

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

THE TWO SOLAR FAMILIES—T. C. Chamberlin—*University of Chicago Press* (\$2.50). One solar family includes the planets, asteroids and their satellites; the other consists of the comets, chondrolites and meteors. But though the sun was the mother of both, the two families had different fathers. The father of the planetary family was the passing star that pulled out the embryonic planets from the sun; the father of the cometary family was the starry host outside the solar system. This is the thesis developed by the distinguished professor emeritus of geology and paleontology of the University of Chicago and co-originator of the Moulton-Chamberlin theory in his latest work.

Astronomy
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE NEW WORLD—Isaiah Bowman—*World Book Co.* (\$4.80). This is an indispensable book for school, public and reference libraries. For it is the only volume that gives in readable form an account of the changes made by the Great War and of the present condition of all countries. It now appears in the fourth edition since its first publication in 1921, completely revised, considerably rewritten and enlarged by 75 pages and 42 new maps. Significant changes have been made in the chapters on the Mohammedan world, the mandated territories, the Soviet republics, Hungary, Yugoslavia and the commercial relations of the United States.

Geography
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

A SHORTER PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY—Emmanuel de Martonne—*Knopf*. The translator of this leading French text, E. D. Laborde, points out in a foreword that it differs from usual English texts "in the absence of overmuch geology and physics." The author's method is a synthetic one; he builds up geographical principles by examining typical regions. Some of the charts have been especially prepared for this English edition.

Physiography
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

BLASTERS' HANDBOOK—Arthur LaMotte—*E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.* If you want to blast anything, from a tree trunk to a mountain, this little book will be useful to you.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

LECTURES IN PSYCHIATRY—William A. White—*Nervous and Mental Disease Pub. Co.* Reading this book, you forget that you are dealing merely with printed words. Dr. White takes his readers with him, like a class, into a psychiatric clinic. Each patient is brought in, and very briefly described, so that he or she stands before you, a character. Then the psychiatrist lectures in informal fashion on the points that the case illustrates. In the hands of this well-known authority on mental disease the method is highly effective. The book confines itself to the major psychoses.

Psychiatry
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE CAVE MAN'S LEGACY—E. Hanbury Hankin—*Dutton* (\$2). The cave man's legacy is his addiction to bloodthirstiness, human sacrifice, murder, and other forms of violence, and needless to say, cave man traces can be found cropping out in the world today. Mr. Hankin's contention is that cave man's influence is waning, and that these traits were not a heritage from distant animal ancestors but were due rather to temporary and exceptional conditions that occurred in an early stage of evolution. The book abounds in illustrations from primitive tribes, ancient civilizations, and even from the French Revolution and, in contrast, the American Revolution.

Ethnology
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE NEW MORALITY—Durant Drake—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). What is necessary and desirable in standards of morality is at last coming to be judged by the scientific method of observing results. Handling the subject from this angle, Prof. Drake takes a keen look into such moral problems as corrupt politics, poisoned journalism, crime, race prejudice, irresponsible parenthood, and suppression of opinion. After looking at the picture from one angle and then another, he sums up our moral situation and indicates possibilities for bettering matters through eugenics, euthenics, and education.

Philosophy—Sociology
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

ARITHMETIC OF PHARMACY—A. B. Stevens—*Van Nostrand* (\$2). An exercise book for pharmacy students.

Pharmacy
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

HARVEY BAUM: A STUDY OF THE AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION—E. S. Mead and B. Ostrolenk—*Univ. of Pennsylvania Press* (\$2). A study in economic self-help for farmers, dramatized by the story of what one Pennsylvania farmer did for himself.

Agriculture
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE PROTECTION FORESTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED AND THEIR PART IN FLOOD PREVENTION—E. A. Sherman—*Govt. Printing Office*. A condensed summary of our present knowledge of the role of the forests in the drainage of our great central valley.

Forestry—Physiography
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

WILD LIFE AND FOREST SURVEY OF SOUTHWESTERN CATTARAUGUS COUNTY, N. Y.—V. H. Calahane and W. A. Dence—*Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin* (\$1). A biological survey of an interesting area in southern New York State.

Natural History
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

OUR NATIONAL PARKS, 2 VOLS.—Mary A. Rolfe—*Sanborn* (\$1.00 a volume). The national parks have been "done" for adults from almost every conceivable angle; the park bibliography fills pages. For children, however, little has been written on these marvelous areas, which of all places should be made plain for wondering eyes and minds not hardened as yet to miracles. Miss Rolfe, therefore, has done a high service in preparing these two books especially for young people. She adopts the best possible method for her exposition, in making a story of the adventures of imaginary children in the parks and in enlivening her text with many excursions into interesting anecdote.

Natural History
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE LIFE OF SIR MARTIN FROBISHER—William McFee—*Harper's* (\$4). The stirring life and adventures of the great English seaman who was defeated of the Northwest Passage, but took it out on the Spaniards in Armada days. Of his contemporaries, the author gives Sir Thomas Howard a good quittance, Sir Francis Drake a rather poor one, and Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth a very bad one, indeed.

Exploration—History
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

First Glances At New Books—Continued

HENRI BERGSON—Jacques Chevalier—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). Bergson's "Creative Evolution" presented a new conception of the universe which has widely influenced modern thought since its publication in 1910. It was obvious that such a novel view must have important bearings upon religion and ethics, yet Bergson himself has scrupulously refrained from deducing these. So various of his contemporaries have undertaken the task. Here the Professor of Philosophy in the University of Grenoble draws from the works of the Jewish philosopher a theology that is sufficiently orthodox to satisfy a Catholic Schoolman. The author endeavors to clear up the misunderstanding between Einstein and Bergson.

Philosophy
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE CREATIVE INTELLIGENCE AND MODERN LIFE—By Francis John McConnell, Frederick J. E. Woodbridge, Roscoe Pound, Lorado Taft, Robert A. Millikan, Paul Shorey—*University of Colorado* (\$2.00). Worth-while addresses by six specialists who discuss modern living in relation to religion, philosophy, the social order, art, science, and literature. The volume is the fifth, and last, of the University's Semi-Centennial Publications.

Philosophy
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE YOUNG CHILD—Bird T. Baldwin—*American Library Association* (35c.) (Reading with a Purpose Series). The vital interest in the heart of every family—the care of the young child—is covered thoroughly and sympathetically. Dr. Baldwin states: "Neither . . . colleges, finishing schools nor high schools have been concerned with giving even a six month training course for parenthood. . . . A child may be handicapped for life because of improper care, or he may be safeguarded by proper precautions during the first critical years." A list of supplementary readings on child study is appended.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

YEARBOOK ON COAL MINE MECHANIZATION—G. B. Southward—*American Mining Congress*. A report which details the progress made in applying machinery to the mining of coal.

Mining
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE GRAPHIC BIBLE—Lewis Browne—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). The delightful combination of romance and reality which makes the oldest maps so fascinating has been captured for this map-story of the Bible. Dragons with curly tails swim in the Great Sea. "Ur of the Chaldees, where Abraham was born," is not only labeled, but has a tent and a couple of palm trees, and its position as relating to the Tigris and Euphrates is clearly seen. Philistine and Israelite camps are drawn so that strategic problems can be visualized, and Moabites, Assyrians, and Ammonites are given a definite habitation in their corners of the eastern world. There is a map on practically every one of the 145 pages. The text carries along the Bible story in simple, modern English.

Geography—History
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

AN INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY—George S. Duncan—*Revell* (\$1.75). The general idea that archaeology is shedding much new light on the Bible is familiar to the public. But Dr. Duncan, Egyptologist, is the first to pack the new knowledge into a small clearly written book so that the layman can see the situation from various angles. Dealing with the old, well-known names and places—Sinai, Antioch, the Tower of Babel, the Canaanites, and the rest—the author presents the "news" that has been revealed by pick and spade expeditions, and shows that the main positions of progressive Bible critics are in harmony with the conclusions of Biblical archaeologists. The subtitle of the book, "A textbook for school and home," indicates its range of usefulness.

Archæology
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

ANCIENT MAN—Richard Swann Lull—*Doubleday, Doran* (\$1.50). References to Pithecanthropus, Heidelberg Man, Rhodesian Man, and other fragmentary individuals occur frequently in the news, but there are undoubtedly many readers whose ideas of these far-away times and people remain disconnected and hazy. Prof. Lull fills in the gaps of background knowledge about the famous relics of prehistoric man and also gives a compact explanation of the life and manners in the various stages of prehistory.

Anthropology
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

HOWS AND WHYS OF COOKING—E. G. Halliday and I. T. Noble—*University of Chicago Press* (\$2). Even fudge making has a scientific method, and when one understands that this delectable confection is a structure of delicate crystals, whose size and shape may be greatly changed by agitation while cooling, one begins to understand why the usual methods of making it, including vigorous beating of the hot mass until it stiffens, are so often unsuccessful. The explanation and the scientific method are told simply and agreeably not only for candy but for all kinds of food except meat and jellies. In this book is help for the inexperienced bride and for the older housewife who still has failures which ordinary cookbooks do not explain or safeguard against. The book should also appeal to the general public, who often wonder why cooked vegetables are brownish gray instead of green or red, bread is crumbly, angel food leathery and why the house smells to high Heaven when cabbage is being cooked.

Home Economics
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

THE CRYPTOGRAM BOOK—Prosper Buranelli, F. G. Hartswick and Margaret Petherbridge—*Simon and Schuster* (\$1.90). All about ciphers and how to solve them, with numerous examples, is conveniently summarized in the back, as well as comments on how to go about deciphering them. The authors and publishers believe that it will prove a successor in popularity to the cross-word puzzles. In view of the uncertain whims which public interest follows, time alone will tell whether or not they are justified. But in the meantime the puzzle addict will get some fun out of it.

Cryptography
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928

ENGINEERS—Directory of Engineers of Corporations—*Neo-Techni Research Corp.* (\$25). The legion that never was listed, those civil, mechanical, electrical, mining and metallurgical engineers and concerns that build the man-made world, gather on the 1321 pages of this large volume. In addition to the prodigious number of listings, it contains engineering data such as found in handbooks and texts.

Engineering
Science News-Letter, November 3, 1928