S.E. TIBET. Kongbo, Deyang-La, 390m., involucre green, tipped blackish-brown, ray florets yellow, grassy slopes, 11 Aug. 1947, *Ludlow, Sherriff & Elliot* 14324 (holo. BM, iso. E.)

WEST CHINA. Yunnan, *Forrest* 30006 (E, BM).

*Senecio atrofuscus* is allied to *S. nodiflorus* Chang but is more slender and finer in all its parts. It differs in having glabrous membranous leaves and smaller capitula. It is also allied to *S. drukensis* Marq. & Shaw which has smaller capitula and leaves which are tomentose especially beneath, as are those of *S. nodiflorus*, but narrower than in this species. All three species are closely similar in respect of the blackish phyllaries, the black-toothed disc flowers and in the degree and pattern of thickening of the filaments below the anthers.

As the description shows L, S & E 14324 varies greatly in habit, in the toothing of the leaves and in the number of flower heads. Such is the variation that Mr. Ludlow in a recent letter admits that " if I had not collected this gathering myself I should have said there had been a mix-up."

The Forrest specimens, apart from the capitula, are more slender than the Tibetan ones. They are only 35 cm. high and bear 1–3 heads. The lower leaves are elliptic-ovate occasionally truncate at the base but not cordate. The petioles measure 4·5 cm. long and the laminae 1–3 cm. long and 0·6–1·5 cm. broad. In size and detail the capitula from both areas are similar. In the Tibetan specimens, however, the number of calyculate bracts is approximately half that of the phyllaries, as they appear to be in *S. nodiflorus* and *S. drukensis*. In the Chinese specimens there are 19 phyllaries and 12–13 bracts.

---

**Guides to Garden Herbs and Trees** (reviews).—The late Mr. F. K. Makins achieved a considerable reputation with his very useful books on the identification of woody plants. But that did not mean that he had neglected the study of herbs, and the present volume* applies to cultivated herbaceous plants essentially the same methods as those previously employed for trees and shrubs. There is a key to families, keys to genera under each family, a section of copious illustrations and an annotated catalogue of species.

This book, the title page tells us, is a guide to more than 1000 species, but nowhere is there any estimate of the number of species that might have been included had the work been an encyclopedia of many volumes. Probably not less than thirty times that number. Selection has therefore been rigorous and, as in all such books, its details invite criticism. Let it be said at once that Mr. Makins seems to have been very creditably

* Herbaceous Garden Flora, by F. K. Makins. London, J. M. Dent & Sons, 1957. Pp. x+373, 11 plates. Price thirty-five shillings.

exhaustive in the matter of genera, and there are no very notable absentees. It is in the species chosen that personal idiosyncracy seems to have warred against maximum utility. To give three species of *Parnassia* is surely lavish treatment compared with that accorded to *Euphorbia*. Of this the sole representative is *E. Wulfenii*, though the claims of that species are scarcely so strong as those of *E. cyparissias*, *E. lathyris* or *E. palustris*. Again *Paeonia mascula* is the only species of that well known genus to be mentioned. How odd to find *Leucojum* represented by the rare *L. nicaeense*, and never a word of *L. aestivum* or *L. vernum*!

As I have mentioned before in a review, it would be an immeasurable help in these selective volumes if some indication of the numbers of excluded species were given under each genus. How is the user to know whether the *Euphorbia* mentioned is the only one, or whether there be twenty, or fifty, or a hundred others?

No less than 223 pages are devoted to illustrations and each page bears line drawings of 4–6 different plants. Within this restricted compass the artists (the author and Miss P. R. Lane) have generally done well and most of the figures will achieve the object of helping identification. The user will be lucky, however, if he makes much of the six species of crocus illustrated (fig. 176–177). *Mimulus guttatus* (fig. 114) has its flower upside down, while those of Penstemon (fig. 114, 115) look incredibly awkward and out of poise; in fact the illustrations of Scrophulariaceae as a whole are perhaps the weakest in the book.

In weighing the undoubted value of this attempt to achieve a very difficult task one has unfortunately to add to its defects something for which the author, who died before publication, cannot be held responsible. That is the number of misprints. Individually they are not enough to make the names unrecognizable, but they do add up to a rather considerable blemish.

Mr. Miles Hadfield's new volume* is subtitled a " guide ", but I would be inclined to call it rather an encyclopedia. A " guide " should surely include keys for identification and other such directions for the ignorant. To get the best out of *British Trees* one needs to know already at least the approximate name of the tree under study. Then one can settle down and enjoy the riches of knowledge that Mr. Hadfield provides. This is, in fact, eminently a book for reference and for browsing, and very profitable browsing it can be. There is information on native distribution, English names, history (either wild or in cultivation), varieties, uses and legends.

In recognizing species the numerous line illustrations by the author himself are of great help: one only wishes that the matter of scale was self-evident on each instead of requiring knowledge of the appropriate paragraph in the introduction. The drawings are supplemented by the very lucid descriptions which call attention to many points of interest overlooked in more technical books; they bear witness to the author's great personal knowledge of this subject. Mr. Hadfield has rigorous standards of tree-dom. For the Spindle Tree, the Goat Willow, the Wayfaring Tree

* British Trees: a Guide for Everyman, by Miles Hadfield. London, J. M. Dent & Sons, 1957. Pp. xxv+468 (incl. 150 figs.). Thirty shillings.

or Guelder Rose the reader will search in vain. Otherwise all native trees (both hardwoods and conifers) and a large number of those most commonly cultivated are discussed. There are several misprints and one cannot stifle a protest at finding " querquoides " and " querquifolia " in, of all places, the glossary (p. 442). Nevertheless one can honestly wish this book a wide circulation, for it will certainly encourage the true appreciation of the trees to be found in Britain.

B. L. BURTT.

**Mycological Terms** (review)*.—The authors are to be congratulated on producing a most useful reference book for mycologists. The compilation of over six thousand terms seems very complete and free from error. Not only are the terms carefully defined but so far as possible the authors have given a reference to the original use of each term. While this is an extremely valuable feature there may still be difficulties as the references have been abbreviated to author and date; although the sources are quite obvious in some cases, in others they are obscure. Most of the text is unexceptionable, but, to mycologists in the old world at least, the authors' brief dismissal of " teleutospore " as " an old term for teliospore " will seem strangely at variance with their respect for the origin of the terms. The definition of colour terms and the convenient correlation of Saccardo's Chromotaxia, Ridgway's Colour Standards and the Répertoire de Couleurs supplies a long felt want in descriptive mycology.

In contrast with the general excellence of the text the fifteen pages of plates are disappointing and in one or two cases misleading, especially to the student, although reference to definitions in the text would correct any wrong interpretations. For instance one might well be excused for supposing that the term clypeus in plate seven referred to a fructification type rather than to the epicuticular shield.

These minor criticisms, however, detract little from the worth of the volume which is well printed and bound in a serviceable cover.

D. M. HENDERSON.

**Japanese Gardens** (review)†.—This well produced and attractive book is intended to introduce Japanese gardens to Western readers. In the first twenty pages there is an account of the hidden ideas and aims of the garden, an analysis of the hill type garden and a classification of rocks and their grouping. The remainder of the work traces the long history of Japanese gardens which extends over some 1300 years. The gardens of the various periods are described in historical sequence and some 200 photographs of these gardens illustrate the text. These illustrations clearly show that although the laws governing the construction of a garden in Japan are unbending the resulting gardens are very far from being uniform.

* A glossary of mycology, by W. H. Snell & E. A. Dick. Harvard University Press (Oxford University Press), 1957. Pp. xxxii+171, illus. Price forty shillings.

† Japanese Gardens, by Jiro Harada. Studio Publications, London, 1956. Pp. 160. Price thirty-five shillings.