

bodies the various classification systems which have been advocated by American writers, and, in addition, presents a very conveniently arranged list of varietal names and so far as identified places them in the various classification systems under their group names. This should prove of no little convenience to those interested in the subject.

The three chapters devoted to "Climate, Soils and Rotations," "Manures and Fertilizers," and "Planting," are excellently treated, the suggestions being clear, concise and practical. In the opinion of the writer, the value of the subject-matter in these chapters would have been enhanced by a few well-selected illustrations of potato implements and cultural methods. The discussion of potato diseases and their control is clear and convincing and should prove very helpful to both the farmer and the student. A chapter on "Markets, Marketing and Storage" is both suggestive and helpful, as is also that on the cost of growing potatoes.

As a whole, the book is unique, in that it is strikingly devoid of illustrations, as compared with most of the recently published agricultural text-books. It is a welcome addition to our present text-books on the potato, and should find a place in the classroom of agricultural schools and colleges.

WM. STUART

*Health and Disease: Their Determining Factors.* By ROGER L. LEE. Little Brown, Co., 1917. \$1.75.

This book gives a very pleasing presentation of the factors of health and disease in strictly non-technical language. The author has successfully and very commendably avoided a consideration of the treatment of ailments, and has emphasized throughout the preventive measures which may be performed, or encouraged by the cooperation of the layman. The most reprehensible thing in the book, from the reviewer's view-point, is the title of Chapter XII, "The Air-borne Diseases!" After the struggle that has been, and is being made to disillusion the popular mind of the idea that air is an important conveyor of disease, it is a misfortune to use this phrase in any sense.

The author goes to some pains to explain that he includes under this term chiefly "droplet" or mouth-spray infection, but the use of "air-borne" throughout the book is bound to nourish the age-old fallacy.

The first nine chapters consider chiefly matters of personal hygiene, the next nine, communicable diseases, and the last six, matters of general sanitation. The sequence and point-of-view throughout are good. Specially to be commended are the chapters on Alcohol, Tobacco and the Habit-forming Drugs and on the Venereal Diseases and Sex Hygiene.

There are a good many minor criticisms which might be made, as, for example, the loose use of the term antitoxin on page 173, speaking of the "*Spirochæta pallida*" instead of *Treponema pallida*, the sentence "'Red flap' is caused by a ringworm which is really a vegetable bacterium" (p. 243), and the statement that "tubercle bacilli are only present in milk when there is tuberculous disease of the udder" (p. 306).

The book contains 378 pages, is printed on rough paper in good print and is amply indexed. There are no cuts or diagrams in the book and no specific references are given. It is to be most cordially recommended to the lay reader and might find a useful place as a text in a general elementary college course in hygiene and sanitation, and should certainly be on the desk of every teacher of biology and hygiene.

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### SPECIAL ARTICLES

#### A NOTE ON THE EFFECT OF ASPHYXIA AND AFFERENT STIMULATION ON ADRENAL SECRETION

RECENT observers have expressed some doubt as to the effect of asphyxia and afferent stimulation on the secretion of the adrenal glands. Under the circumstances it is desirable to have simple methods which any one may use to demonstrate the effect. During the past few months, with the aid of Mr. H. F. Pierce, I have devised such methods.

If both carotid arteries, both subclavian arteries and the aorta just anterior to the inferior mesenteric artery are tied, and the