

to Greenland and the discovery of Winland, that is, some part of the American mainland, although the chapters in the narrative which deal with the voyage of Leif Ericson have been held under suspicion as an interpolation. With this judgment, however, the present editor does not agree. The Ynglinga Saga dealing with events up to the birth of Halvdan the Black in 820, where Snorre's more detailed history of the Norse kings begins, gives a view of paganism and the early history of Scandinavia which is distinctly individual among early chronicles in its attitude to such matters.

Students will be grateful for this translation, in which style and language are happily adapted to the subject-matter. The editor has provided an introduction which deals with the life and writings of the author, the manuscripts, the Norse kings and the Nordic races, the Danes in England, and cognate matters. He also annotates the text.

(2) "The Culture of the Teutons", a translation of a work by the professor of the history of religion in the University of Copenhagen, might almost be termed a psychological handbook to the early literature of Scandinavia and Iceland. Although it refers to Anglo-Saxon, Burgundian and Lombard, as well as the Germanic tribes, it is concerned mainly with the Norsemen. Institutions are analysed in detail on the basis of the indications afforded by the literature, but with reference to their psychological content rather than their form. In other words, the author aims at a reconstruction of Norse society from the point of view of the Norsemen themselves. As he points out, the reader of the epics and sagas enters upon a new world which is open to misinterpretation if regarded from the modern point of view. The book is a valuable contribution to a study of many obscurities, and a translation into English is welcome.

*Probleme der Wasserwellen.* Von Dr. H. Thorade. (Probleme der kosmischen Physik, herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. Christian Jensen und Prof. Dr. Arnold Schwassmann, Band 13-14.) Pp. viii + 219 + 11 Tafeln. (Hamburg: Henri Grand, 1931.) 20 gold marks.

ALTHOUGH it is usual, in expounding the elements of wave motion, to refer to water waves as examples, there is probably far less known of the behaviour of real waves on water than there is of the behaviour of waves of light or sound. The study of both the experimental and theoretical aspect of, for example, ocean waves, or of the generation of waves by wind, encounters formidable difficulties, and the complexities of tidal problems are well known. From the time of Scott Russell to the present day labours of, among others, Proudman and Havelock, the subject of water waves has received substantial contributions from British men of science, and there will probably be many British readers who will welcome Dr. Thorade's book, which appears as Nos. 13 and 14 of the series "Probleme der Kosmischen Physik", edited by Profs. Christian Jensen and Arnold Schwassmann.

While the book outlines the methods and results of the chief mathematical investigations, including the most recent, it is free from detailed mathematical expositions, for which the reader is referred to the standard textbooks, such as that of Lamb, and to the original papers, of which there is an extensive bibliography. It gives a very good and clear account of tidal waves and surface waves in their many aspects, and a discussion of what is known of their mechanism, with special reference to outstanding problems. Particular mention must be made of the many diagrams, excellent alike in planning and execution, which help considerably with the discussion. There are, in addition, five beautiful photographs reproduced as plates. Many physicists with no specialised knowledge of water waves will find the volume of great interest.

*Nature Photography.* By Oliver G. Pike. With Chapters on Big-game Photography, by Major Radclyffe Dugmore; Marine Photography and Low-power Microscopy, by F. Martin-Duncan; Photography of Plant Life, by E. J. Bedford. Pp. xii + 196 + 53 plates. (London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1931.) 12s. 6d. net.

WITH the coming of the cinematograph and the large aperture lens, and with the great improvement in the quality of telephoto lenses, Nature photography has made such strides that excellent photographs of pre-War days seem childish beside the modern product. There are many who would follow the new technique did they know how, and to them the revelations in this book will be welcome and helpful. There are hints on cameras and lenses, on the construction of 'hides' and methods of approach, on cinematograph work, special chapters by experts on big-game, marine and plant photography and on low-power microscopy, accompanied by illustrations of the art and an anecdotal narrative that makes the book good reading for the field-naturalist as well as for the Nature photographer proper.

*Flotation Plant Practice.* By Philip Rabone. Pp. xi + 141. (London: Mining Publications, Ltd., 1932.) 10s. 6d.

MANY physicists interested in the application of physics to industry will welcome the appearance of a work dealing with flotation practice which is not so detailed as to be burdensome, and is yet full enough to come down to such practical details as costings. Mr. Rabone's book deals, in less than 150 pages, with such topics as crushing; grinding; flotation reagents, machines and methods; and concentrate and tailing disposals. He has found space to devote a few pages to the theory of the method, and although he remarks that some may think that his treatment of the theory of flotation "is more extended than the scope of the book warrants", this section could certainly be expanded with advantage.

The book is compact in size, well produced and illustrated, and may be recommended. A. F.