Book Notices

This is a taxonomic treatment of the drug-store and death-watch beetles which are known to occur in Ohio or which may occur due to presence in adjacent states. Complete keys and descriptions of each species are included along with biological information when this has been available. Twenty-eight full-figure drawings are an aid in identification, for many of the species can be recognized from the illustrations alone. Seventy-one species belonging to twenty-eight genera are discussed, fourteen of these species and one genus being recorded from the state for the first time.

This work should be a valuable addition to the library of both the general and professional coleopterist. The economic importance of some of the members of this family make this bulletin of interest to the economic entomologist as well.


In this work the author summarizes what is known about ancient glass compositions from the beginning of glassmaking up to 500 A.D. Egyptian, Near and Far Eastern, and Roman glasses are discussed in separate chapters, as is the alteration of glass to produce beautiful iridescent colors.

Necessarily, the analysis of glass is closely related to the history of analytical chemistry. For example, Klaproth (1743–1817) devised procedures that are akin to many subsequent schemes in his efforts to discover the coloring constituents of three intensely-colored Roman glasses.

As the author has previously demonstrated through his studies of Greek coins, important clues to the technologies and economies of ancient civilizations may be obtained from chemical analyses of the archeological specimens.

DUNCAN McCONNELL


Such topics are discussed as: occurrences of fluorides in nature; skeletal fluorosis in man; ingestion, inhalation, excretion, and storage in body tissues; the effects of fluorides on enzymes; the physiological effects of organic fluorides; fluoride intoxication in animals; fluoridation of drinking water in relation to prevention of dental caries; and methods of chemical analysis.

As is true of most authorities who have a realistic acquaintance with the question, the author displays no sympathy toward persons who “fanatically continue their opposition” to fluoridation of domestic water supplies. The reviewer is in complete agreement.

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