

successful under certain restricted conditions, without at the same time stressing their limitations for general application or even attempting to evaluate their relative merits.

The last chapter gives examples of the use of air photographs for land-use and vegetation surveys in a number of countries. Emphasis is largely on forest survey and descriptions are given of the methods used in Canada, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. In addition the general position with regard to aerial survey in the British Colonies is discussed and notes given of any type of aerial survey undertaken in these countries. Most of the surveys described are the large ones undertaken by Government agencies. There are many others, particularly in Canada and U.S.A., which have been made by private concerns. Thus in U.S.A. the highly successful volumetric survey of 44,000 acres of redwood made by Mason and Bruce in 1942, was not only the first forest survey undertaken by private enterprise in that country but it used an entirely new combination of techniques.

There is a comprehensive but well-selected reference list and a series of excellently reproduced photographs.

The bulletin deals with a complex and technical subject in a lucid manner and will be read with interest by all foresters. It will be of particular value to those who work with aerial photographs and who are still seeking new ideas for their uses.—A.P.T.

The Commercial Timbers of Australia.—By I. H. Boas. Published by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. pp. 344, 20 plates. Government Printer, Melbourne. Price 12/-.

This book fills a long-felt need for general reference to Australian woods as a whole. Individual timbers are described under standard headings and the data presented is sufficiently full for most practical purposes. The lists of timbers suitable for specific uses and the very full bibliography of Australian forest products are also of particular practical significance.

Part I of the book discusses trends in utilization, the more important aspects of timber technology, insofar as they affect the Australian timbers, and minor forest products. The expansion of the Division of Forest Products during the twenty years of its existence and its achievement under the guidance of Mr. Boas are too well known to require comment; this book, written when Mr. Boas was about to sever his connection with the Division is a fitting tribute to his work.—J.S.R.

Unasylva.—Vol. I, No. 1, July-August, 1947. Prepared by the Division of Forestry and Forest Products, and published bi-monthly by the Information Service of FAO, Washington, D.C., U.S.A. Annual subscription 3.50 dollars; single copy 65 cents.

The establishment of a Division of Forestry and Forest Products in the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations has