

HAMILTON, W. J. JR. *American Mammals: Their Lives, Habits, and Economic Relations*. McGraw-Hill, New York. XII + 434 pp. 1939. \$3.75.

The author of "*American Mammals*" set for himself a tremendous task when he undertook to cover in one volume the entire field of Mammalogy. The history, reproduction, classification, food getting and other kindred topics all in one volume.

Strange as it may seem Hamilton in "*American Mammals*" has combined all of the relevant materials on American Mammals into one volume of 434 pages of easily readable print.

He has used a simple and direct language which will interest the laymen and specialized scientific workers. The chapter on classification is brief and concise yet an adequate description of families is included with helpful drawings. Obviously more extensive treatment of families is considered under subject matter headings such as "Characters of Mammals and Other Uses," "Adaptations," and "Food."

Chapters on food and food storage add much new material to the literature on Mammals. Chapters on hibernation, migration and populations are of special interest to ecologists, game managers, and technicians as well as the general biologist and nature study groups. Each chapter has been written with the idea of sifting the available material and presenting the usable information. Complete annotated bibliographies at the end of each chapter add to the value of the book.

The last five chapters are of special interest to isolated workers and specialists in various fields. Every technician in game management should see the chapters on "Useful Mammals," "Injurious Mammals," "Game Mammals," "Fur Bearing Mammals," and "Predatory

Mammals." Every citizen interested in the control of mammal groups should see this chapter.

The book is written in readily readable print and contains a very efficient index with valuable author citations. The ancestry of mammals is briefly discussed and drawings have been used freely to give clarity to the print.

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SILVER, FERN. *Foods and Nutrition*. D. Appleton-Century Co., New York. 522 pp. 1941. \$1.72.

Superbly designed with the most modern typography and refreshing, moving composition, this book adds to the ever-increasing number of texts specializing in different phases of biology. Only Part One of 149 pages directly concerns the biology teacher. It includes such topics as Food in Relation to Energy and Growth, Minerals in Relation to Body Nutrition, The Vitamins, and Adequate Diets. The remaining portions of the reading matter are devoted to the arts and sciences of the homemaker. There are activities and suggested readings at the end of the chapters. A most distinctive feature of the book is its artistic beauty and stimulating photography. The photographs are sharp and well-composed, and they emanate a feeling of modernity and cheerful health.

ALAN A. NATHANS

GOVERNMENT AIDS FOR TEACHERS: Each month, SCHOOL LIFE, the official journal of the United States Office of Education, publishes a page or two entitled, "New Government Aids for Teachers." All of these pages from September 1937 to June 1940 have now been printed together in a 24-page pamphlet entitled *New Government Aids for*