range. It then deals briefly with the seven native conifers of economic value, then with the main types of coniferous rain forest. Lengthy quotations from Cockayne and Cheeseman; and references to conclusions drawn by Park, G. M. Thomson and others, show more than a passing study of scientific literature relating to the Dominion.

To the student of the New Zealand forest, who has both studied his subject and read all relevant literature, there is little, if anything, that is new in the paper; but it is distinctly new to find a paper which so accurately and decisively sorts out what is significant for the forester from the mass of scientific papers that have been published during the last half century; and which co-ordinates these facts of scientific significance with the relevant facts of economic and administrative significance. Dealing with the greatest problem of all, the regeneration of indigenous conifers, the writer concludes that “the root of the trouble lies in the wholesale logging operations. . . . . . . . The nearest approach to New Zealand conditions is probably found in Canada, and here the coniferous species have not to contend with an evergreen broad-leaved competition. The Canadian forest regenerates itself by means of conifers. The reverse is true in New Zealand.”

In the reviewer’s opinion, this is a very fair presentation of the present condition of affairs in New Zealand rain forest, and is in itself sufficient evidence to show that the paper deserves the careful attention of every student of New Zealand forestry.

—C.M.S.

III.—IDENTIFICATION OF THE COMMERCIAL TIMBERS OF THE U.S.

(Brown and Paushin—McGraw-Hill Book Co. 18/-)

This is the first published volume of the American Forestry series to be issued by the McGraw-Hill Co. The American Forestry series is designed, the publishers state, to provide text and reference books for college students, practising foresters, and men in the forest industries, under a unified or co-ordinated plan. Each volume is to be complete in itself, but the subject matter of the series as a whole will be planned, so as ultimately to cover the entire field of forestry as completely as possible. In the press is the “Theory and Practice of Silviculture” by Baker, while manuscripts in process cover forest pathology,
(Boyce), Wood technology (Brown), mensuration (Bruce), dendrology (Harlow and Harrar), management (Matthews), and an introduction to forestry by Mulford.

It is certain from these names that the series will contain much of value not only in America, but also to New Zealand foresters, and forthcoming volumes will be eagerly awaited.

The first of the series commences with a clear discussion of the diagnostic features, both gross and minute. Then follows a detailed series of identification keys based on macroscopic and microscopic features, covering practically every important timber of the U.S.A. This is followed by a detailed description of the woods by species.

The keys are well set out, and contain considerable new material.

New Zealand readers will find particular interest in those sections dealing with the timbers imported to this country; the descriptions of Douglas Fir, Redwood and the Pacific Coast cedars are better than anything else so far available; but the general discussion on diagnostic features, and the glossary of technical terms used in identification are of value to all students of wood-technology and are in themselves sufficient to make the book of general demand, for they represent a distinct advance over all previous literature.

SPECIAL NOTE.

Attention is drawn to the institution by the N.Z. Institute of Foresters of an annual prize of three guineas for the best essay upon a forestry topic submitted by associate members of the Institute. Members intending to submit papers are advised to get in touch with the secretary for details as to closing date, etc.

The Auckland University College announce a Forestry League Essay Competition upon the subject “The Effect of Introduced Animals upon the Forests of New Zealand.” The competition is open to any student whose name was on the books of any of the University Colleges during the year 1934. Essays should be of a minimum of 4000 words, and