WING, LEONARD W. *Practice of Wildlife Conservation.* John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York. viii + 412 pp. illus. 1951. $5.50.

Because the reproductive rate of an animal is normally higher than required to maintain a level population, the surplus is taken by disease, predation, failures in food supply, and other mortality factors. Man shares in this surplus by his harvest of game species. And by controlling the environmental factor which limits a population level, man is able sometimes to increase his own share in the harvest.

Dr. Wing's book is an introductory survey of the principles and techniques in this management. Chapter 2 and 3, on the biological basis of management, discuss concepts of ecology that are vital even in a course in general biology. The greater part of the book is concerned with techniques and practices with particular species or animal groups.

Selected references for further reading are suggested at the end of each chapter. The index is unusually complete.

RICHARD F. TRUMP,
Senior High School,
Ames, Iowa

BERRILL, NORMAN JOHN. *The Living Tide.* Dodd, Mead and Company, New York. 256 pp. illus. 1951. $4.00.

This is a fascinating book—a revelation to those who are unaware of the many strange creatures inhabiting the "foaming fringe" of the sea.

Mr. Berrill, a professor of marine zoology at McGill University in Toronto, is a happy combination of scientist and writer who is able to transfer his own enthusiasm to his readers on his collecting trips from the warm waters of the Tortugas to the cold waters of Maine with a side trip to the Pacific Coast.

This is not a textbook of invertebrate biology but rather an intimate story of the lives of the myriad of species found in the tidal zones. At no time do you have the feeling of being crammed with biological facts. Rather, one reads with the desire to see what strange creature he will unfold next. Do you want to know why jellyfish must swim away from the earth toward the sun or what makes a jellyfish, or about the crab that can husk a coconut and crack its shell and who lives in the tops of coconut palms, why sponges stink so, what animal has an optic nerve passing through the liver to reach its third eye, or why the male catfish has to carry fifty or sixty marble-sized eggs in his mouth for two months, how a scallop swims, how Piddocks can bore into cement, that anemones can live for centuries, about the intelligence of the octopus, or the mechanics of the submarine jet-propelled squid. It took me several days before I could get hold of this book to read. My wife and teen age daughter beat me to it and would not let go until they had finished. In addition, both wanted to go to the beach the next day to see what we could find in our Pacific tide pools. I defy anyone to read this book and not be interested in marine life. This book is a must for every scientist and should be in every school library.

CHARLES C. HERBST,
Beverly Hills High School,
Beverly Hills, California

KUMMER, ANNA P. *Weed Seedlings.* The University of Chicago Press, Chicago. xxxiii + 435 pp. illus. 1951. $5.00.

This book commences with a key to the species of 300 nonwoody broad-leafed seedlings of weeds. These weeds are the common ones of the United States and Canada, and they also include those that are "particularly dangerous or noxious." The key uses the characters that are most easily observed, and it has a clear arrangement that leads to a pen sketch for each weed. The sketch, which is of life size, is accompanied by a drawing of a seed leaf and the first, third, and fifth leaf of twice the life size. Qualities that are not obvious in the drawings are included in a description. Finally, the habitat and geographic distribution of each weed is given. The book has a good quality paper back, and it contains an artificial key that is well designed for practical use. The nomenclature is that of Gray (8th ed.).

ROBERT C. MCCAFFERTY,
Central High School,
Wadsworth, Ohio