plants are used extensively for soil conservation and soil improving purposes this could well have been expanded.

The discussion of grassland farming points up the need for such a system but cites the lack of economic data on this subject.

The damaging as well as the helpful insects are discussed. Some of the major diseases of forage crops are also mentioned.

The importance of the production of adequate quantities of good forage crop seed is considered, and the centers of production, cultural methods, seed yields and methods of harvest of some of the crops are reviewed.

All of the details concerning all of the forage crops adapted for use in the various sections of the United States cannot be discussed in one publication, however, this book is more up-to-date than most and it also contains a good list of references at the conclusion of each chapter.

The author has prepared a book that is a very good reference on most of the important forage crops. Its most valuable and most extensive use will no doubt be for classroom work; however, it should also prove to be of value to the agricultural worker—W. M. Nixon, Soil Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas.

**Selenium**

By Sam F. Trelease (Columbia University), and O. A. Beath (University of Wyoming), 292 pages, 61 figs. 43 tables—published by the authors. 1949. $5.50

Two university professors have combined their talents and years of research to produce a thorough treatise on a western problem of interest to a wide group, no segment of which have they neglected. As told in the book's subtitle selenium is studied not only as to its geological occurrence but as to its biological effects in relation to botany, chemistry, agriculture, nutrition, and medicine. The paths of selenium from the soils, through the plants, and into the animals, is followed in detail and thoroughly documented with 287 references. Of particular interest to many range operators is the chapter on prevention and control of selenium poisoning. Although only 750 copies were printed, the book will reach and serve a wide audience from reference shelves for many years.—Alan A. Beete, Dept. of Range Management, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.

**Woody-Plant Seed Manual**


This manual presents information on all phases of seed handling to guide Conservationists in effective and economical seed and revegetation practices with woody plants. It is based on laboratory tests and the field work and practices of various government agencies for over 20 years.

Reliable information on seed handling is needed by those engaged in revegetation, from the rancher interested in increasing palatable shrubs on his range to public action agencies engaged in large scale revegetation for erosion control and watershed protection, wildlife food and cover, shelter belts, roadside plantings and timber production. This book supplies that information with new and complete coverage of the various phases of seed handling from the formation of the seed to sowing.

A complete study of the seed makes up Part I. Flower parts and their function