

topics are presented in simple, clear, and interesting language, free from unnecessary technical terms. At the end of each chapter the important facts are re-stated under the caption, "Points to be Remembered." The pictures and diagrams are very well chosen to illustrate the essential points in the text. The book is admirably adapted to the purpose for which it is intended.

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*The Halcyon Song-Book.* Compiled and arranged by LEONARD B. MARSHALL. New York: Silver, Burdett & Co., 1909. Pp. 224. \$0.75.

This song book is characterized throughout by youthful buoyancy; the majority of the songs are rousing, but those of a more gentle nature have quite active melodies.

Most of the four-part choruses if forced to do without the bass part would show the lack plainly; but the book contains a large number of well-arranged trios, in which the two lower parts are nearly as melodious as the soprano.

A number of our familiar folk-songs give the melody to the bass part, thus affording the fifteen-year-old boy an excellent opportunity for doing the thing he loves best—growing the soprano an octave below.

Very few of these songs are too difficult for the eighth grade, and probably none would severely tax the upper high-school classes.

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*The Principles of Soil Management.* By T. LYTLETON LYON AND ELMER O. FIPPIN. New York: Macmillan, 1909. Pp. xxxiii+531. Illustrated. \$1.75.

It has given me great pleasure to examine this textbook. The book deals almost entirely with the principles of soil technology, giving excellent application of general rules to local practice. It is my opinion that this is one of the best books yet produced for college work on the study of soils. It is not adapted to the work of secondary schools, but would make a most excellent reference book for such schools. The chapters on "Soil Water," "Plant Nutrients of the Soil," and "Organisms in the Soil" are much to be commended.

*Agriculture for Common Schools.* By M. L. FISHER AND F. A. COTTON, New York: Scribner, 1909. Pp. xxiii+381.

The topics treated are as follows: "Soils," "Farm Crops," "Horticulture," "Animal Husbandry," "Dairying." The book is well illustrated and well written. It is well adapted to secondary schools giving a course of one year in agriculture. Indeed, for such a course of work it is, in my judgment, one of the best books I have examined. The treatment of each subject is excellent, but not sufficiently extensive for a course in agriculture in secondary schools where the subject is treated in each year.