Debatable Operations; Living Together; Inside the Soil. The book will undoubtedly have a great appeal to gardeners, amateur and professional, and its value in this respect has very obviously been enhanced by the author's own long experience as an amateur gardener. He is thus familiar with the aspects of gardening which require to be discussed and he views scientific and practical matters in perspective. For instance, in assessing the practical value of colour reaction germination tests, he goes on to say:

> "But they are not the sort of thing to try in the potting shed, and in point of fact they take just about as many hours of actual work to carry out as a full scale germination test, though you may have to wait much longer for the results of the latter. The colour tests have proved most valuable when a quick answer was wanted from slow germinators."

The book is lightened by many humorous asides and illustrated with delightful line drawings and reproductions from other sources.

E. E. KEMP.

Fruit Growing (review)*.—This is a highly priced, handsomely produced book, but works on commercial fruit production are likely to be valued for the information they contain and not for their appearance. Information of a most authoritative kind there is here in plenty, and no doubt the institution library and those who can afford the high price will find convenience in having all this matter contained within the compass of a single volume. Those who find the price too high, however, will naturally be tempted to ask whether the information could be obtained more cheaply elsewhere. A good deal of it is undoubtedly so available, most of it in fact the work of some contributors to the book under review. On the other hand, a substantial body of the information is not available elsewhere and this comprises the most interesting material.

The weakest section in the book is the part which deals with climate and site. Reference is made to single rows of trees as " shelter belts ". Workers in this field nowadays refer to these single rows as " windbreaks " and use the term " shelter belt " when several rows are planted. Spruce is recommended as a windbreak. Presumably it is " Norway Spruce " to which the writer refers and it is regrettable that this species should continue to be recommended for this purpose. No mention is made of the very important matter of protected area in relation to height of windbreak and in addition some very ordinary information is proffered that:

> "West winds are cool winds; north-westerly winds bring frost and dry weather in winter. . . . Gales are frequent in the west-coast districts, and are much less frequent in the east. . . . A wind above 75 miles an hour is defined as a hurricane on the Beaufort Scale of Wind Force."

However, this matter occupies but little space in an otherwise valuable work.

E. E. KEMP.

* Modern Commercial Fruit Growing: edited by T. Wallace and R. G. W. Bush. London, Country Life Limited, 1956. Price 105 shillings.