

# • First Glances at New Books •

## Chemistry

**IN THE REALM OF CARBON**—Horace G. Deming—*John Wiley and Sons*, 365 p., \$3. This presentation of the story of organic chemistry is unique. Assuming no previous knowledge of chemistry on the part of the reader, Dr. Deming weaves the fundamentals into the history of organic chemistry. The syntheses are taken up in order to give some idea of the countless synthetic and new products which are now on the market. The author does not stop with test tube illustrations and methods; he tells of the industries which realize the formulas with thousands of tons of material. Lastly, he takes up the chemical activities of living cells, dealing with the processes not only of microorganisms but of larger animals including man. Though prepared for the general reader, this should make an excellent text for first year students of chemistry. As Dr. Deming himself says: "Chemistry as a science will constantly become more mathematical, technical and forbidding; yet chemistry as a cultural subject will ever be more attractively presented, more useful as a part of a general education and more intimately related to other things worth while."

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Zoology-Anatomy

**STUDIES ON THE STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT OF VERTEBRATES**—Edwin S. Goodrich—*MacMillan*, 837 p., \$10. A scholarly discussion of the subject, not meant for general readers or any but advanced students and those engaged in teaching and research, to whom it should be a welcome aid. There are numerous illustrations, many of which were drawn by the author. There is also a bibliography.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Geometry

**SOLID GEOMETRY**—J. O. Hassler—*Lyons & Farnahan*, 131 p., \$1. A condensed text of solid geometry for high school use.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Astronomy

**STAR CLUSTERS**—Harlow Shapley—*McGraw-Hill*, 276 p., \$3. Ever since 1915 Dr. Shapley has been studying star clusters. First at Mt. Wilson, with that observatory's great facilities at his disposal, then at Harvard, whose observatory he now directs, with the huge file of photographs to draw upon, he has made himself the leading authority in

this branch of astronomy. In this book, the second of the Harvard Observatory Monographs, he outlines his methods of research and gives the results. As he states in his preface, it is "a thorough survey of the field of galactic and globular star clusters, showing how these stellar organizations have played a leading part in discovering the transparency of interstellar space, in finding the distance and direction of the center of the Galaxy and in the general measurement of the dimensions of the sidereal universe."

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Psychology

**THIRD CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT**—National Research Council—25c postage. The National Research Council's Committee on Child Development has issued, in two volumes, the addresses and discussion of the third conference on child development held in Toronto last May, together with critical reviews of recent published and unpublished research in child development.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Mining

**THE SCIENTIFIC FUNDAMENTALS OF GRAVITY CONCENTRATION**—Josef Finkay, translated from the Hungarian into German by Johann Pocsubay and from the German into English by C. O. Anderson and M. H. Griffiths—*University of Missouri School of Mines*, 295 p., \$1. A treatise on ore dressing methods that will be of particular interest to the mining engineer, which is the only modern work on the subject.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Biology

**EMBRYOLOGY AND EVOLUTION**—G. R. DeBeer—*Oxford*, 115 p., 7/6d. The author disagrees with some of the present views on evolution, particularly the theory of recapitulation. This small volume presents his reasons for disagreement and his own theories. The book is too technical for the lay reader.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Psychology-Education

**EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN RELATION TO INTELLIGENCE**—Charles W. St. John—*Harvard University Press*, 219 p., \$3.50. The author has compared with their mental test scores the school grades of 503 boys and 455 girls as they progressed through four grades of the Boston public schools. He found a "marked" correlation, higher for girls than for boys.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Exploration

**CAPTAIN JAMES COOK, R. N.**—Sir Joseph Carruthers—*Dutton*, 316 p., \$2.75. Sir Joseph was premier of New South Wales from 1904 to 1908, and in this interesting work are embodied the fruits of what are evidently many years of study of the life of one of England's greatest sailors. Captain Cook was the real founder of Australia, he named the New Hebrides and New Caledonia, and, of special interest to Americans, he discovered Hawaii. Much of the book is devoted to efforts at clearing Cook's name of charges that he mistreated the natives of some of the islands he discovered. Probably many readers of the book, however, never heard of these scandals, so one might doubt the wisdom of devoting so much space to them.

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## Hygiene

**PERSONAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH**—William E. Burkard, Raymond L. Chambers, and Frederick W. Maroney—*Lyons & Carnahan*, 516 p., \$1.08. The poor drawing of most of the numerous illustrations detracts considerably from the value of this comprehensive text for school children.

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## Archaeology-History

**THE HITTITE EMPIRE**—John Garstang—*Richard R. Smith, N. Y.*, 364 p., \$6. The main purpose of this book, Professor Garstang explains, is to serve as an Introduction to Hittite Studies. He has merely sketched in Hittite history and has made space for the physical features of the land and the influence of these features on post-Hittite history. Descriptions of Hittite monuments are an outstanding part of the account. The illustrations are numerous and include photographs, technical line illustrations, drawings of sculptures, and plans of ruins, and there are twelve good maps.

*Science News Letter, October 25, 1930*

## Mathematics

**STONE'S FIRST YEAR ALGEBRA: MANUAL FOR TEACHERS**—John C. Stone and Virgil S. Mallory—*Benj. H. Sanborn & Co.*, 343 p., \$1.36. Though largely a teacher's manual for use with Stone's "First Year Algebra" as a text, much of the material in this book is of value to a teacher who is using any text.

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