

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

SCIENCE AND THOUGHT IN THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY—Lynn Thorndike—*Columbia University Press* (\$4.75). The leading American student of medieval science again places both scientists and historians in his debt. In this volume, devoted to that fascinating but inadequately explored zone between scholasticism and the renaissance, Dr. Thorndike's painstaking objectivity results in the toning down of some big reputations, like those of Nicholas of Cusa and Regiomontanus, while to other hitherto obscure names it gives the word, "Friend, move up higher."

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE SCIENCES AND PHILOSOPHY—J. S. Haldane—*Doubleday Doran* (\$3.75). In the Gifford Lectures for 1927-28, presented here in book form, one of the greatest of living biologists undertakes the thorny task of finding a common path for physical facts and spiritual aspirations. By searching he finds God, but he negates the idea of personal immortality.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE WONDERFUL STORY OF SCIENCE—Inez N. McFee—*Crowell* (\$2.50). A one-volume outline of science for the lay reader, well conceived and on the whole well executed. Not in the least "textbooky".

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE SCIENCE OF LIVING—Alfred Adler—*Greenberg* (\$3.50). Human strivings toward successful living arise from a desire to escape the feeling of inferiority, according to this Viennese psychologist. When these strivings are not harnessed into socially useful channels the familiar inferiority complexes and superiority complexes come into being. Playing on this theme, he stresses the importance of right relationships of the individual to the rest of the world and shows how healthy and unhealthy conditions arise.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

AN HOUR ON HEALTH—Morris Fishbein — *Lippincott* (\$1). An hour's profitable reading on various aspects of health by the editor of *The Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Hygeia*.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE SCIENCE OF PSYCHOLOGY—Raymond Holder Wheeler—*Crowell* (\$3.75). A comprehensive but compact text book, covering much modern experimentation and many valuable angles of psychology which older texts overlooked. Besides the explanation of brain and nervous system, there is an explanation of the brains of primates, animal behavior is compared with human, there is a brief reference to primitive man's development, and there is considerable space given to social behavior. Yet the bulk of the volume treats of the standard phenomena expected to appear in such a text. The very wealth of the author's material makes it seem likely that the book will be most successfully used with advanced or older students, or at any event in classes where the teacher is able and willing to amplify the pithy summaries of experiments and points of view.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE INFANT—Siegfried Bernfeld — *Brentano's* (\$4). A compilation of what has been written about the first months of human life, including views of many European psychologists and also observations on child psychology among primitive tribes and other foreign peoples. These data, which have evidently been collected with much care and interest, are interpreted by the author according to his own theory of the development of instinct. The theory is Freudian in character.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HAPPINESS—Walter B. Pitkin—*Simon and Schuster* (\$3). Dr. Pitkin has chosen an attractive subject, and his manner of handling it is entertaining as well as enlightening. Famous personalities are analyzed for the reader's benefit, and we are introduced to a number of fictitious characters with intriguing names who illustrate other degrees of happiness and unhappiness. Dr. Pitkin has no formula for achieving a healthful and happy emotional state, but he does believe that happiness is within reach of more people today than ever before and he does give some specific advice as to how to practise the fine art of living.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

CHILD CARE AND TRAINING—Marion L. Faegre and John E. Anderson — *University of Minnesota Press* (\$2). A much needed practical guide book for parents of young children. It is a little volume, but it gives useful information about diet and clothing, children's diseases, mental growth, emotional habits, eating and sleeping habits, constructive discipline, in fact, every angle of normal child life. Questions for the reader to think over are provided at the end of each chapter and there are reading lists showing where more extensive discussions of the topics may be found. The pre-school child, up to about six years, is the chief concern of the authors, but a good many of the facts and psychological principles are equally applicable in dealing with children of the primary grades.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE ART OF RAPID READING—Walter B. Pitkin—*McGraw-Hill* (\$2.50). In this cellulose and carbon civilization, what we see with our eyes is even more important than what we hear with our ears, despite the rise of radio. The importance of rapid and accurate reading is stressed by Prof. Pitkin in this book. Through tests and advice he attempts to impart the art to others.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

RARE METALS—*Fansteel Products Company* (Free). The story of tantalum, tungsten, and molybdenum, written in non-technical language, issued by the concern producing these metals.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

INSECTS: THEIR STRUCTURE AND LIFE—George H. Carpenter—*Dutton* (\$3.75). A second and thoroughly revised issue of a book that has for years been a standby of entomologists. Its thoroughness and wealth of information somewhat belie the modest subtitle, "A Primer of Entomology", although the directness of presentation and the large number of pertinent illustrations will recommend the book to the beginner struggling with the difficulties of insect anatomy and physiology.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

First Glances at New Books—Continued

THE SCIENCE OF LIFE—H. G. Wells, Julian Huxley and G. P. Wells—*The Amalgamated Press, Ltd.*, The Fleetway House, London, E. C. 4—Vol. 1 (\$5.20). In his recent volume "An Open Conspiracy", H. G. Wells announced his intention of putting forth his philosophy of life in systematic and final form in three volumes: the first devoted to the past, the second to the present, and the third to the future. The first volume, "The Outline of History", has had an immense sale in England and in this country. The book in hand is the first volume of the second part of this great trilogy. "The Science of Life", which is to be completed by two more volumes. It is now appearing in England in fortnightly parts sold on the newsstands for 1s. 3d. each. Owing to our copyright restrictions, it can not be sent to the United States. Eventually, of course, it will be published in this country, but probably, as was the case of Thomson's "The Outline of Science", the successor of "The Outline of History", in a belated, curtailed, inferior, and more expensive form. Meanwhile, those who are anxious to keep up with current British thought are obliged to resort to some roundabout means of booklegging. The reader will remember that Remarque's "All Quiet on the Western Front" is still not obtainable in America except in an expurgated edition.

"The Science of Life" begins with a clear and interesting explanation of the fundamental principles of physiology, heredity, and evolution in the plant and animal worlds, with special reference to the human race. It is well illustrated both with text sketches, half-tones, and ten full-page color plates. It is just the sort of book needed by the general reader to make him acquainted with the facts and opinions of modern science in regard to living creatures. It should have as wide a sale as "The Outline of History" because it is quite as important to understand the living world as it is the history of the past.

The object of H. G. Wells in writing this new book is stated as follows in the first number of the present volume:

"Mingled with orthodox physiological teaching are the doctrines of dietetic dogmatists, and the prohibitions and injunctions of religious and other regimens. Ob-

scuring the facts of heredity there are heavy accumulations of prejudice and superstition. In the care of his health and the conduct of his life, the ordinary man, therefore, draws far less confidently upon the resources of science than he might do. He is unavoidably ignorant of much that is established and reasonably suspicious of much that he hears. He seems to need the same clearing up and simplifying of the science of life that *The Outline of History* and its associates and successors have given to the story of the past. And the present work is an attempt to meet that need, to describe life, of which the reader is a part, to tell what is surely known about it, and discuss what is suggested about it, and to draw just as much practical wisdom as possible from the account."

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

ARTHROPODS AS INTERMEDIATE HOSTS OF HELMINTHS—M. C. Hall—*Smithsonian Misc. Coll.* Parasitic worms play a large part in promoting ill health among men and beasts, yet their often complicated life histories are in many cases imperfectly known, or when known are sometimes obscurely recorded. This brochure will therefore be of considerable service to parasitologists.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

A BIOLOGY WORKBOOK—J. C. Adell, Orra O. Dunham and L. E. Welton—*Ginn* (\$1.32). A combination laboratory direction and record book for high school students in biology, gotten up in the format of a notebook.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

HOME ECONOMISTS — *American Home Economics Association* (\$5). This volume of portraits and biographical sketches of 28 men and women who have been prominent in the home economics movement in the United States should appeal to the many teachers and students of the subject.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

OUTLINES OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE—By 21 Contributors—*Hoeber* (\$5). The Committee on Public Health Relations of the New York Academy of Medicine has issued this manual for physicians and medical students. The book is intended to supplement medical instruction by giving briefly the salient facts of that modern science, preventive medicine. The editors are Drs. Frederic E. Sondern, Charles Gordon Heyd and E. H. L. Corwin.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

EXPERIMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE GASTRIC JUICE AND THE PHYSIOLOGY OF DIGESTION—William Beaumont—*Harvard University Press*. This volume, which is a facsimile of the original edition of 1833 and also contains Sir William Osler's essay on Beaumont, was presented to each member of the Thirteenth International Physiological Congress in commemoration of America's pioneer physiologist. It is one of the classics of physiology and medicine.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

THE RESPIRATORY FUNCTION OF THE BLOOD—J. Barcroft—*Macmillan* (\$5). Two volumes of the series into which Professor Barcroft found it necessary to divide his original work for the second edition are now ready. These are *Lessons from High Altitudes* and *Hemoglobin*. The books are not for the lay reader, but will be welcomed by physiologists. A delightfully fresh style makes unusually pleasant reading of Professor Barcroft's account of his valuable investigations.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

STERILIZATION FOR HUMAN BETTERMENT—E. S. Gosney and Paul Popenoe—*Macmillan* (\$2). This small volume gives the results of 6,000 operations in California during the last 20 years, together with valuable comments by the authors.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

LONG AGO TOLD—Harold Bell Wright—*Appleton* (\$2.50). A collection of Papago Indian tales arranged by a well known novelist. The stories were originally told to Mrs. Will Kitt of Tucson, who has known members of the Papago tribe for thirty years. "My share of the work," Mr. Wright states, "has been to select, piece together, eliminate tiresome repetitions, harmonize confusing elements, and make clear broken sentences and obscure construction." The result is very readable, with the Indian atmosphere retained.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929

MINERAL RESOURCES OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1928—F. J. Katz *Govt. Printing Office* (20c). A compact and useful little block of statistical information.

Science News-Letter, October 19, 1929