

EARTH SCIENCE, THE WORLD WE LIVE IN, and Teacher's Guide, Samuel N. Namowitz and Donald B. Stone, 614 pp., D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., Princeton, New Jersey, 1960.

The rising enrollment in the earth science course warrants a long look at the texts written for them. This is one of the popular ones. It is attractively illustrated and well written. The major sections are physical geology, historical geology, astronomy, meteorology, oceanography, and climatology. Biology of course can be found in this book, in the sections on historical geology and oceanography for instance. This will prove a convenient text to examine to determine what is being taught in this course.

P. K.

ESSENTIALS OF EARTH HISTORY, AN INTRODUCTION TO HISTORICAL GEOLOGY, William Lee Stokes, 502 pp., Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1960.

This is an amazing book from many points of view. It has a definite place on the biology teacher's shelf. The book is unusually attractive for a college text. It reads with ease and creates interest as it proceeds. But it is its relation to biology which is of greatest interest to this reviewer.

There is a great emphasis throughout on the plant and animal kingdoms, even man, and their evolution. There are detailed introductory chapters on geological methods in putting a time tag on the remains of the once-alive. Every modern technique is discussed in relation to this critical problem in recreating the actual evolutionary history of life. The review of the geological eras with the living forms occupies the bulk of the book. Again, there is heavy emphasis on the forms of life involved. The origin of man is carefully traced. Various aspects of evolutionary theory make up the concluding chapters. It is hard to see how evolution can be taught without a text like this. Highly recommended for the biology library.

P. K.

THE NATURE OF VIOLENT STORMS, Louis J. Battan, 157 pp., \$.95, Doubleday and Company, Inc., New York, 1961.

Still another in the paperback Physical Science Study Series. This one, as the title indicates, is on a phase of meteorology. It gives a beautiful clue to the use of physics in the study of an important science, such as meteorology. There are excellent illustrations and a liberal use of formulae to interpret meteorological situations such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and other violent storms. The author has an easy style. A valuable book for the science library.

P. K.

WATER, THE MIRROR OF SCIENCE, Kenneth S. Davis and John Arthur Day, 195 pp., \$.95, Doubleday and Company, Inc., New York, 1961.

Still another one in the fine paperback series of the Physical Science Study Series. But as was true in some of the previous books, the title does not tell the whole story. For instance, this is not only a fine descriptive essay on water in a geological sense, but there is a great deal of basic chemistry involved. There is even an excellent chapter on water as it concerns the theories about the origin of life. The historical treatment is not ignored either. But the chapters on water in a chemical and physical sense are most detailed. These will probably be of chief interest to the biologist also, although it must be admitted there will be items of interest for them throughout the book. A very useful addition to the science library.

P. K.

OUR ATMOSPHERE, Theo Loebsock, 190 pp., \$.50, The New American Library of World Literature, Inc., New York, 1959.

Translated from the German, this interesting little paperback reads well and is unusual in its approach. It is not a classical view of meteorology. For example, a partial list of chapters may help; history of the atmosphere; layers of the atmosphere; clouds, rainbows, and sky colors; mirages; polar lights; plants and animals conquer the air; sound; atmosphere of other planets; fate of the atmosphere; weather; gas cycles; respiration; man outwits the air; man-made starlight; is our climate changing; and radiating aerial dust. It will be obvious that there is an emphasis on how meteorology is concerned with life. This will be an interesting book for biology teachers.

P. K.

HANDBOOK OF PALEONTOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS AND AMATEURS, PART I—THE FOSSILS, Winifred Goldring, 394 pp., Paleontological Research Institution, Ithaca, New York, 1960.

This is a most interesting paper book. Unfortunately no price was given, but this seems to be a publication that the quality will warrant the purchase. This is a New York State Museum publication, and thus there is a great deal of material of specific reference to New York as well as inferences to the collecting sites involved for the paleontologist in New York. However, the great quantity of descriptive material, fully illustrated, of the paleontology of each of the animal and plant phyla makes it important for all collectors.

Biology teachers will want at least one paleontological reference handy. This book should be considered for this purpose. This field is one of those areas embracing biology and another dis-