

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

CLOUD STUDIES; by Arthur W. Clayden. E. P. Dutton and Co., N.Y., 1925. 200pp., \$6.00.

In 1905 the first edition of this book appeared - at a time when most of our knowledge of the upper atmosphere was derived from ground observations, yet even so, this book was authoritative enough to be used during the war and after as a guide to aviators and the meteorologists who worked with them. In the present, the second edition, Prof. Clayden has completely revised it, and incorporated a large amount of information that has been derived from meteorological studies from the air, making one of the outstanding treatises on clouds, the most interesting of meteorological phenomena.

The illustrations, 64 in number, were all made by the author, and are admirable examples of cloud photography, and show good examples of various types. Even better examples of some of them, however, might have been obtained if the illustrations had not been confined to his own work, but if, in some case, such pictures as some of those by Ferdinand Ellerman, at Mt. Wilson Observatory, had been used instead. Prof. Clayden's complete explanation of his methods will enable the reader, if he so desires, to go out and do likewise.

MODERN ALADDINS AND THEIR MAGIC; by Charles E. Rush and Amy Winslow. Little, Brown & Company, Boston. \$1.50.

Here is a book that will both gratify and stimulate the natural curiosity of the young person. It tells in most delightful style, devoid alike of pedantry and silliness, how things are made and how they work; the common things of daily life, dishes, cloth, soap, pianos, telephones and electric lights. A good gift book for any wide awake youngster. And any oldster can find in it something that he needs to know but doesn't. Librarians will give it a front seat on the children's shelf.

Edwin E. Slosson.

THE WORSHIP OF NATURE. By Sir James George Frazer. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1926. \$4.00

This is the first volume of a pair, of which the second is announced to follow shortly. In the present book, three aspects under which man has worshipped Nature are discussed: Sky, Earth and Sun. It is a book for scholars by a great scholar; exhaustive, compact with crowded facts, liberally annotated. To a world that knows the Golden Bough, it would be simple presumption to undertake comment on the author's qualifications or his method and style of presentation. It is one of those works that upon publication automatically become indispensable to all libraries.

The American death rate has been decreasing more rapidly in the cities than in rural districts.
