

Rocky Mountain Flora

By William A. Weber. 1976. Colorado Associated University Press, Boulder, Colorado. 479 pp. \$12.50.

This is an excursion flora which any interested naturalist would find invaluable on a trip through Colorado, southern Wyoming, and northern New Mexico. Its popularity is evidenced by the fact that it is now in its fifth edition since first being published in 1953 as "Handbook of Plants of the Colorado Front Range." The third and fourth editions were reviewed in this journal in 1968, Volume 82: 61; and 1973, Volume 87: 194.

There are many changes in this edition: families are introduced with a paragraph of interesting and very readable information; many of the keys have been rewritten and species recently found in the region have been added so that about 1600 species, over half the

flora of Colorado, are treated; observations on the ecology of some species have been adjusted as a result of field experience; new line drawings have been added; and the nomenclature has been updated.

In this new edition the author laments the changes which have taken place throughout the region through the ravages and other results of urbanization. He has, however, provided a volume which has kindled an interest in the flora and through it may stay at least a part of the desecration of the country which has taken place since he began his studies of the flora of the Front Range.

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Guide to the Vascular Flora of Illinois

By Robert H. Mohlenbrock. 1975. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale and Edwardsville. 494 pp. \$7.95 (paperbound), 12.95 (clothbound).

In 1967 Robert Mohlenbrock published the first volume of *Illustrated Flora of Illinois: Ferns*. This was followed by *Flowering Rush to Rushes* in 1970; *Lilies to Orchids* in 1970; *Grasses: Bromus to Paspalum* in 1972; and *Grasses: Panicum to Danthonia* in 1973; and *Sedges: Cyperus to Scleria* in 1976. It is obvious, however, that this series will take many years to complete at the present rate of publication.

In the *Guide to the Vascular Flora of Illinois*, Mr. Mohlenbrock has taken the keys from the published volumes of the illustrated flora and those as yet unpublished, and consolidated them. To these he has added a key to families, brief descriptions of 14 physiographic regions under the headings of glacial history, bedrock, topography, soils, plant communi-

ties, aquatic habitats, and distinctive fauna, indexes to common and scientific names, a glossary. Common names are given when known, occasionally very brief descriptions, notes on habitat, and when rare, localities are given for individual species.

The result is a handy little book which can readily be carried in the field. It will be most useful to students and naturalists who are interested in studying the flora of Illinois and adjacent regions. In Canada the book could be used to key out plant species in the southern parts of Ontario, for which unfortunately there is as yet no flora published, but the users in this province will of course find many species in it which do not occur in Ontario.

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ENVIRONMENT

Superior: The Haunted Shore

By Bruce Littlejohn and Wayland Drew. 1975. Gage Publishing Ltd., Toronto. 176 pp. \$35.00

According to the authors, *Superior: the Haunted Shore* has two themes: "The first is the co-existence of power and fragility . . .," "The second is the humbling

insignificance of the human record as the rocks of Lake Superior reveal it. . . ." It is the unique treatment of these two themes, however, which is the essence of this book.

Each of the authors accepted one theme. "United in essentials, we therefore chose to work individually



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