

most thorough account of the complex development of the bee egg yet published, and to those interested in bees no apology for investigations of this kind is needed. It is of interest to the bee enthusiast, for, while possibly he may not fully appreciate all the details discussed, he will assuredly want to take such facts as his training permits." With all of which we most heartily agree. As a class, beekeepers are the greatest of enthusiasts, but it was well that Dr Phillips exercised his usual caution and used the qualification "as his training permits," for we can imagine the untrained bee enthusiast in a commendable endeavour trying to master the terminology of the cytologist and embryologist, to unravel the description of mitotic phenomena and to decide for himself, for there is no room for indecision in beekeeping, as to the origin of the mesenteron. With a profound conviction of the marvellous nature of the processes that go on during those seventy-six hours required for the development of the egg, a deep admiration for the author who has so skilfully studied and described those changes and pride in the possession of such a work, he will lay it down and slip away to his apiary to see whether any of his colonies need requeening.

Dr. Nelson's monograph constitutes a very valuable contribution to our knowledge of insect embryology, a branch of our science which has received all too little attention on this continent. It is a useful work mainly for two reasons. First, the author has investigated, with the aid of improved technique and modern methods of research, a problem previously studied in considerable detail by such workers as Bütschli (1870), Kowalevski (1871), and Grassi (1884), upon whose results we have necessarily had to rely for our knowledge of the embryology of this insect. Secondly, the author has not confined himself to a description of the results of his own careful work, but he has brought together in a desirable form the main results of other workers on insect embryology upon which subject, accordingly, the volume constitutes almost a complete review, and on that account will be of great value to students and others desiring such information.

The author describes in sequence the embryological changes: Cleavage, formation and completion of the blastoderm, the formation of the germ layers, and the amnion. After a general account