

regarded as the commonest fungi have been omitted. It is in no sense a 'learned treatise,' and the arrangement adopted might cause a strict systematist to wilt. For its avowed purpose, however, which is "to appeal to students as well as nature lovers, who wish to know the many odd or beautiful forms of fungous growth they may happen upon in their country rambles," it is quite admirable. Four introductory chapters deal with the general structure of the fungi and useful practical hints to collectors. Following these are the illustrated descriptions of 160 species, and then brief but adequate accounts of the preparation and value of fungi as food, of poisoning by fungi, and of mushroom culture. A useful glossary and a good index complete the volume.

To criticise such a work is in very truth to look a gift horse in the mouth, and one can only admire and envy the skill of Mr. Clarke, chief of the Photographic Division of the Geological Survey of Canada, who took nearly all the photographs, and the energy and opportunities of Mr. Odell, who, "in his frequent jaunts through woods and meadows," collected the specimens.

Altogether, a book for every botanist to become possessed of with all possible speed, so that the Minister of Agriculture may be encouraged to direct the publication of others. W. B. B.

Die Tierwelt der Nord- und Ostsee. Herausgegeben von G. Grimpe und E. Wagler. Lieferung 9. Teil 6 c₁: *Oligochaeta*, von W. Michaelsen; Teil 12 a₂: *Thaliacea*, von J. E. W. Ihle; Teil 12 f₁: *Chondrostei*, von E. Ehrenbaum; Teil 12 f₂: *Teleostei Physostomi*, von H. M. Kyle und E. Ehrenbaum. Pp. 44 + 28 + 86. 13.60 gold marks. Lieferung 10. Teil 7 d₁: *Gastrotricha*, von A. Remane; Teil 11 c: *Halacaridae*, von K. Viets; Teil 12 h₂: *Teleostei Physoclisti*, 11-15, von E. W. Mohr und G. Duncker. Pp. 56 + 72 + 61-140. 16.80 gold marks. (Leipzig: Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft m.b.H., 1927.)

THAT section of the present work dealing with the oligochaetes contains a unique account of the marine and brackish worms belonging to that order and occurring in the North and Baltic Seas. All oligochaetes living in, or at intervals submerged by, water, the salinity of which is greater than five parts per thousand, are regarded as coming within the scope of the present paper. Habitat receives especial attention. The section dealing with the Gastrotricha is very well illustrated and deserves no less praise than the last section.

The portions dealing with the systematics of fishes are, in our opinion, not up to the standard of the remainder of the work. Most of the figures are from familiar books. Nevertheless, the advanced students and amateurs to whom the work is mainly addressed could not be blamed if they failed to recognise some of their fish captures from the figures given. In accordance with the original plan of the book, those fishes of economic importance receive fuller treatment than the others, yet there is a good deal of recent and important work upon the herring which receives no recognition,

and although there are references in the text to names apparently to be given in the bibliography, they are not to be found there. In a review of an earlier part of the publication, mention was made of the great usefulness of the table given for the identification of pelagic fish eggs. If this could be included, it seems a pity that there is not more information given upon the larval and post-larval stages of fishes.

Christ the Word. By P. E. More. (*The Greek Tradition: from the Death of Socrates to the Council of Chalcedon, 399 B.C. to A.D. 451*, vol. 4.) Pp. viii + 343. (Princeton: Princeton University Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1927.) 18s. net.

MODERN theologians who attempt the most necessary task of devising a scheme of Christian thought at once retaining all the traditional content and yet not incongruous in the light of scientific knowledge, tend more and more to utilise the Greek conception of the *Logos*. It seems evident that the Greek tradition in theology is the right one to follow. Hence the value of Dr. More's book for those students of natural science who take an interest in the problems of theology. It is a short history of the development of Christian theology from the Fourth Gospel to the Council of Chalcedon.

In reading these pages, students of science will find themselves in a world where much seems unfamiliar, but they will recognise the fundamental idea that the reason of man finds its counterpart in the essential rationality of existence. We cannot avoid the conviction that if men of science occupied some of their leisure moments in the study of the origin and development of Christian ideas, they would discover an unexpected source of intellectual interest, and perhaps find an atmosphere less alien than they had imagined, since both science and theology have their origins in Greek thought.

J. C. H.

Lectures on the Religion of the Semites: the Fundamental Institutions. By the late Prof. William Robertson Smith. Third edition, with an Introduction and Additional Notes by Dr. Stanley A. Cook. Pp. lxiv + 718. (London: A. and C. Black, Ltd., 1927.) 12s. 6d. net.

A NEW edition of Prof. Robertson Smith's lectures was badly needed, for although they were first published in 1889, and the second edition edited by Sutherland Black appeared in 1894, they still hold first place as a classic study of the subject. But a vast amount of material dealing with the Semitic and other religions of the world has accumulated during the last thirty years, and cognisance of this must now be taken. In the new edition, Dr. Stanley Cook has provided a carefully considered introduction, in which he examines Robertson Smith's main conceptions in the light of later developments in the comparative study of religion, and in some two hundred pages of notes has added facts and bibliographical references to further information, which will serve to illustrate and define the position of the beliefs of the Semites in their relation to other systems, especially in the ancient world.