

Then a researcher for the Department of Agriculture, working in Porto Rico, found that these sick pineapples could be made healthy again by spraying their leaves with a solution of iron sulphate. Fifty pounds per acre, sprayed on the leaves, affected a complete cure; although 3,000 pounds per acre applied to the soil made no difference whatever - the lime took it all.

The new method of assuring that pineapples "have their iron" at regular intervals has greatly increased the pineapple yield in both Porto Rico and Hawaii. The export of canned fruit from the latter region has exactly doubled.

This method of distributing iron by spraying has lately come to have other applications. In many federal pine tree nurseries in the West, where alkaline soils are common, the seedlings developed the same iron-starvation symptoms, which have been successfully overcome by iron sulphate sprays.

Directly or indirectly, animals and men get most of their salts from plants. A few years ago on certain pasture lands of New Zealand, sheep and cattle developed "bush sickness". This was an iron-deficiency disease. It was later found that if the plants in these pastures were sprayed with iron sulphate and certain other salts, the sickness disappeared.

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CRYSTALS. By A. E. H. Tutton. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. \$5.00.

This book is an outgrowth of the discovery of new methods of studying crystals, involving the use of X-rays. Previous ideas are reviewed and revised in the light of the new knowledge. There are many excellent plates from photographs, as well as structural diagrams as text figures.

PAN-PACIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED

The opening of the new Pan-Pacific Research Institute, which is to be an international establishment for the scientific study of food resources in the Pacific area, has been made possible by the gift to the Institution of the Castle home, one of the largest residences in Honolulu, together with four acres of adjacent land. It is expected that this will be the nucleus of a Pan-Pacific University, which has been planned for several years.

The organization of this institution will be unique in that it will be truly international. It will be neither American, nor Hawaiian, nor Japanese, nor the property of any other single nationality, but will be governed by scientists from all the countries of the Pacific.

The directorship of the institution has been offered to Dr. David Starr Jordan, chancellor emeritus of Stanford University.
