Occasionally a biologist finds a book in his field of major interest which proves to be exactly what he needs in graduate teaching and research. This has been this reviewer's reaction to Mr. Clausen's new book on Entomophagous Insects. The book is a remarkable one volume compilation of the greatly scattered knowledge and detailed information on entomophagous insects found in the world literature. In addition to the compiled information the author has introduced a great amount of original data derived from his wide experience with parasitoid species. The book does not follow the usual presentation of information in chapters but treats the subject matter from the viewpoint of insect orders and families. This arrangement is highly desirable for an investigator or teacher.

The author emphasizes the importance of parasitoid species over predacious forms by the amount of space allotted to the respective groups. Briefly stated the Hymenoptera (almost exclusively parasitoid families) covers 342 pages and the Diptera (largely parasitoid information) 140 pages. A fascinating compilation of the known information about Strepsiptera covers 25 pages. The remaining 100 pages includes the information on the following orders, chiefly predacious: Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Thysanoptera, Trichoptera, Mecoptera, Plecoptera, Neuroptera, Odonata, Corrodentia, Orthoptera, Dermaptera, and Thysanura.

Throughout the discussion of the parasitoid groups the author summarizes the significant facts about several species in each family. He also has incorporated many excellent drawings of immature stages stressing their detailed morphological characteristics and habits. At the end of the book over 1000 references to the world literature on entomophagous insects may be found.

Mr. Clausen is to be congratulated on his splendid presentation of the existing knowledge on entomophagous insects, particularly parasitoid species. Biological control entomologists may now possess an authoritative and useful storeroom of facts on entomophagous insects.—Alvah Peterson.