

dealt with in Chap. i. It seems somewhat indefinite as to when they were first introduced; but oranges, lemons, and citrons are known to have existed so early as 1662, in the garden of the founder (Van Riebeck) of the first Dutch Colony, Cape of Good Hope, in 1652. The 'bitter Seville orange' and the ordinary 'rough lemon' have run wild in parts; both are used for stocks for grafting purposes, the 'rough lemon' (called 'Mazoe lemon'—the banks of the Mazoe River being in places lined with the trees) is described in Chap. v. on "Stocks for the Orange" as being the most widely used stock in South Africa.

As an industry, citrus cultivation, from comparatively small beginnings, dates from about 1907, until at the present time the productive area in the Union is estimated to cover about 25,000 acres, the exports including grape-fruit, *naartjes* (mandarin and tangerine oranges), and lemons.

Throughout the course of the whole twenty-six chapters the author has given a very complete record of the progress of production, based on scientific principles in developing the best varieties, the best methods of grading and packing of the fruit for export, and advice in the treatment of fungus diseases and insect pests. J. H. H.

*Byways of the Tropic Seas: Wanderings among the Solomons and in the Malay Archipelago.* By Hermann Norden. Pp. 250+30 plates. (London: H. F. and G. Witherby, 1926.) 16s. net.

MR. HERMAN NORDEN, already well known as the author of several books of travel, here records his impressions of a voyage to the Solomon Islands and thence to the island of Bali, that fascinating dependency of Java. Of the Solomon Islands he has nothing to say that is of moment to either the geographer or the anthropologist. His story depends for its interest upon his lively sketches of the sailors, traders, and natives whom he met. He gives a vivid enough picture of their life and the experiences which are likely to befall any one who makes a voyage among the islands in a small trading vessel. His account of Bali and its people, though somewhat superficial and new only in an impressionistic sense rather than as a record of fact, covers ground less known than the Solomons and will repay perusal by those who have neither the time nor the opportunity to read more serious treatises on the very distinctive culture of the island.

Mr. Norden was fortunate enough to see some of the principal ceremonials in the life of the Balinese, and describes the rites of their peculiarly modified form of Buddhism, including the *mudras*—the ceremonial gestures which have been carefully described in detail in a graphic style by Miss de Kleen—their cremations, their dances, their shadow puppet plays, and other features of their culture. Unfortunately, on the occasions when Mr. Norden ventures outside what he has actually seen, his statements are seldom free from error in anthropological matters. It surprises to find Polynesian and Melanesian alike described as "Aryan."

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*The Bryant and May Museum of Fire-Making Appliances: Catalogue of the Exhibits.* Compiled, with an Introduction and Notes, by Miller Christy. Pp. viii+192+33 plates. (London: Bryant and May, Ltd.; Simpkin, Marshall and Co., Ltd., 1926.) 5s. net.

AN addition of a novel character to the museums of Great Britain has been made recently in the form of one devoted entirely to fire-making appliances. Fire making is of vital human interest, and here we see the many methods that have been used in past ages and in different climes. Messrs. Bryant and May's collection at their Fairfield Works, Bow, in the main is that formed by Mr. Edward Bidwell during a period of half a century. Perhaps this should have become a national possession, but within the last year it passed into the keeping of the firm, who have housed it admirably. Considerable additions have been made, and it includes every known method of fire making. It is, indeed, so comprehensive that it is difficult to conceive that it can ever be rivalled. The objects are classified under tinder; wood-friction methods; flint-and-pyrites methods; flint-and-steel methods; quartzite-and-iron methods; optical methods; compression methods; chemical methods; and finally the friction match. Of the exhibits, about half represent the flint-and-steel and friction-match methods. The museum is not open to the public indiscriminately, but is accessible to the student, societies, etc., without charge, during week-day afternoons or Saturday mornings, on application to the firm.

*A Laboratory Book of Elementary Organic Chemistry.* By Prof. A. Lowy and W. E. Baldwin. Pp. ix+182. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1926.) 15s. net.

THERE are several novel features about this laboratory manual. Two illustrations form the frontispiece, of which one depicts an alchemist at work, the other a research laboratory at the Mellon Institute, Pittsburg. Instructions to the student are freely illustrated, not only by line-drawings or pictures of apparatus, but also by sketches of industrial plant. The latter are most effective, helping as they do to correlate laboratory experiments with actual practice. The course of work is that adopted at the University of Pittsburg, and an essential part of the scheme consists in writing out a report on each experiment in the form of answers to questions upon perforated sheets, which can be detached when completed and handed to the demonstrator. Afterwards they can be gummed into place again, so that the student may eventually possess a well-illustrated and bound record of his work. Directions are given for the preparation and investigation of a number of fairly simple organic substances, but in the section on carbohydrates, prominence is given to the investigation of cellulose and to the preparation of viscose. Two pages are devoted to the application of dye-stuffs, and a few of the more important reactions of heterocyclic compounds and of alkaloids are appended.