

heavy one and perhaps the time is not yet ripe to make such a general survey. Work such as that contained in Prof. E. G. R. Taylor's recent volumes on Tudor and early Stuart geography are the necessary preliminary before the history of geography as a whole can be written. It is certainly too early to assess the place of contemporary British geographers in the development of the science, as is attempted in this book. Mr. Dickinson does not appreciate the relative importance of the geographers of the seventeenth century, and devotes a disproportionate amount of his space to some of the minor figures. He barely mentions the great achievements of James Rennell, who was justly described by the late Sir Clements Markham as "the greatest geographer that Great Britain has yet produced". The map which is supposed to show the progress of exploration is inexcusably inaccurate. Mr. Dickinson says that the goal of geography is the region, and writes at some length on the development of "the

regional concept" in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. It will not be easy for regional geography to develop if, as Mr. Dickinson suggests, much of the peripheral field of geography is to be abandoned to persons called "specialists in the other camp" (p. 250). The reason that regional geography is so difficult and is so seldom successful is surely that it cannot be written without mastering the disciplines of several other camps.

The second half of the book contains an unusually large number of errors in the spelling of names and similar mistakes. The bibliography provided for the first half is very incomplete, and while the references are fuller in the later chapters of the book, many of them are difficult to verify. The volume as a whole is not an improvement on the far less ambitious "History of Geography" previously written by Dr. Howarth in collaboration with the late Sir John Scott Keltie, a work which is still useful and deservedly popular.

E. W. G.

Short Reviews

A Text Book of Chemistry. By H. A. Wootton and C. W. R. Hooker. Pp. xii+488. (Cambridge: At the University Press, 1933.) 6s.

THIS textbook bases the justification for its appearance on, in particular, the fact that chemistry is a cultural subject, and that many pupils will not continue a study of the subject after leaving school. It may be said at once that the book is clearly and interestingly written, covering the range of the School Certificate examinations, and emphasises the applications of chemistry to everyday life and the paramount importance of the science in modern industry and manufactures.

An outline of molecular theory is introduced immediately after the study of only oxygen, hydrogen and the gas laws, then follow atomic theory and formulæ, and, separated by a chapter on water, equivalents, valency and equations. Carbon, its oxides and the hydrocarbons are outlined before any of the common elements other than the halogens and nitrogen. Although the scope of the book includes the theory of solution and molecular weights of dissolved substances, nothing is said about the periodic classification. Experimental work is relegated to the second half of the book, where it is dealt with exclusively. The net result is that it is difficult to find or co-ordinate particular facts to which one may wish to refer. The valuable interpretation of reactions afforded by the broad concepts of oxidation and reduction is largely lost since these concepts are not fully dealt with until after the non-metals. One would like, moreover, to see more

prominence given in an up-to-date textbook to the generalisation of types of reaction. The authors have, however, carried out their scheme with conviction, and the student will have every reason to appreciate the importance of chemistry in all branches of life and industry. There are eight excellent photographs as well as the usual line diagrams.

N. M. B.

The Rise of the Celts. By the late Henri Hubert. Edited and brought up to date by Prof. Marcel Mauss, Raymond Lantier and Jean Marx. Translated from the French by M. R. Dobie. (The History of Civilization Series.) Pp. xxv+335+4 plates. (London: Kegan Paul and Co., Ltd., 1934.) 16s. net.

THIS study of the Celts, the result of many years' work, was still incomplete when the author died in 1927. It was completed in part and seen through the press by his friends with the assistance of lecture notes and a draft of the concluding chapter which will appear in a second volume. M. Hubert had an original outlook; and this was backed by a vast erudition, upon which to base a synthetic view of the linguistic, archaeological, anthropological and historical material, which it is necessary to master for an adequate discussion of the Celtic problem. His analysis of the linguistic evidence, as it appears in this volume, where it is brought to bear upon the place of the Celtic people in relation to other Indo-European peoples and on the relation of the Celtic people one to another, is of great value. It deserves careful consideration, especially among