

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

FLOWER FAMILIES AND ANCESTORS—Frederic E. Clements and Edith S. Clements—*Wilson*. This well-known team of ecologists has done here what Fabre did for insects and Seton for mammals. They have written a natural history of flowers which the layman can read with delight and the student with profit. The text is built largely around the Clements' recent studies on pollination, plus Prof. Clements' development of Bessey's phylogenetic concepts. The simple fact that the book contains some sixty line drawings by Mrs. Clements is sufficient in itself to sell it to a very large section of the botanical and flower-loving public.

Botany
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOLOGY—Arthur W. Haupt—*McGraw Hill* (\$3). This is a solidly written, clearly illustrated text in general biology. Written for college freshmen, it shuns an overload of detail but at the same time makes no watered-down concessions. It is gratifying also to note that there is none of the timidity before anti-evolution clamor which a couple of years ago was driving many authors and publishers to half-measures and evasions.

Biology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

AMERICAN SILURIAN CRINOIDS—Frank Springer—*Smithsonian Institution*. A thorough-going, scholarly monograph of these important and beautiful fossils, printed and illustrated in a manner worthy of the Smithsonian tradition.

Paleontology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

WILD BIRDS INTRODUCED OR TRANSPLANTED IN NORTH AMERICA—John C. Phillips—*Govt. Printing Office* (10c). This pamphlet tells the story of the introduction of useful game and ornamental birds, as well as of such pests as the English sparrow and the starling.

Ornithology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

PEEPS AT THE "ZOO" AQUARIUM—A. E. Hodge—*A. & C. Black* (2s 6d). A well written and excellently illustrated handbook, telling about some of the finny oddities to be found at the aquarium of the London Zoo.

Ichthyology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

AN ADVENTURE IN PYRAMIDS—William Hempstead Porterfield—*A. and C. Boni* (\$2). A novelette of newspaper life written from inside experience by the brilliant California journalist whose meteoric rise from the ranks of reporting to the editorship of half a dozen papers was cut short by his untimely death last fall.

Journalism
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

AMERICAN INQUISITORS — Walter Lippmann—*Macmillan* (\$1.25). Using the Dayton trial and the Chicago schoolbook furor as his texts, Mr. Lippmann inquires penetratingly and often disquietingly into our fundamental assumptions of the role of education in a democracy. His discussion *in propria persona* is interspersed with salty Dialogs on Olympus led by Socrates, and participated in by such persons as Jefferson, Bryan, Modernist and Fundamentalist.

Education
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

ALUMINUM COMPOUNDS IN FOOD—Ernest Ellsworth Smith—*Hoerber* (\$7). A comprehensive contribution to the fiercely fought controversy between powerful financial interests as to the influence of aluminum in food. The author, after collating the chemical and medical evidence, comes to the conclusion that the use of aluminum cooking utensils is harmless and that the so-called alum baking powders are no less wholesome than other varieties.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

STUDIES ON OXIDATION-REDUCTION I-X. *Bulletin No. 151, U. S. Hygienic Laboratory*. A 350-page volume containing the first ten papers of the series of studies on biological oxidation by electrical methods with full biographies of the subject.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

THE PHILIPPINES TODAY—Robert W. Hart—*Dodd, Mead* (\$2.50). The author, who is a surgeon in the U. S. Public Health Service, undertakes to give, in brief compass, a view of the social and economic conditions in the Philippines, with sufficient treatment of geographic and historic facts to serve as background. He is opposed to granting the islanders independence.

Sociology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

NAUTICAL ALMANAC AND ASTRONOMICAL EPHEMERIS FOR 1930—*H. M. Stationery Office* (5s.). In the 1929 edition of this astronomer's bible published by the British Government, a number of changes to increase the convenience of the book were introduced. The 1930 edition continues these and introduces a few further improvements.

Astronomy
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

HYDROGRAPHIC MANUAL — J. H. Hawley—*U. S. Government Printing Office* (45c). One of the chief functions of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey is hydrographic surveying, which includes soundings to determine depths of waters through which ships must pass, and the orientation of these soundings with respect to shore positions. This book, while prepared by the Survey for the specific purpose of instructing their men in the methods, is none the less of interest to the layman who wants to know how it's done, or even to the amateur navigator who wants to try it himself.

Hydrography
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

STANDARDS YEARBOOK, 1928—Bureau of Standards—*U. S. Government Printing Office* (\$1). The second edition of this now annual work tells of the present-day standardizing activities, not only of the Bureau of Standards itself, but also of other agencies of the Federal Government and the States, counties and municipalities, and technical societies and trade organizations. Their accomplishments during 1927 are related, and special attention is paid to their programs for future work.

Engineering
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

THE BRIDE OF THE SACRED WELL Emma Lindsay Squier—*Cosmopolitan* (\$2.00). Folk tales of ancient Mexico embellished by a novelist's fancy.

Archæology
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928

ABSTRACTS OF THESES, THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 1925-1926—*Univ. of Chicago Press* (\$3). A new volume in the series issued by the University of Chicago, making available in compact form the meat of theses submitted during the academic year 1925-26.

History of Science
Science News-Letter, July 14, 1928