

NEW BOOKS OF INTEREST - - - M.W.Crookes

We are indeed fortunate to have working among us a botanical artist of the calibre of Miss Nancy Adams. Trees and Shrubs of New Zealand (by Poole and Adams) is a valued possession with many of us. Now Miss Adams gives us further treasure with her New Zealand Mountain Flowers. Here once more we find the qualities we have learned to admire in her illustrations - the strong expressive sensitive line, and that capacity for suggesting the individuality of a plant, that is particularly hers. We note with pleasure the colour illustrations and the satisfying arrangement of the specimens on the page. Brief but authoritative comments enhance the value of the book. Thirtythree plants are illustrated in full colour and twelve in black and white. There are four informative general sketches. This is a book which our members will like both to have and to give. Published by Reed at 13/6.

In a previous issue it was noted that an ex-secretary of our society, Pauline Haritonidis (nee Buddle), was at work on a book dealing with Greek wild flowers. This has now been published under the title Wild Flowers of Greece. The text is by D.Phitos and to Mrs. Haritonidis has fallen the onerous task of translating it into English. In a country that possesses over 6000 plant species selection has necessarily been limited. In all the work describes and illustrates 64 species. The colour photography is of a very high quality indeed, while the discussion on the plates combines interest with strict botanical accuracy, and there is a useful general introduction. It is to be hoped that some of our members will be able to acquire this very attractive little publication. Copyright - Athens Society of the friends of the trees. Odos Phokylidou 4. Athens.

Our third book is of an entirely different type. Ancient Pacific Floras - The Pollen Story - edited by Lucy M.Cranwell. It consists of a series of 14 papers read at the Tenth Pacific Science Congress held at Honolulu in 1964. Lucy Cranwell provides the foreward - The rise of Pacific Palynology, and two other papers, Rapa Island coal and its microfossils and Antarctica: Cradle or grave for its Nothofagus ? The papers in this volume deal with the fairly new science of palynology, which simply means the study of organic materials that can be scattered around like dust and are thus omnipresent. As one would expect, these papers are rather technical and designed more for the professional botanist. But our members will rejoice to know that 'our' Lucy Cranwell has played so important a part in connection with this publication. Published by the University of Hawaii Press at 35/-