one of those complete changes of temper and of outlook which happen now and then in history. Human mentality itself seems to break down in a sort of emotional 'histolysis'; and the new generation can scarcely speak or understand the language of the generation before.

If we love quaint pieces of local history, scraps of folklore, and rambling disquisitions on philosophy, we may find them all in Thoreau. The angler will love his intimate pictures of "our finny contemporaries"; his leisurely descriptions of banks and woodlands will charm many a reader. The older naturalists of the countryside, lovers of the hedgerow and the open road like Cobbett and Thoreau, have been out of fashion for a while; and these pleasant books introduce us to them again.

L. STARKE.

Short Reviews

Men of the Trees: in the Mahogany Forests of Kenya and Nigeria. By Richard St. Barbe Baker. Pp. 283 + 31 plates. (London: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., 1932.) 12*s.* 6*d.* net.

CAPT. BAKER is a forestry officer, not an anthropologist; yet his story of how he enlisted the services of the natives in conservation and afforestation work is an object-lesson in the practical application of knowledge of native custom and psychology to a problem in which the practice of the indigenous inhabitant ran counter to the end which the administration had in view. Probably Capt. Baker's object could not have been attained in any other way. An order framed to constrain native action might have been ignored or even disobeyed; and, in any event, it would almost certainly have led to friction.

From time immemorial, native methods of agriculture have been destructive of the forest. Small clearings are made, by fire and the machete, which are cultivated for a short time and then abandoned. The group—family or tribe—then moves on to another patch, and the process is repeated, the trees which have been destroyed not being replaced by planting. Capt. Baker secured the co-operation of the natives in his work of repairing the damage, and averting it in the future, by an appeal to their love of festivals and ceremonial dancing and their desire for social distinction through membership of a secret society or esoteric group. He formed a band of 'Men of the Trees', to which only the elect were admitted, pledged to plant and protect trees everywhere, distinguished by insignia, and owning its own special dance. Of its success we may leave the author himself to tell; but lest it may be thought that his story weighs as much against as for an anthropological training, as he was not an anthropologist, we hasten to add that his sympathetic understanding of the native is of an exceptional calibre.

This is indeed no scientific treatise on the forest trees of Kenya; but it may serve to spread among the general public a knowledge of the potential wealth of the timbers of the country if administered with care and skill.

The Taylor Series: an Introduction to the Theory of Functions of a Complex Variable. By P. Dienes. Pp. xii + 552. (Oxford: Clarendon Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1931.) 30*s.* net.

A POWER series of the form $\Sigma a_n(z-z_0)^n$ which converges at more than one point, converges inside a circle centre z_0 and coincides with the series obtained by applying Taylor's theorem to the sum-function. If another point z_1 is taken inside the circle of convergence, the function can be developed in a series $\Sigma b_n(z-z_1)^n$, which also converges inside a circle centre z_1, the area of which may extend beyond that of the original circle of convergence. An analytic function is defined by the original series and all possible transformed series obtained in this way. Since the coefficients b_n are obtained uniquely from the coefficients a_n it follows that the whole behaviour of the function must be determinate when the sequence of coefficients a_n is known. The problem of Taylor's series is therefore to deduce from a knowledge of the coefficients the behaviour of the function.

The first seven chapters of this book give the elementary properties of functions of a complex variable, ending with Jordan's theorem and a rigorous proof of Cauchy's theorem. These chapters are furnished with a variety of exercises. Chap. viii. discusses biuniform mapping and the theorems of Bloch, Schottky, Landau, and Picard. Chap. xi. deals with various means of representing a one-valued analytic function by an explicit formula. The problem of uniformisation is not discussed, as being beyond the scope of an introductory treatise. Chap. x. considers singularities and Chap. xi. overconvergence and gap theorems. Chap. xii. on divergent series gives a welcome and systematic discussion of generalised limits and sums. In Chap. xiii. this theory is applied to the Taylor series on its circle of convergence. Chap. xiv. discusses the relations between singularities and divergence.

The whole book forms a very useful introduction to the theory of functions of a complex variable, and the author is to be congratulated on the manner in which he has systematised such an immense amount of material in a way which is calculated to give a proper perspective of the subject. The printing is good, but the numeration of the paragraphs is not sufficiently prominent for easy reference.

A Manual of Beekeeping: for English-speaking Beekeepers. By E. B. Wedmore. Pp. xxiv + 413 + 8 plates. (London: Edward Arnold and Co., 1932.) 15*s.* net.

IN 1563, Thomas Hill wrote "A profitable instruction of the perfite ordering of bees". Since that time the stream of manuals for the use of English-speaking beekeepers has been continuous. The present work is intended as a practical handbook

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