Indian Fossil "Ferns". The Birbal Sahni Institute, Lucknow, is justly renowned for the lead it gives to palaeobotanical researches in India. In this present volume*, the first of four to cover the fossil flora of India, Dr. Surange deals with the fossil ferns and their allies of India. The work is an extremely useful compilation of all the published work on Indian fossils of the group—each of the divisions, Psilophyta, Lycopodophyta, Arthrophyta and Pterophyta, are reviewed in turn, the accompanying illustrations are well chosen to illustrate the characteristics of each group and the text is backed by a good bibliography permitting reference to original sources. The work is rounded off by a short chapter on general aspects of the palaeobotany of the Pteridophyta especially the bearing on palaeogeography and by an interesting table of the stratigraphical distribution of Indian fossil pteridophytes. The work will serve both as a useful text for teaching palaeobotany in India and as an entrée to the palaeobotany of India for research workers elsewhere.

The text is usually quite clear in meaning but infelicities in English produce strange and sometimes nonsensical results which would certainly confuse a student—p. 57—"Several such form genera which exist in literature exhibit a general resemblance to the fern fossils". There are many of these, albeit minor points, which however do not seriously detract from this timely, well-produced volume.

D. M. HENDERSON

*Indian Fossil Pteridophytes Botanical Monograph 4. K. R. Surange. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, 1964. 209 pp. 101 Figs., 2 Tables. Rs. 23.00.