Other chapters deal with trachoma, yaws, tularemia, Bullis fever, Q-fever, lymphocytic choriomeningitis, and infectious mononucleosis. The latter disease was fairly common in some areas but never reached epidemic proportions. The other diseases were rare or occurred at only a low rate and were of little military importance.

This volume was of particular interest because the reviewer had no technical knowledge of many of the diseases. The chapters on familiar diseases brought out many facts and statistics which were of interest. The fact that so few of these diseases became important military problems is a tribute to the knowledge and ability of the officers of the Medical Department of the Army to develop and institute preventive and control measures, often under difficult circumstances. The difficulties with venereal disease and scabies do not detract from the credit due the Medical Department, but simply reflect the frailties of human nature and the immunity of many to education on the facts of life.

W. C. McDuffie
Entomology Research Division
U. S. Department of Agriculture


“...This book was written with two ideas in mind: first to provide teachers and students with a short outline of present knowledge of insect sounds, and secondly in the hope that it would arouse some interest in the wealth of fascinating research problems waiting to be investigated.”

The author’s expressed first purpose is well realized. How well the second will be remains to be seen. Insect acoustics is still a much neglected field of study, and many more minds and hands are needed. This is the first attempt since 1900, in any language, to cover the whole field of insect sounds.

The book is written for zoologists, especially entomologists, and an elementary knowledge of taxonomy and morphology of insects is assumed. For this audience, Haskell discusses, in the first chapter, some fundamental concepts of acoustics, and describes equipment for sound recording and analysis. This short review should be quite useful for the uninitiated. While it is no “sound made easy”, it gives practical advice that should enable anyone entering the field to get off on the right foot.

Sound producing mechanisms and hearing of insects are discussed in broad terms, taking up about half of the book. It would be easy to get lost in details in treating sound production, but Haskell does not. Except for scattered papers, knowledge of the structure of insect ears is still mostly derived from Schwabe’s (1906) work. The electrophysiologists have used insect ears for their purposes, but it is not easy, as Haskell points out, to relate their findings to fundamental structure and to insect behavior.

The author next discusses the song patterns of insects, presenting analyses of the sounds by various methods, following which behavioral and physiological aspects of sound related activities are discussed. A short last chapter covers the place of acoustical behavior in the evolution of insects and the possible practical use of sounds in insect control. All these are, perforce, treated rather briefly in this short book, but the treatment is well balanced. Unsolved problems and suggestions for research are given prominent notice.

The book is quite free from typographical and other mechanical errors and is attractively produced. It is well written, and should interest anyone who studies insects, from high school students to senior researchers and teachers.

HUBERT AND MABLE FRINGS
Department of Zoology
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii


According to the preface, this book was designed as a text and guide for students of Nematology, Zoology and various branches of agriculture. There is a general introduction in which the history of plant nematology, the importance of plant-parasitic nematodes in agriculture, nematode control methods, experimental techniques, and the training of nematologists are discussed. This is followed by chapters on techniques used in isolating and studying nematodes, particularly the practical methods developed by the author during his more than 40 years’ experience.

The remainder of the book is devoted to the nematodes most likely to be encountered in plants and soil. The general plan of this portion of the book is to illustrate and describe several species of each genus of plant-parasitic nematodes, with emphasis on the characters used in identification and notes on biology, habits, distribution, and host plants. For species which have been extensively investigated, such as Ditylenchus dipsaci, symptoms and effects on host plants, life histories and control methods are discussed. In addition to the plant parasites, a number of nonparasitic nematodes are illustrated and described.

Mr. Thorne has used the best available illustrations of the various nematode species, plant symptoms, and techniques. In addition the book contains a collection of photographs of nematologists, past and present.

This book makes important parts of the widely scattered literature on plant-parasitic nematodes available to students, and it will undoubtedly be the standard textbook for some years to come. It will also serve as a reference book for nematologists and other workers having contact with nematode problems.

A. L. TAYLOR
Crops Research Division,
Agricultural Research Service,
U. S. Department of Agriculture

MEETINGS
Branch Meetings

The 1962 Southwestern Branch meeting was held at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on February 12 and 13. Officers elected were Maming H. Price, Chairman; Dial F. Martin, Chairman-elect and W. G. McGregor, Secretary-Treasurer.

The North-Central Branch met at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota on March 21-23, 1962. Officers elected were Roy W. Rings, Chairman; G. E. Guyer, Chairman-elect and J. G. Rodriguez, Secretary-Treasurer.

SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA. Villa Hotel, June 26-28, 1962. The annual meeting of the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America. Ray F. Smith, Chairman, 112 Agriculture Hall, College of Agriculture, University of California, Berkeley, California; H. H. Keifer, Secretary-Treasurer, 1112 Swanston Drive, Sacramento 14, California.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA. Benjamin Franklin Hotel, November 1-2, 1962. The annual meeting of the Eastern Branch, Entomological Society of America. Howard Baker, Chairman, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Entomology Research Division, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Maryland; J. Peter Johnson, Secretary-Treasurer, Box 1106, New Haven 4, Connecticut.