First Glances at New Books

Nutrition

NUTRITION AND FOOD CHEMISTRY—Bernard S. Bronson—*Wiley,* 467 p., $3.75. The book is written for college students but is not too technical for general reading. It goes more deeply into the subject than the usual run of popular books on the subject, but may be the more interesting for that reason. The author aptly states: "The number of animals that know how to eat is large; the number of men that know this is small. If a man ever knew, it was long ago, and he has forgotten now." However, this should not be mistaken for the introduction to a new food fad, for it is not. The author presents the scientific facts and has no ax to grind.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Chemistry-Economics

NATURAL GAS— J. C. Youngberg—*Schwacher-Frey,* 185 p. $2.50. Across the face of the United States, in many cases paralleling other channels of transportation, there are pipelines for the conveying of natural gas, a product that is the commodity of a rapidly expanding industry. Financial as well as historical and technical data on natural gas are included in this volume.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Aeronautics

THE AIR-TOURIST'S GUIDE TO EUROPE—Capt. Norman Macmillan—*Washburn,* 276 p., $3. European tourists who like air travel will wish to put this guide in their luggage when next starting for Europe.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Mathematical Tables

ADDITION-SUBTRACTION LOGARITHMS—L. M. Berkeley—*White Book and Supply Co.,* 135 p., $3.25. Addition and subtraction logarithms are not new, for Gauss made the first table of them, following their invention by Leonelli. But until now tables have not been common, Desvallées being one of the few in general use. With this new table a useful innovation is introduced by having the addition logarithms in one column serve as the argument for the subtraction logs. in the next, thus saving space, and combining the two tables, ordinarily given separately. The values are given to five decimals. They are not arranged as in the ordinary log. tables, but in parallel columns of argument and values. The advantage of these logs, is that in extended computation the logarithm of the sum, or difference, of two numbers may be obtained by adding the addition, or subtracting the subtraction, logarithm to or from the larger of the logs of the numbers. The addition or subtraction log. is found in the table from the difference of the logs. of the numbers as argument.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

History-Archaeology

ANCIENT CORINTH. Part I. From the Earliest Times to 404 B.C.—J. G. O'Neill—*Johns Hopkins Press,* 270 p., $5. In this history of Greece the ordinarily conspicuous cities of Athens and Sparta step back to give the limelight to an important city of commerce, Corinth. The topography of Corinth and the architectural features of the city in various periods are dealt with in special preliminary chapters, thus setting the scene in the reader's mind for an understanding of the city's history. Then, the progress of Greek civilization is carefully traced from prehistoric times in Corinth up through the city's participation in the Peloponnesian War. Special attention is paid to the argument as to whether Corinth existed as a Mycenean settlement, and the conclusion is affirmative. A second volume is to continue the story to the year 146.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Public Health

CITY NOISE—*New York City Noise Abatement Commission.* 308 p. The report of the commission appointed by the city's health commissioner, Dr. Shirley W. Wynne. Edited by Edward F. Brown, E. B. Dennis, Jr., Jean Henry and G. Edward Pendray. Of immense general interest and of particular value to municipalities planning to cope with their own noise problems. The report tells what noises are most annoying, how noise affects health and efficiency, how loud various noises are, methods by which noise may be abated, and the progress made in this direction.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Mathematics

ALGEBRA—J. W. Calhoun, E. V. White & T. McN. Simpson, Jr.—*Johnson,* 485 p., $1.40. A new text for high schools in which the authors, they say, aim "to talk directly to the student and to appeal to his . . . common sense."

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

General Science

ELEMENTARY SCIENCE BY GRADES—Book Five, Ellis C. Persing & C. Louis Thiele—*Appleton,* 309 p., $.96; Book Six, Ellis C. Persing & John A. Hollinger—*Appleton,* 340 p., $1. That science should be taught from the very beginning of the child's schooling is the thought of the authors of this series and of Dr. Frank W. Ballou, superintendent of schools in Washington, the editor. These two books are for the fifth and sixth grades, the earlier ones having been covered in previous volumes. In each, nature study predominates, for that is more familiar to the child than the more special scientific topics. In Book Six, elementary facts about astronomy are introduced and also something of electricity. By the time the child brought up in a school using this series reaches high school, he should be well equipped to study the individual sciences, and not waste time in a hurried general science course that leaves him with a rather hazy smattering of a number of topics and little real knowledge of any.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Chemistry

CHEMISTRY AND COOKERY—Annie Louise MacLeod and Edith H. Nason—*McGraw-Hill,* 545 p., $3.50. Essentially a textbook of chemistry for home economics students, this book might be very useful to the intelligent housewife or cook who has remembered her high school science course. The practical culinary applications of chemical theory are given frequently and clearly. Why a souffle falls, how to cook an egg so the yolk is firm and the white tender, the reason for adding salt in beating egg whites and for using cream of tartar to make angel food cake are among the many practical hints to be found in the book.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930

Zoology

VERTEBRATE NATURAL HISTORY OF A SECTION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA THROUGH THE LASSEN PEAK REGION—Joseph Grinnell, Joseph Dixon and Jean M. Linsdale—*University of California Press,* 594 p., $6. An elaborate and exhaustive survey of a region which, because of its focus in one of the smaller but most interesting of American national parks, is visited every year by increasing numbers of persons interested in natural history.

Science News Letter, December 13, 1930