

illustrated folios, the six volumes of J. D. Hooker's "Botany of the Antarctic Voyage," Sargent's "Silva of North America," and Elwes and Henry's "Trees of Great Britain and Ireland." Most of the standard British colonial and Indian floras, such as Bentham's "Flora Australiensis" and Hooker's "Flora of British India," are available in the library, while European local floras are well represented.

The more important botanical periodicals noticed in the Catalogue are the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles (Botanique)*, *Annals of Botany*, Engler's *Botanische Jahrbücher*, Just's *Botanischer Jahresbericht*, *Botanische Zeitung*, *Flora*, and the *Botanical Magazine*, while the publications of societies, academies, and institutions, which have some bearing on botany or horticulture, are very numerous. It will be seen that in the Lindley Library there is much to attract the attention of horticultural and botanical students who will welcome the useful guide to its contents which the Catalogue affords.

*Comparative Ethnographical Studies.* By Erland Nordenskiöld. Vol. 7, Part 1: Picture-Writings and other Documents. By Néle, Paramount Chief of the Cuna Indians, and Ruben Pérez Kantule. Pp. iv + 94. (London: Oxford University Press, 1928.) 5s. net.

IN the present and succeeding volumes of his *Comparative Ethnographical Studies*, Baron Nordenskiöld is dealing with the results of his journey to Panama and Columbia in 1927. The investigations which he then carried out, as will have been apparent from preliminary and semi-popular accounts which have been published already, are likely to prove of singular interest to ethnography. This, the first, instalment deals with documents produced in part by a paramount chief of the Cuna Indians, in part by an educated Cuna Indian, who can both speak and write Spanish. The material consists for the most part of magical texts for the healing of disease, the majority in Cuna with Spanish translation, and a "Historia" in Spanish.

Baron Nordenskiöld supplies some introductory notes on the authors and on the magical and religious ideas of the Cuna. These are intended merely to elucidate the text pending more exhaustive treatment in a later study. Valuable as is this record by actual exponents of the magic art, its interest is surpassed by the picture writing, which the editor thinks probably represents or is descended from a system of writing to which reference was made by Martyr in the sixteenth century.

*Radiation in Chemistry.* By Dr. R. Alan Morton. (Industrial Chemistry Series.) Pp. xv + 284. (London: Baillière, Tindall and Cox, 1928.) 15s. net.

THIS volume must be regarded as consisting chiefly of a digest of a well-known book on the chemical effects of ultra-violet light, of the recent symposium held by the Faraday Society, of photochemical action and of the work on carbon dioxide assimilation carried out by Prof. E. C. C. Baly at Liverpool.

It contains a number of interesting technical points in connexion with light sources and their manipulation, with a great number of isolated observations on photochemical action each one not without interest; the chapters on the photographic plate and on the action of light on biochemical changes may be cited as excellent in this respect. From this point of view the book is not only interesting but also stimulating. On the other hand, the theoretical portions are not only slender but are also far from complete, and it is to be hoped that if ever a second edition is called for the opportunity of providing a really valuable monograph will not be lost. The book is well arranged and the printing good. ERIC K. RIDEAL.

*From the Monotremes to the Madonna: a Study of the Breast in Culture and Religion.* By Fabius Zachary Snoop. Pp. vi + 143. (London: John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd., 1928.) 3s. net.

WE would commend this little book to lovers of bypaths in folklore. In this case the bypath leads to a highway, for, as the erudite author shows, the ideas which gather round the breast in popular belief, in art, and literature, lead ultimately to the fundamentals of religious belief and human behaviour. The author has drawn many interesting data from a variety of sources, but it is in his more general conclusions that his book is most suggestive. Not the least interesting of these is his view, tentatively expressed, that in the different attitude of man and woman towards certain conceptions in which sexual and secondary sexual characters are involved, may lie the cause of religious oppositions such as that between Roman Catholic and Protestant, and that these may therefore ultimately be incapable of adjustment.

*The Structure and Properties of Matter.* By Dr. W. A. Caspari. (Benn's Sixpenny Library, No. 143.) Pp. 78. (London: Ernest Benn, Ltd., 1928.) 6d.

DR. CASPARI'S modest little work is one which may be recommended to all interested in science. It contains a surprising amount of information in a small compass and is written in a very readable way. Only an author with a complete mastery of his subject, and fully abreast of the recent advances in research, could have written this book, but Dr. Caspari has added to this competence a real ability to tell his story in a most interesting way.

*Qualitative Analysis.* By Dr. W. Wardlaw and F. W. Pinkard. Pp. vii + 166. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd., 1928.) 3s. 6d.

THIS book is sufficiently detailed to serve the requirements of students preparing for the intermediate and final degree examinations and for higher school certificate examinations. It is accurate and is clearly written, and a good feature is the concise explanation of the theory of the methods used. Practical difficulties are dealt with as they arise. The separations are those which have proved satisfactory for a number of years and are generally taught in Great Britain.