

## FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

PREHISTORIC ART OF THE ALASKAN ESKIMO—Henry B. Collins, Jr.—*Smithsonian Institution* (55c). The surprising downward trend of culture in the prehistoric Arctic has been traced very recently, chiefly through the discovery of three successive types of art work. Mr. Collins surveys briefly the discoveries that have been made and describes a number of the decorated objects dug out of frozen trash heaps in the past three years. There are twenty-four plates providing clear illustrations of the changes in this art from ancient to recent times.

*Archæology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

TALES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS—Selected and annotated by Stith Thompson—*Harvard University Press* (\$6). For the discriminating reader or student interested in typical examples of the native literature of America. The ninety-six stories chosen are from collections of field workers and represent the range of tribes of the United States and Alaska. The bibliography and notes at the end of the volume will be valuable to those who wish to probe further into the significance of the myths and other stories or to trace the motifs as they appear among various Indian groups.

*Ethnology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

MAGIC SPADES—R. V. D. Magoffin and Emily C. Davis—*Holt* (\$5). The romance of archæology, forcefully and attractively presented by the president of the Archæological Institute of America and a member of the staff of Science Service. In the division of labor, the preparation of the first part of the book, dealing with the classical Old World, fell to Dr. Magoffin, and the second part, on Northern Europe and American prehistory, to Miss Davis. The result has been a very happy one, for the reader steps over the Atlantic Ocean in the middle of the book without the least sense of a jar, and finds his wanderings among the Aztecs and Moundbuilders as fascinating as his sojourn with the Pharaohs and the Caesars. *Magic Spades* will undoubtedly find wide use in college courses, and for Christmas presentation it is as good a book as can be found in a day's search.

*Archæology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

A VERY NAKED PEOPLE—Albert Londres—*Liveright* (\$3). As vivid a book of Africa as has been written. The author's staccato style, his graphic language, his reporting of conversations and events "conjure" us into feeling that we are with him in French Africa. The account of native conditions in the colonies is said to have aroused in France some of the excitement which "Mother India" aroused in England.

*Ethnology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

OFFICIAL YEAR BOOK COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—Charles H. Wichens—*Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics*. The annual reports of the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics are the best of their kind in the world and contain much of interest to American students of sociology, labor and politics.

*Sociology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

ORGANIC EVOLUTION—Richard Swann Lull—*Macmillan* (\$4.50). The success of Prof. Lull's book has already been attested by the eight printings of the old edition; this revision, which inaugurates the ninth, will undoubtedly continue this enviable record. Inasmuch as perhaps a majority of writers on evolution have been interested in genetics or some other branch of "contemporary" biology, it is especially a matter for congratulation that we have here a book written by a highly qualified paleontologist.

*Evolution*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

THE CHIEF OF THE HERD—Dhan Gopal Mukerji—*Dutton* (\$2.50). Rudyard Kipling first made animal tales from India popular in the West. But now comes a generation of Indian writers who find an audience prepared for them, and have a more intimate knowledge of the best tales to tell. Mr. Mukerji has already scored several successes, and this story of the life of the sagacious leader of an elephant herd is a worthy addition to his list.

*Nature*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

ADVANCED BIOLOGY—Frank M. Wheat and Elizabeth T. Fitzpatrick—*American Book Company* (\$1.80). A textbook for high school classes in advanced biology.

*Biology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

IN THE ZOO—W. Reid Blair—*Scribner's* (\$2.50). This book, by the director and general curator of the New York Zoological Park, will do much to heighten the already great interest shown by the American public in the citizens of their great zoological parks. Especially interesting are the accounts of events about the zoo that most of us never get to see: the capture and transportation of wild animals, their care and feeding, and especially what is done for them when they are sick or injured. The photographic illustrations are superb.

*Zoology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

WAR WHOOP AND TOMAHAWK—Ernest Harold Baynes—*Macmillan* (\$1.75). War Whoop and Tomahawk were a pair of bison calves which the author trained as draft animals, just to show doubters it could be done and as an argument for the encouragement and better care of a dwindling American species. He has made even the record of kicks and bumps both absorbing and amusing.

*Zoology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

IMPORTED INSECT ENEMIES OF THE GIPSY MOTH AND THE BROWN-TAIL MOTH—A. F. Burgess and S. S. Crossman—*Government Printing Office* (50c). This publication, which is Technical Bulletin No. 86 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is of especial interest to every one interested in the biological control of insect pests.

*Entomology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

WHAT TO TELL THE PEOPLE ABOUT THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS—Belmont Mercer Farley—*Teachers College, Columbia University* (\$1.75). An investigation of what topics of school news people like to read, and what sort of school news the newspapers actually present. The author follows this with practical suggestions for those who deal with school publicity and who may wish examples of facts and events that are of greatest interest.

*Education*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

COMMERCE YEARBOOK, 1929. VOL. II: FOREIGN COUNTRIES—*U. S. Government Printing Office* (\$1). Masses of valuable statistical information and numbers of maps, all the way from Argentina to the U. S. S. R.

*Commerce*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

## First Glances at New Books—*Continued*

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL REGISTER—Edited by Carl Murchison—*Clark University Press* (\$6). A directory of about 1,300 living psychologists in America and other countries, showing in each professional biography the individual's training, positions held, editorships, honors, followed by a reference list of psychological articles and books published. The American section is more complete than those devoted to foreign countries, chiefly due to the greater difficulties of standardizing the foreign lists and obtaining data.

*Psychology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

TWENTY YEARS OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 1909-1929—*American Foundation for Mental Hygiene*. A stock-taking of the origin, purpose, accomplishments, and present status of the mental hygiene movement. The material thus brought together forms a useful reference book, for it includes the first mental hygiene publication ever issued, a classic report of a survey by the late Dr. T. W. Salmon, an article explaining how a child guidance clinic achieves results, a directory of state and local societies, and a list of publications of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene.

*Mental Hygiene*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY, Volume I: Problems of Psychology and Perception—Leonard T. Troland—*Van Nostrand* (\$4). Dr. Troland's point of view would preserve "what is valuable in behavioristic practice," meanwhile asserting the value of introspection as a psychological method. Thus, he aims to bring into harmony the two clashing factions of psychology and to establish a basis on which sound scientific progress may be made. This first volume in a series of four deals with psychology as a science of immediate experience, the physiological mechanism of the nervous system, and the main facts of perception.

*Psychology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

HOW TO TEACH SECONDARY CHEMISTRY AND ALLIED SCIENCES—Hattie D. F. HAUB—*Harr Wagner, San Francisco* (\$7). A compact book of practical suggestions, by a teacher who has been behind the lecture-desk long enough to know the possibilities and difficulties of her craft.

*Chemistry*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY AND THE GREAT TELESCOPES OF THE FUTURE—G. W. Ritchey—*Société Astronomique de France, 28 rue Serpente, Paris 6e.* (60 francs). For nearly a decade Prof. Ritchey has been working in a special laboratory at the Paris Observatory on methods of making large reflecting telescopes, surpassing in size any that have been made so far. Perhaps the chief problem is the huge mirror, but as he has to his credit more than a hundred telescope mirrors, including the world's largest, at the Mt. Wilson Observatory, he is entitled to speak with authority. In this beautiful brochure, with text in both English and French, he outlines his achievements including the cellular mirror, and plans for the future a chain of great observatories, of an entirely new type, advantageously placed in various parts of the world. The wonderfully executed half-tone illustrations show some of the instruments that he has been concerned with and some of the magnificent results that he has obtained with them. His project is vast, and a dream at present, but one hopes that it is a dream that will come true.

*Astronomy*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

THIS AVIATION BUSINESS—Ernest W. Dichman—*Brentano's* (\$3.50). To those who look upon aviation as an industry, to those who plan or hope to aid its development, this book written from the business, rather than the engineering, viewpoint will be helpful.

*Aviation*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

THE NAVIGATION OF AIRCRAFT—Logan C. Ramsey—*Ronald* (\$4.50). Navigation is even more important to aircraft than to the ships of the sea. The problems of the aviator in steering his course in a three-dimensional medium, not only are more intricate, but must be solved with greater speed and precision. This book will be useful to those who expect to wrestle with aerial navigation.

*Aviation*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

AEROPLANE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE—John B. Rathbun—*Stanton* (\$2.50). This aeronautical handbook, in its seventh edition, contains glossaries, general description, historical material and engineering data.

*Aviation*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

APPLIED GEOPHYSICS—A. S. Eve and D. A. Keys—*Macmillan* (\$4.50). In olden times men invoked magic in locating underground mineral deposits when they used the divining rod, or similar devices. Though the divining rod has long since ceased to have any scientific standing, the modern magic of science has replaced it with new and authentic divining rods. In this book two McGill University professors tell how such instruments as the torsion balance, the seismograph, and various electrical, radio and magnetic devices have superseded the hazel wand.

*Mining—Geophysics*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

WHEN MAMMOTHS ROAMED THE FROZEN EARTH—Heinrich Schütz, trans. by Frank Barnes—*Jonathan Cape and Harrison Smith* (\$2.50). A well-told tale of animal life in central Europe when the last of the Pleistocene ice was melting off. The author has a most happy ability to present the events of centuries, such as the development of an entire plant succession, in a single rapid dramatic paragraph. The English title is a little misleading, for the main thread of the story is carried by a single mammoth, the sole survivor of the once vast herd, roaming an earth no longer frozen, a lingering portent of the past, awing his fellow-beasts and at last glimpsed by invading Man to become a legend.

*Paleontology*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

AN INTRODUCTION TO MECHANICS—J. W. Campbell—*Houghton, Mifflin* (\$3.50). A college text that represents a welcome departure from the frequent practice of sugar-coating material for students by eliminating the mathematics. Prof. Campbell does not hesitate to introduce the calculus at an early stage, and though the student may have his troubles, he will at least know something about mechanics when he is through.

*Mechanics*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*

COLLEGE AND REFERENCE LIBRARY YEARBOOK—A Committee of the College and Reference Section of the American Library Association—*American Library Association* (\$2.50). Since books perform an important function in education and research, this handbook on specialized libraries will perform a useful function in making such library activities more efficient.

*Library Science*  
*Science News-Letter, December 14, 1929*