidly coming under "civilised" influence. In one list of gifts we read of blankets, canoes, jewellery, forty sewing-machines, and twenty-five phonographs.

- (1) *Lehrbuch der Elektrotechnik.* Von Dr. E. Blattner Erster Teil. Vierte Auflage. Pp. ix+423. (Bern: K. J. Wyss Erben, 1922.) 20 fr.
- (2) *Electricity.* By Sydney G. Starling. (Science in the Service of Man.) Pp. viii+245. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1922.) 10s. 6d. net.
- (3) "*Lektrik*" *Lighting Connections.* With Introductory and Explanatory Notes by Gus. C. Lundberg and the late W. P. Maycock. Seventh Edition (Thoroughly Revised). Pp. 156. (London: A. P. Lundberg and Sons, 1921.) 1s. net.

(1) WE welcome the fourth edition of the first volume of Dr. Blattner's text-book. The principles of electrical engineering are very clearly stated and as the international symbols and nomenclature are adopted it can be readily understood even by a student whose knowledge of German is limited.

(2) Mr. Starling has written an interesting popular work on electricity. The subjects of the various chapters are well chosen, theory and practice being evenly balanced. The epoch-making discoveries of recent years in radio-telegraphy and in the theory of the atom are included.

(3) The third of the works under notice is a useful little book on electric wiring. It shows various ways of wiring electric lamps so that they can be controlled from several different places and also how the light they give can be varied. The special switches used for these purposes are described.

*Early British Trackways, Moats, Mounds, Camps, and Sites.* A Lecture given to the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, at Hereford, September 1921. By Alfred Watkins. Pp. 41+20 plates. (Hereford: The Watkins Meter Co; London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co., Ltd., 1922.) 4s. 6d. net.

IN this little book the author attempts to show that during a long period, going back at least to neolithic times, all trackways were in straight lines marked out by experts on a sighting system. Such sighting lines went from mountain peak to mountain peak with secondary sighting points on the lower ground. It is fairly obvious that long distance roads in primitive times would tend to lie in a more or less straight line between prominent peaks. This scarcely needs veri-