

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

HISTORIC AIRSHIPS—Rupert Sargent Holland—*Macrae-Smith* (\$4). If you want a book to give to somebody, young or old, who is interested in aviation (and who, in these days, is not?) this is just the thing. From the early balloon voyages of Montgolfier, through the successful experiments of the Wright Brothers, up to Lindbergh, Byrd and Eckener—all these are in its 343 pages, and their story is interestingly and accurately told. The beautiful illustrations in color and halftone are an especially attractive feature, but one serious defect will tend to prevent the book's becoming an important reference work on the subject. That is the lack of an index.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

HEROES OF THE AIR—Chelsea Fraser—*Crowell* (\$2). In this new edition of this book, the author has added accounts of achievements of aviators in 1927 and the first part of 1928, including the Bremen, the Friendship and the Southern Cross. Evidently in order to get the book out in time for the Christmas trade, the publishers have omitted an index, an inexcusable neglect.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

THE AIRPLANE AND ITS ENGINE—Charles Hugh Chatfield and Charles Fayette Taylor—*McGraw-Hill* (\$2.50). A book for persons interested in acquiring a sound knowledge of the airplane who do not have time nor the inclination to give the subject the intensive study that would be required of the designing engineer or expert mechanic.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

SCIENCE AND GOOD BEHAVIOR—H. M. Parshley—*Bobbs Merrill* (\$2.50). The ethics of a biologist. To make clear how he arrives at his theories of human conduct, the author goes back to the fundamentals of biology and traces the development of the mechanisms. The biologic survey of man, individually and collectively, leads him to the conclusion that religion and traditional philosophy have failed to guide the world toward happiness and freedom. It is argued that a successful ethics can be built up on science.

Philosophy—Biology
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

NATURAL MAN—Charles Hose—*Macmillan* (\$10). A comprehensive account of the people of Borneo—and a readable book besides. The significance of these tribes, as Prof. Elliot Smith points out in the preface, is that they represent a series of primitive phases of culture that in most other parts of the world have been profoundly modified or have been completely suppressed by higher civilizations. These tribes, who have stood still while most of the world progressed, can shed considerable light on cultural origins. Referring to Dr. Hose's clear explanation of these people as being instinctively kind and exempt from the greed that civilization creates, Professor Smith makes the interesting comment: "If his book achieves no other purpose than to establish the fact of fundamental importance that man is by nature peaceful and good-natured, he will have achieved a revolution in anthropological doctrine."

Ethnology
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

THE ART OF THINKING—Ernest Dimmet—*Simon and Schuster* (\$2.50). It seems strange to speak of a book with the French literary flavor of this one as "practical". But this essayist's thoughts on why we do not think and how we can think for ourselves constitute a liberal course in a subject still not included in most college courses of study.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF LANGUAGE—Walter B. Pillsbury and Clarence L. Meader—*Appleton* (\$3). Explains what modern science knows about human speech, its origin, nervous mechanism, syntax, mental processes, and all the other angles of speech psychology. The collaborators on this valuable work are a professor of psychology and a professor of general linguistics, both at the University of Michigan.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

YOUR CHILD TODAY AND TOMORROW—Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg—*Lippincott* (\$2.50). Mrs. Gruenberg has revised her book for the third edition, so that it includes the developments in child guidance during the last eight years. The book is thus thoroughly modern, but it avoids the radical and extreme among modern theories.

Education
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

THE HANDWRITING ON THE WALL—Arthur D. Little—*Little, Brown* (\$2.50). A popular account of the value of industrial chemistry, by one of its most conspicuously successful practitioners. It not only pictures the rewards industrialists may reap by employing chemical researchers in their attack on problems that plague them, but also hints pointedly and pithily what is likely to happen to those who don't. It would be very appropriate as a Christmas present from a chemist to a "big boss"—especially if one has any likely young candidates messing up the laboratory.

Industrial Chemistry
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

HOUSEWIFERY—L. Ray Balderston—*Lippincott* (\$3). Housekeeping is considered as a business in this manual. Directions are given both for actually doing all the work of the house and for organizing and directing such work. This includes direction of servants, purchasing of supplies, arrangement of the house and its contents. The book aims at greater efficiency so that the housewife can do her work better, with less effort and time. It is extremely practical and should be useful to the group of young housewives whose training and experience has all been in stores and offices rather than homes.

Home Economics
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

JUNIOR SCIENCE—John C. Hessler—*Sanborn* (\$1.60). Using the question and answer style, the author tells in simple language the scientific facts that underlie our every-day life. Each chapter has exercises and summary. Pronunciation of scientific terms is given as they occur and in a glossary. The revised edition includes recent advances in nutrition, radio, aviation, telephotography, television and the like.

General Science
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

THOMAS CONDON—Ellen Condon McCornack—*University of Oregon Press* (\$2.50). A biography of a geologist who went West to grow up with the country—and who certainly grew!

Geology—Biography
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928

OPALS AND GOLD—R. M. Macdonald—*Lippincott* (\$4). Adventures in search of treasure; the point is, they really happened.

Travel—Mineralogy
Science News-Letter, December 8, 1928