

First Glances at New Books

OLD CHEMISTRIES—Edgar Fahs Smith—*McGraw-Hill* (\$2.50). A book describing the textbooks in chemistry used in America by our fathers and grandfathers, by the leading authority on the history of American science. The author gives a hint of the vast stores of early literature relating to chemistry in the hope that some time the history of chemistry will be given its place in the curriculum of studies in every institution of learning where the science itself is studied. The value of the book lies largely in its numerous facsimile pages and portraits of early chemists.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

AN EXPERIMENT WITH TIME—J. W. Dunne—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). In which the author accepts the idea that time is a fourth dimension, and tries to demonstrate that in our dreams both directions in the time-dimension are represented; i. e., that our dreams are made up partly of past and partly of future events. An interesting work, whether true or not.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

THE LOGIC OF MODERN PHYSICS—P. W. Bridgman—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). A discussion of the philosophy of physical science in the light of such modern concepts as the theory of relativity and the quantum theory.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

HARVARD TESTS: HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY, Forms A and B—Henry L. Gerry—*Ginn* (\$.48 per pad of thirty, each form). Methods made popular in group intelligence tests applied to chemistry to form a test that should give a more accurate idea of the student's knowledge than with the older methods.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

WHAT IS THE ATOM?—E. N. da C. Andrade—*Harper* (\$1). A concise (78 pages) account of the modern theory of how atoms are made.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

ABSTRACTS OF THESES: SCIENCE SERIES, VOL. III, 1924-1925—*Univ. of Chicago Press* (\$3.) Continuing a series embodying a most worth-while idea. It would be a most excellent thing if all universities supporting schedules of graduate work here were to issue similar books.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

WHAT AND WHY IN CHINA—Paul Hutchinson—*Willett, Clark & Colby* (\$1). Reading these 130 small pages, or even the four-page chapter entitled "In a Nutshell" will give the average citizen a clearer understanding of the Chinese puzzle than he is likely to get from the daily perusal of the columns he gets in his morning paper. If this new firm of publishers will follow the start of this first issue and get out just what we need to know at just the time when we want to know it, they will contribute greatly to the spread of usable knowledge.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

WIRELESS PICTURES AND TELEVISION—T. Thorne Baker—*Van Nostrand* (\$5). A concise history of the problem and the various attempts at its solution, which is fairly complete, though it pays particular attention to British methods, especially that of the author, and is not sufficiently recent to mention the highly successful television process of the Bell Laboratories.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

OUR AMERICAN GAME BIRDS—L. B. Hunt and E. H. Forbush—*E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co.* (\$2.). A series of 20 beautifully colored prints, each 10 by 11 inches, illustrating 37 of the better known American game-bird species, with text on the back briefly describing range and habits and giving notes of interest to the hunter.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

ARE YOU INTELLIGENT?—Howard W. Haggard—*Harper*. The Yale physiologist who has turned out this little volume found the Army Alpha intelligence test, evolved by wartime psychologists so satisfactory that he has made only microscopic changes in the various items which he has chosen to use. The Alpha test for "following directions," for some reason, is omitted.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

THE FLORA OF BARRO COLORADO ISLAND, PANAMA—Paul C. Standley—*Smithsonian Misc. Coll.* v. 78, no. 8. An annotated checklist which will be very useful to botanists sojourning in Panama.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD—*National Research Council*. A complete report of the last meeting of the organization that is making a scientific study of how we may have better roads.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

PLANTS OF THE PAST—Frank Hall Knowlton—*Princeton Univ. Press* (\$3.50). A most excellent book for the general reader or for a beginning course in paleobotany. The author does not even assume a previous knowledge of either botany or geology on the part of his audience, yet he succeeds in making his exposition clear without any distasteful flavor of "writing down."

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY IN MODERN MEDICINE—J. J. R. Macleod—*Mosby* (\$11). This standard textbook for medical students has been rewritten and expanded in this edition to bring it up to date with recent advances in the science of physiology.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

TEXTBOOK OF COMPARATIVE PHYSIOLOGY—Charles Gardner Rogers—*McGraw-Hill*. Not a medical physiology but a comparative survey of the principal animal functions in the different animal groups.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

THE GENERAL THEORY OF THERMODYNAMICS—J. E. Trevor—*Ginn* (\$1.60). Though of only 102 pages, this little book forms a complete introduction to the study of thermodynamics. Previous acquaintance with the calculus of functions of more than one variable is assumed.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

INTERMEDIATE COTTON SPINNING—Thomas Thornley—*Van Nostrand* (\$7.50). A concise treatise on cotton spinning, especially intended as a text for trade schools, but equally valuable for anyone who wants to learn about this phase of textile manufacture.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

THE LAW OF CHEMICAL PATENTS—Edward Thomas—*Van Nostrand* (\$6). A book for both the chemist and the lawyer, for it tells what is and what is not patentable and how chemical inventions can best be developed.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

COFFEE—R. H. Cheney—*N. Y. Univ. Press*. A thorough-going monograph, covering botanical, chemical, commercial and historical aspects of this most important beverage-berry.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927

IDYLLS OF THE DAHLIA—Robert L. Preston—*The author*. A poetic *pot-pourri* of horticulture and history.

Science News-Letter, June 18, 1927