

After an interesting chapter on the history and development of this science, the authors discuss the physical and chemical properties of water, and of natural bodies of water, regarded as aquatic environments, and also the interrelations of land and water. This is followed by a general account of the various types of aquatic environments, under the sub-headings: "Lakes and Ponds," "Streams," and "Marshes, Swamps and Bogs."

The fourth and longest chapter deals with types of aquatic organisms, these being described briefly in untechnical language, particular attention being given to their mode of life and such features of form and structure as indicate their fitness for their particular environment.

This and the two following chapters, entitled "Adjustment to Conditions of Aquatic Life" and "Aquatic Societies," contain much entomological matter. The latter two chapters are of exceptional interest to the biologist, and it is doubtful if there is anywhere to be found a more admirable analysis of the ecological relations of fresh-water organisms.

In the concluding chapter, "Inland Water Culture," the subject is discussed from the economic standpoint, and the possibilities of utilizing the extensive areas of swamp and marsh in North America for intensive fish-culture are clearly demonstrated. Nor are the aesthetic and educational aspects of the subject forgotten, and the authors show their breadth of view in this connection in advocating the preservation of wet lands in part as sanctuaries for wild life.

Throughout the book it is the ecological point of view that is emphasized rather than the systematic and morphological, and from this standpoint there is much that is of great interest to students of all groups of aquatic insects.

The illustrations are numerous and attractive, many of them being reproductions of original photographs and photomicrographs. The chief defect is the somewhat large number of typographical errors, which will doubtless be corrected in a future edition.

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