(moving forms of life) that have no backbone, yet, in their adult stage at least, have jointed legs; while I shall consider as lower forms of life, or *worms*, as Linnaeus calls them (Vermes), those that have neither backbones nor (in their adult stage) jointed legs.

On pages xv and xvi he states:

The system I follow is that of Linnaeus, a little modified, as in the fourth edition of my little New England zoology; but this is the first time I have brought Linnean, that is, binomial technical names, into the text of my work. If I use the word *family*, as I may from time to time, I always mean the *genus*, in the binomial sense, as used in Linnaeus. With that other invention, the non-Linnean family, with its everlasting *-idae*, and her sister *-inae*, I have nothing to do. This *-idae* and *-inae* are tag ends that the "scientists" hang onto genera to make up super-genera such as good old Linnaeus never heard of.

This book will cause zoologists much concern because many new binomial names are published with descriptions. Among the fishes (listed on pp. 32–139) only six previous Linnean names were used, and 120 new binomial names are introduced. Many new names are given for the other animals described, probably all of which will be included with the list of synonyms for well-known species of Tahiti. This has been done by Henry W. Fowler for the fishes in a forthcoming publication of his. Curtiss, apparently unacquainted with the extensive zoological literature on South Pacific animals, gave new names to those living around Tahiti because suitable ones were not printed in 1758, and later works are unknown to him.

LEONARD P. SCHULTZ

PALEONTOLOGICAL DISCOVERY IN SIBERIA

A FEW days ago the undersigned received from the U.S.S.R. Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, in Moscow, the following translation of a recent report on a rare paleontological find in Siberia, which may be of wider interest. It reads as follows:

NOVOSIBIRSK, SEPTEMBER 19

Members of the Komsomol Young Communist League of the "Iskra" Collective Farm discovered the complete skeleton of an ancient fossil animal in a layer of black silt at a depth of six meters. This discovery was made on the bank of the small river Oyesh, near the village of Vakhrushevo, eighty kilometers from Novosibirsk. The skeleton has been handed over to the Novosibirsk Museum, where it has been restored. Scientists have now established the fact that this is a skeleton of a representative of a large species of fossil elephant (*elephas antiquus*) which, in the early glacial epoch, was of wide occurrence. This elephant is one of the predecessors of the mammoth and differs from it by a lesser curvature of the tusks.

In spite of the young age of this elephant, as is evidenced by the jaws and the non-ossified cartilage parts of the body, the height of the skeleton is 270 cm, its length, to the base of the tusks, is 325 cm, the length of the tusk is 150 cm. The skull is smaller than that of a mammoth. The upper and lower jaws of the unearthed specimen have four teeth each.

Scientific workers have left Novosibirsk to study the layer of soil where the elephant was imbedded. . . .

In an interview with a *Tass* correspondent, Academician A. A. Borisyak, director of the Paleontological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the U. S. S. R., stated the following:

"The skeleton unearthed near Novosibirsk is of outstanding scientific value. This is the first discovery in the Soviet Union of an entire fossil elephant referring to the beginning of the Quaternary period. Hitherto we could judge of such elephants only by separate teeth which were found."

Upon learning of this valuable discovery the Paleontological Institute communicated with the Novosibirsk Museum and intends to send there a scientific collaborator in order to study this specimen of *elephas antiquus* on the spot.

A. HRDLIČKA

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

FLORA OF INDIANA

Flora of Indiana. By CHARLES C. DEAM. 1236 pp. 2247 maps. Indianapolis: Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry. 1940. $3.50.

THIS impressive volume represents the work of many years, as the distribution maps of individual species of flowering plants and ferns attest. It will undoubtedly serve as the model for state floras of the future, and the numbering of genera according to the system of Dalla Torre and Harms provides for interpolation of genera as one wishes. Conversely, the "Flora of Indiana" provides a background for arranging genera in the herbarium in a systematic rather than an alphabetic way. Indiana includes a large proportion of the species of eastern United States, and the comprehensive text references make it a sort of dictionary for the latest recognized names and their place of publication. Nothing, it seems, has been forgotten in making the work complete. There are keys to families and genera, summaries of the herbaria examined, statistical accounts of collectors in Indiana, glossaries, a register of obsolete locality names, and so on. The thirty-six pages of introduction to the