

bution of many of the fishes form an important part of the book.

The first edition was used in many colleges and universities, and by fishery biologists; this has enabled the authors to produce a nearly perfect second edition, in which great confidence may be placed. However, in the section on "Methods of counting fin rays," one is led to believe that the definitions given for (i) "principal and branched rays" and (ii) "last ray of dorsal and anal fins" are generally accepted. That is not the case, however, for many prominent ichthyologists (i) do not distinguish the "principal ray" but record separately each simple and branched ray and (ii) count and record each fin ray that has a separate base for both the dorsal and anal fins. In a few places in the key one still finds vaguely defined contrasting characters, such as "mouth more oblique, making an angle of decidedly less than 60 degrees . . ." and "mouth less oblique, making an angle of little less than 60 degrees . . ." Of course, in a fauna as complicated as the minnows of the Great Lakes, perhaps some vagueness is unavoidable and I do note that much of the vagueness of the earlier version has been removed.

This book is a must in every biological laboratory where there is interest in the zoology of the Great Lakes region. It is an excellent contribution to ichthyology.

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Nationalism in Colonial Africa. Thomas Hodgkin. New York University Press, New York, 1957. 216 pp. \$3.75.

There is mounting evidence to support the proposition that the fundamental political issue of the 20th century will not necessarily turn out to be the cold war and all it stands for. The fundamental issue may well be found in the problem of whether the more advanced, industrial societies, at present still the masters of science and technology, will succeed in associating in mutually beneficial partnership with the less developed but rapidly evolving new societies of Asia and Africa. That the ideological struggle and its associated power politics are likely to have a very direct bearing upon the ultimate nature of any such association makes our need for a more

precise understanding of that process of evolution all the more urgent.

Over the years, Western scholarship in the social and cultural sciences has built up an impressive body of findings on Asia. Especially in this country, there has been until very recently no comparable concern with studies of Africa. This was largely due to the fact that, virtually until World War II, Africa's social and political problems were seen primarily from the point of view of the colonial powers and their holdings. With the passing of the old order in Africa, American policy makers and American scholarship have become aware of the African challenge. At an incredible pace, a new African society is coming to life, amid explosive political upheavals, with the advent of newly self-governing communities and with the growing realization, both in Africa and elsewhere, that peoples in widely separated areas of the continent are developing a sense of interdependence and kinship—a process that is stimulating the growth of a new and vigorous African leadership, of which Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana is a good example.

Hodgkin's book, a sample of British scholarship in this field, is a searching study of the new nationalism found throughout colonial and recently colonial Africa. The author does not fail to recognize the problems of terminology in this context—(what is an African nation?) and concludes that for his purpose nationalism can be suitably defined as the explicit assertion by any group "of the rights, claim or aspiration of a given African society . . . in opposition to European authority, whatever its institutional form and objective." Equipped with a broad grasp of realities, the author starts out by presenting a significant comparative analysis of the policies of the three principal colonial systems which have largely fashioned the matrix of modern Africa. Despite the characteristic differences between the several colonial environments, the national movements throughout Africa have, in Hodgkin's view, a great deal in common. His examination of certain focal aspects of contemporary African life very effectively demonstrates the value of his hypothesis. His analysis of the new urban communities brings out their function as the cradle of a new African middle class. The formation of a broad variety of new African organizations is shown to be a way of blending new experiences with the older tra-

ditions. Attention is given to the role of Christian sects, illustrative of the general religious life, and to the connection of these sects with nationalist attitudes, as well as to the generally moderating influence of trade unionism and the growth of political organizations among Africans. Specialists and general readers alike will be stimulated by a chapter devoted to the search for effective myths and symbols with which the new nationalists, like their Western precursors, seek to invest themselves.

Hodgkin concludes that the rapid tempo which has marked the growth of African nationalism is unlikely to diminish, since the factors responsible for this growth (urbanization, educational advances, and so forth) continue to operate. Whether these movements will employ violence or nonviolence—revolutionary or constitutional methods—will, in his opinion, largely depend on "the attitudes of the colonial regimes, the flexibility of their policies, their willingness to make substantial political concessions." The book, originally published in England in 1956, has lost nothing of its value in the interim. It impresses me as being one of the most balanced and most illuminating studies yet made of this complex political process and its social setting. It may even persuade the skeptic of the possibility of meaningful generalization in this area.

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Plant Nematodes. Their bionomics and control. Jesse R. Christie. Agricultural Experiment Stations, University of Florida, Gainesville, 1959. xi + 256 pp. \$3.75.

Among the subdivisions of modern biology, plant nematology casts a feeble, though increasingly strong, light. Although nematodes have been known to zoologists for some years—especially to parasitologists, who have studied nematodes of man and domestic animals—most zoologists neglect the study of marine and soil nematodes. Prior to 1940 a handful of workers had succeeded in convincing only a few agriculturists of the importance of these pests. But once a practical method of killing eelworms in field soil had been developed and it had been demonstrated that remarkable increments of crop growth follow such