Towards a Flora of Nepal. The authors of this work*, the second in a series of publications towards a comprehensive Flora of Nepal, deserve congratulation. The area the flora covers, in the east of Nepal, is Phulchoki, the highest mountain of the Kathmandu Valley, and in its foothills the Godawari Lake area. The book is firmly bound with a clear and positive type set and covers 529 taxa, fifteen of which are new records for Nepal. There is an interesting introduction with accounts of the geology, climate, previous botanical collections as well as a descriptive chapter on the zonation of the vegetation.

The inclusion of vernacular names will surely be of great assistance to those fortunate enough to collect in this interesting area as will also the practice of citing flowering times. No attempt is made to provide a comprehensive synonomy, nor are keys provided, although, no doubt, these aspects will be catered for in an eventual comprehensive Flora. The descriptions are brief but adequate and the practice of cross-reference to the Flora of British India or subsequent works are sufficient to establish the identity of one's plant. There is a clear and easily usable index to both scientific and vernacular names.

It is so encouraging to see the high quality of this Nepalese work on their own flora that it would be wrong to make more than passing reference to the poor quality of the illustrations or the few typographical errors which have slipped through.

J. KEENAN

* Flora of Phulchoki and Godawari. Bulletin of the Department of Medicinal Plants No. 2. H.M.G. of Nepal. 13 × 20·5 cm. 144 pp. 18 Plates.