
Ferns of Ohio. *Harry H. Vannorsdall.* Distributed by Curtis Book Store, Wilmington, Ohio. 1956. vi+298 pp. \$3.00.

Learning to know the ferns of Ohio will be fascinating indeed to anyone who has this book to help him. The description of each species is accompanied by three excellent photographs—the fern in its usual habitat, a leaf or a whole plant, and a close-up of a leaf in which details of sori, venation, and other characters essential to identification are evident.

The author states in the preface that the book is intended for amateurs, but all students of ferns whether as hobbyists or as professional botanists will find it useful and enjoyable. It can be used alone or with the standard manuals. Especially helpful to the teacher will be the photographs and the hints on how to distinguish species that are similar in appearance.

Dr. Vannorsdall's attractive book may well serve as a model for similar ones about other plant groups.

CLARA WEISHAUPF

Dust for the Dancers. *Beth Dean and Victor Carell.* Philosophical Library. New York. First Edition. Copyrighted by authors, 1955, and printed and bound in Australia. 1956. x+214 pp. \$6.00.

The authors are a husband and wife dancing team who, seeking new ideas for interpretative dancing, made a 10,000 mile tour of camps of Australian aborigines. They spent several months among various tribes, observing the landscape and the ways of living, and they were able to see and record the techniques and meanings of dances. The title derives from the dancing grounds, where the soil becomes powdery as result of pounding by dancing feet.

There are dances to portray tribal concepts of Creation, dances by men about hunting, fishing, fighting and gossiping, dances by women about love-making and childbirth, and ceremonial dances for the attainment of maturity by boys and girls. This record is timely because the culture of the aborigines seems foredoomed by the expansion of whiteman culture.

Social anthropologists and geographers will find much of value in the well written text and excellent photographs.

THOMAS H. LANGLOIS

Journal of Insect Physiology. *V. G. Dethier, H. E. Hinton, and M. Lüscher,* Eds. Pergamon Press, London, New York, & Paris. 1957. Volume I (four issues). \$17.00 to libraries and institutions; \$9.80 to private individuals.

This new periodical reflects the ever increasing interest in the specialized field of insect physiology. Organized on an international basis it will include papers that "contribute to an understanding of the general principles underlying the physiology of insects." A glance at the abstracts of papers for the first issue indicates that seven are in English, one in French. The policy on language of publication is not stated in the descriptive leaflet. The double price standard appears to demonstrate either an unusual concern for the individual scientist or a concept that research institutions and libraries are well fixed for funds and should take a larger share in the support of this fledgling journal.

F. W. FISK