

•First Glances at New Books

HORTICULTURE

VEGETABLES IN THE GARDEN AND THEIR LEGENDS—Vernon Quinn—*Lippincott*, 260 p., illus., \$2.50. Did you know that the Latin name for tomato, *Lycopersicon*, means "wolf-peach" and was bestowed upon this noble vegetable through error? Or that a wartime diet of leeks gave King Arthur's men such strength that they licked the very stuffing out of the Saxons? These and hundreds of other equally fascinating bits of plant lore will grip your attention while you read this book, and will doubtless make your planting and hoeing outdoors more interesting, too.

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HORTICULTURE

SCIENCE IN THE GARDEN—H. Britton Logan and Jean-Marie Putnam—*Duell, Sloan and Pearce*, 255 p., \$2.50. Science has done much to lighten the gardener's task and to make his harvest heavier—aids ranging all the way from the breeding of improved varieties and the study of physiological behavior of plants to the physical and chemical analyses of soil and the more accurate judgment of what and how much fertilizer to apply. This book summarizes in masterly fashion some of these outstanding contributions.

Science News Letter, March 28, 1942

HORTICULTURE

25 VEGETABLES ANYONE CAN GROW—Ann Roe Robbins—*Crowell*, 219 p., illus., \$2.25. An appetizing alphabetical list of things any reasonably diligent home gardener can produce, from asparagus, beets and carrots to radishes, squashes and tomatoes. The various chapters go into some detail about each vegetable, giving a brief historical sketch, outlining food (especially vitamin) values, telling how to plant and cultivate. There are also, as appendixes, frost-zone maps, garden charts, and directions for storing and canning.

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ASPARAGUS PRODUCTION—Homer C. Thompson—*Orange Judd*, 124 p., illus., \$1.25. A compact manual for the growers of one of the most specialized of market vegetable crops.

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THE TOMATO—Paul Work—*Orange Judd*, 135 p., illus., \$1.25. With greatly

increased production in tomatoes called for, to supply the vitamin needs of our allies as well as of our own population, new producers will doubtless be drawn into the market. These, and experienced tomato growers as well, will find this compact discussion of essential facts about an essential vegetable highly useful.

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ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

JOURNAL OF ANIMAL SCIENCE—American Society of Animal Production—*George Banta Pub. Co.*, 450-454 Ahnaip St., Menasha, Wis., quarterly, \$3. A new journal, devoted largely to studies in animal nutrition, growth and related subjects. About a third of the present issue is devoted to abstracts of papers presented at the annual meeting of the sponsoring Society. See also page 200.

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ESSAYS

THE PRIME OF LIFE—Gove Hambidge—*Doubleday, Doran*, 243 p., \$2. A Book of Hours, by the editor of the Department of Agriculture's recent series of notable yearbooks. Gove Hambidge loves living in the country: how well, this leisurely, discursive, ruminating half-narrative, half-commentary on a day out of his life tells eloquently.

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BOTANY

A BOOK OF ROSES—J. Ramsbottom—*Penguin*, 30 p., 16 colored pls., 50c. A series of very well executed color plates of familiar rose types, with brief descriptive text. Although this book was produced in England, the species treated are commonly grown in the United States as well, so that American rose lovers will find it decidedly worth having.

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MAGIC IN HERBS—Leonie de Sounin—*Barrows*, 208 p., illus., \$2. A chatty, informative book on a subject that has attracted increasing attention of recent years, on the part of both gardeners and cooks. With the stock of imported cooking herbs now largely cut off by the war, it behooves those who like really tasty dishes to undertake growing some herbs of their own and learning how to use them. You can learn how here.

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GENETICS

NEW PATHS IN GENETICS—J. B. S. Haldane—*Harper*, 206 p., \$2.50. See page 195.

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CONSERVATION

THE FOUNDATIONS OF CONSERVATION EDUCATION, Education in Conservation, Pamphlet No. 3—Committee on Conservation Education—*National Wildlife Federation*, 242 p., cloth, \$1; paper, 60c. A symposium, participated in by several of the most active researchers and thinkers in the field of conservation: Mitchell, Lowdermilk, Sears, Pack, Horner, Ward. See also page 207.

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AGRICULTURE—HORTICULTURE

SEED TRADE BUYERS GUIDE, 1942 (25th ed.)—*Associated Seed Growers, Inc.*, 236 p., illus., \$1. Although this yearbook is published primarily for the seed trade, it contains a mine of information useful to teachers in agricultural colleges, leaders of community gardening programs, and many others. In addition to classified lists of commercial sources of seeds and supplies, there are many pages of highly valuable information: a digest of seed laws, time tables for various crops, a competently written treatise on the legume family, etc. All round, a publication decidedly worth reading by any one who takes gardening seriously.

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ENGINEERING

COLLEGE ENGINEERING DRAWING—Leon Marr Sahag—*Published by author*, Box 337, Auburn, Ala., 295 p., plano-graphed, illus., \$2.65. A college text, which is being used for all defense training courses in Alabama. The author is professor of machine design and drawing at Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

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HISTORY

UNCLE SAM'S STEPCHILDREN, The Reformation of United States Indian Policy, 1865-1887—Loring Benson Priest—*Rutgers Univ. Press*, 310 p., \$3.75. Dr. Priest traces the unhappy history of Indian administration, during a period extending from the war between the states to the passage of the Dawes Act. It was, as we know, a period of maladministration by indifferent or dishonest public officials, and of total misunderstanding of real Indian problems and needs.

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