

to the culture men, whom, after a characteristic implement of their craft, he dubs the "petri-petallists".

Together with the ground plan, the author accepts Saccardo's usage of generic names, and will have no nomenclatorial grit thrown into the works, especially by the new type species method of fixing genera (he gives no type species for the genera). As examples, see his citation of the genus *Phoma*, and his inclusion of *Hendersonia elegans* Berk., the type species of *Hendersonia*, in the genus *Stagonospora*, with a footnote that it will probably prove to be neither a *Hendersonia* nor a *Stagonospora*.

As with genera, so with the view of specific values, current for so many years after the appearance of the "Sylloge", but in this case with a note of hesitation. "Generally, in these pages, the host will be made the supreme test" but "in the genera *Cytospora*, *Phomopsis*, *Septoria* and the like, the list of presumed species cannot be considered as anything but an interim catalogue of the known and described forms". It is probably on this question of specific distinction that systematically directed culture work could be of the most immediate use to a study of the Coelomycetes. For example, a *Phomopsis* is usually, if not always, the pycnidial condition of a species of the ascomycete genus *Diaporthe*. Mr. Grove lists about 158 nominal British species of *Phomopsis*. In a recent world monograph of *Diaporthe*, Wehmeyer has suggested that the type species, *D. eres*, which was first described on *Ulmus*, really occurs upon nearly all woody plants, and has (ominously enough) acquired about 160 synonyms. The question as to the number of good British species of *Phomopsis* is obviously open for research by anyone who cares to collect, determine and isolate these common and easily grown fungi. Pending

any such study, Mr. Grove will probably agree that we are still very much in the position so graphically described by Saccardo, when he was roughing out the classification of the Fungi Imperfecti. "Et in Mycologia fere omnes tyrones sumus."

The citation of literature is terse. The standard floras appear as "All.", "Died." and "Mig.". B. & Br. stands for Berkeley and Broome and B. & V. for Berlese and Voglino. The original place of publication is often not given, especially with Saccardo's own species which later became incorporated in the "Sylloge", vol. 3. The author has been misled into thinking that the dates on the title pages give the correct dates of many species that were founded by Allescher and Diedicke. These, however, are points of nomenclatorial compilation, and the interest of the book is wholly taxonomic; it has, in fact, quite clearly grown out of a lifetime's comparison of the British flora with the diagnoses in a well-thumbed and well-loved copy of vol. 3 of the "Sylloge".

In common with all the foundation mycological books of any country, the present volume has required of its author a knowledge of our local phanerogams in bud, in leaf, in flower, in fruit and in decay—especially in decay. It appears to me that it will be welcomed by all British botanists who believe that the plants themselves, and the fungi themselves, are the thing. It is a milestone in our slow—our very slow—advance in the study of the microfungi. It may happily help to dispossess the commonly copied figures of a few fungi of their predominating influence on the young idea. It may even serve to distract attention from hypothesis and speculation and direct it rather to the original source of mycology itself—the yearly pageant of our woods and fields.

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Crustacea :

Anomura, Macrura, Euphausiacea, Isopoda, Amphipoda and Echinodermata : Asteroidea and Echinoidea. By Lee Boone. (Bulletin of the Vanderbilt Marine Museum. Volume 6 : Scientific Results of the World Cruise of the Yacht *Alva*, 1931, William K. Vanderbilt commanding.) Pp. 264 + 96 plates. (Huntington, L.I., N.Y. : Vanderbilt Marine Museum, 1935.)

THE present volume relating to Crustacea and Echinodermata collected by Mr. Vanderbilt and deposited in his museum is full of interesting material. Careful descriptions and good figures are given of every form described. The larger crustaceans are already known, but much new matter is added, and among the Caridea there are many new species. These last were mostly taken in coral and include a *Leptochela*, an *Athanas*, *Alpheus* spp., a *Coralliocaris*,

a *Thor* and a *Pontophilus*, besides a pontoniid which the author has referred to a new genus which she has named *Vanderbiltia*. Besides all these new species, many little-known forms are redescribed. There are also two new species of *Euphausia*. Some isopods and amphipods are included.

Among the most striking of the Caridea is the pontoniid *Conchodytes biunguiculatus* Paulson, which was found inhabiting the pearl oyster *Meleagrina* sp. Its peculiarly modified hind legs (pereopods 3-5) end in large hook-like claws, presumably for clinging to its host, and the abdominal terga of the female are very broad, forming a brood pouch, which holds 75-100 young.

The echinoderms must be magnificent, judging from the exquisite photographs, especially the sea-urchins.