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number of the more significant papers dealing with the biochemical aspects of plant taxonomy. To appreciate fully the discussion of the material the reader needs some knowledge of both classical taxonomy and chemical techniques. The introductory chapters deal with taxonomic principles and concepts while subsequent chapters are allotted to the role in systematics of serology, amino acids, fatty acids, carbohydrates, alkaloids, phenolics, and terpenoids. Final chapters deal with the authors' work concerning the interspecific hybrids of *Baptisia* and an evaluation of biochemical systematics. Since pertinent literature is copious, the selection of papers has emphasized the more recent ones. Evidently the original articles were not always consulted and a few errors have been perpetuated. The bibliography is arranged in a manner which is awkward for a quick referral to a cited reference. This book will provide a doorway to the pertinent literature of this newly emerging field of biochemical systematics.

Sarah Clevenger
Botany Department
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Field Biology and Ecology

ERNEST THOMPSON SETON'S *AMERICA*, Farida A. Wiley, Ed., 367 pp., \$1.45, Doubleday and Company, Inc., New York 22, 1963.

Anyone who has ever read the classic works of Ernest Thompson Seton and wishes to re-live again many of those fascinating stories must read this composite of selections taken from some forty of his books. For those of you who are familiar with Seton, he needs no introduction, but if you have never read one of his stories I am sure you have heard of Lobo, The Wolf. The ability to tell a story, his type of natural history tale, is unexcelled among naturalists where such greats as Audubon, Wilson, Brewster, Ridgway, Burroughs, and Thoreau have trod. Animals were never humanized in his stories yet they live in his books each as an individual preserved forever in the memory of all who can read.

This is the type of paperback book any teacher can recommend to that budding, young, "red-tail-hawk" scientist interested in a natural history approach to learning science. The methods employed by Seton in field identification, with illustrations and the habit of keeping daily scientific records, was living testimony to the contributions made by this man in forming modern scientific procedures. You cannot help but feel the impact of the author's life as it is reflected in the unfolding of each story. The inspiration of dedicating one's life to a cause is an underlying theme to be felt by all reading this book and is in itself enough to warrant its purchase.

Ronald Gibbs
*Coordinator for School Science
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THE FOREST PEOPLE, Colin M. Turnbull, 305 pp., \$1.25, (paperback), Doubleday and Company, New York 22, 1962.

The Congo pygmies are probably among the most primitive people living on the earth today and consequently among the most interesting. Colin Turnbull has made notable contributions to our knowledge of their life in the tropical rain forests and particularly to the knowledge of their strange but often beautiful music. To him they obviously presented a very different face from that exposed to the local natives of other races and to the few whites who have attempted to study them. Savage beyond comparison in their living conditions and dietary, he found them a kind, hospitable, and peaceful people living in a profound mutualism with the forests. It is sad that their lack of adaptability offers little hope for their long survival.

To most civilized people, the tropical forests

are regions of mystery and suspected danger. Possibly this is due to the fact that the ancestors of all the races which have become dominant on the earth left the forests many millenia ago and moved into the savanna-grassland habitat. Human life in the open areas contrasted sharply to life in the closed forests. Habitations, diet, daily routine, and psychological reactions are different. Many of the differences may be due to long continued exposure to large predators which the BaMbuti of the Ituri Forest seem largely to have escaped. Even within their own species their main danger is involvement with the Negroid peoples in surrounding areas. Their own "wars" are largely verbal affairs.

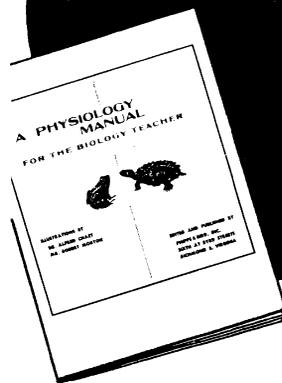
Within the forests the BaMbuti are well adjusted, although their population density must of necessity remain low. Attempts to force them into a more "logical" way of life based on agriculture have largely been failures. Colin Turnbull attributes this to several reasons: "For one, the Pygmies are not able to stand the direct sunlight and become ill outside the shade of the forest. They also become ill because they have no resistance, as the villagers have, to the kinds of diseases they are open to in a sedentary life. Water which the villager can drink with impunity gives severe stomach disorder to the Pygmy, who is used to the fresh clean water of forest streams. Flies and mosquitoes carry germs unknown to him in his natural home. But above all his entire code of behavior and thought is geared to his nomadic forest life: to bring him to a settled life in a village is to ask him overnight to abandon one way of life, a way he has lived for thousands of years, and adopt another. Where the Pygmies did make the attempt there was complete moral as well as physical disintegration."

Whether things are quite as bad as Turnbull says is doubtful, but experiences with other primitive peoples such as the Tasmanians should titillate our consciences (if we have any) into trying to do something to preserve the BaMbuti and the many others who are being displaced by massive and often senseless destruction of the great forested areas of the tropics. Why not forest preserves for people as well as for animals? The BaMbuti do not ask much, but what they ask seems beyond the comprehension of the exploiters. Perhaps trees are our enemies as many seem to think. If so we should also dread the sympathetic magic of the forest Pygmies who say so philosophically, "The forest is our home; when we leave the forest, or when the forest dies, we shall die. We are the people of the forest."

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