

the book less useful in Lancashire. In the reviewer's opinion it would be better to have a separate book dealing with cotton in more detail. The paper, printing, and illustrations are excellent.

*Ancient Tales from Many Lands: A Collection of Folk Stories.* By R. N. Fleming. Pp. 193+ix plates. (London: Benn Bros., Ltd., 1922.) 10s. 6d. net.

IN bringing together this collection of tales Miss Fleming has cast her net wide. Japan, China, India, North America, Egypt, Mesopotamia, ancient Greece, and the British Isles, to name only some of the sources, have contributed to a whole which, viewed merely as a collection of folk-tales, is charming both in subject-matter and in style. The author has, however, had more in view than to provide a pleasant pastime for an idle hour. Her aim has been to present in these traditional stories, in which the spirit of the original is preserved as nearly as possible, a picture of the culture and modes of thought of primitive and early historic peoples in a form that can be utilised and interpreted by the teacher, whether of history or social geography, and at the same time appreciated by the child. Miss Fleming adds in an appendix three essays in which she expounds her philosophy of the use of the folk-tale in education and the principles of selection. If any further indication were needed of the thought, wide reading, and experience which have been laid under contribution in the making of this book, it would be afforded by these essays.

*Confectioners' Raw Materials: Their Sources, Modes of Preparation, Chemical Composition, the Chief Impurities and Adulterations, their More Important Uses, and Other Points of Interest.* By J. Grant. Pp. viii+173. (London: Edward Arnold and Co., 1921.) 8s. 6d. net.

THE author of this little volume set himself no light task in attempting to provide a handbook suited to the needs of students taking organised courses of instruction in the principles governing confectionery practice. These students usually possess little or no knowledge of elementary science, while, on the other hand, their subject enters many and varied fields of scientific inquiry with which it is by no means easy to deal in simple language. In our opinion the author has skilfully compressed into a small volume and in a readable form a mass of information, hitherto available only in a scattered and relatively difficult literature, which should be of much assistance to the students concerned. A useful introduction is followed by chapters on alcoholic beverages used as flavouring agents, carbohydrates, fruits, essential oils, eggs, and egg products; there is also a useful outline of the methods employed in the analysis of raw materials. The book is by no means without imperfections. The sections dealing with botanical subjects need revision by a botanist, whose recommendations would certainly include suggestions for alternatives to some of the illustrations on p. 101. Again, a bibliography which gives as consecutive entries "Bolton and Revis—Fatty Foods," and "Britannica—Encyclopaedia," clearly needs drastic revision. Further, the sub-title could easily be improved.

*Cocoa.* By Edith A. Browne. (Peeps at Industries.) Pp. viii+88. (London: A. and C. Black, Ltd., 1920.) 2s. 6d. net.

WE have had much pleasure in reading this well-illustrated little book, which is a notable addition to a useful series. Miss Browne, who has first-hand knowledge of the Gold Coast, takes her readers on a personally conducted tour through the cocoa-growing districts of the Gold Coast Colony and Ashanti, which, as most people know, now form the premier cocoa-growing region of the world. The information conveyed in this interesting fashion is complete, accurate, and well arranged, and is supplemented with admirable glimpses of West African life. Balance is given to the book by an account of cocoa-growing in other countries, followed by a description of the manufacture of cocoa products in two well-known English factories. Miss Browne finds opportunity to warn the West African cocoa industry of the potentialities of South American cocoa-growing countries now deprived of their former pride of place. The warning is well timed and merited, not solely on the grounds mentioned by the author.

*A Star Atlas and Telescopic Handbook (Epoch 1920) for Students and Amateurs.* By A. P. Norton. Pp. 34+16 maps. (London: Gall and Inglis, 1921.) 10s. 6d. net.

A NEW edition of this useful atlas and astronomical handbook has been published. The maps are clearly printed on a scale of 8" to the inch, and they include stars down to the sixth magnitude, with many fainter objects of interest. The letterpress contains an explanation of all ordinary astronomical terms and much information on both the solar and the stellar systems, together with hints on the use and care of the telescope. There is a clear lunar map, with the names of the principal formations.

A few errata may be noted: on p. 6, along the circles of 6h. and 18h. R.A. declination and latitude have the same direction; on p. 10 the annual P.M. of Groom. 1830 is 7", not 17"; the magnitude of the Barnard star in Ophiuchus is 10, not 13; and on p. 11 the object entered in the nova list at the date A.D. 389 was certainly a comet and never went near the constellation Aquila. The information given, however, is full and accurate with very few exceptions.

A. C. D. C.

*The Practical Electrician's Pocket-book for 1922.* Twenty-fourth annual issue. Edited by H. T. Crewe. Pp. lxxxiii+558+54. (London: S. Rentell and Co., Ltd., 1922.) 3s. net.

WE can recommend this pocket-book to all who are practically engaged in any of the industries in which electricity is used. This edition has been revised and contains new sections dealing with tungar rectifiers, railway signalling and current limiters. The latter are devices which either cause the consumer's lamps to flicker in an intolerable way or to become dim if he tries to take more than his permissible current.

*The Age of Power: A First Book of Energy, its Sources, Transformations, and Uses.* By J. Riley. Pp. viii+248. (London: Sidgwick and Jackson, Ltd., 1921.) 4s. net.

DESIGNED originally for use in continuation schools,