

• First Glances at New Books

Statistics—Sociology

POPULATION PROBLEMS—Warren S. Thompson—*McGraw-Hill*, 462 p., \$3.75. Dr. Thompson, who is director of the Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems, discusses authoritatively many of the problems of our modern civilization: the declining birth rate, immigration, growth of the large city, concluding with a chapter on "Control of Population Growth."

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Zoology

ANIMAL LIFE OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK—Vernon Bailey—*Thomas*, 241 p., \$4. "Yellowstone" used to mean to the traveler merely geysers. But with increasing acquaintance, and especially with the now elaborately evolved program of information conducted by the National Park Service, we have come to realize that this first and greatest of the world's national parks offers at least equal attractions in its varied and unspoiled animal life. The bears, elk, bison and all the other four-footed and feathered citizens of the Yellowstone find here a sympathetic historian, full of the meat of many years of dealing with animals in the wild. The photographic illustrations are fully worthy of the excellence of the text.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Sports

A STUDY OF BOWS AND ARROWS—Saxton T. Pope—*University of California Press*, 102 p., 20 pl., \$2.50. Mr. Pope has an established reputation as a real expert on bows, not only knowing how to use them but being well informed in their history and in what might be termed "toxophysics." The present book is the record of a series of experiments with all types of bows, from both old world and new, representing a range of many centuries in time. The photographic illustrations are most excellent.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Engineering—Physics

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PLUMBING—Bureau of Standards Subcommittee on Plumbing—*Government Printing Office*, 280 p., 35c. The report of one of the fundamental studies of the building and housing division of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Psychology—Sociology

FARM CHILDREN—Bird T. Baldwin, Eva Abigail Fillmore and Lora Hadley—*Appleton*, 331 p., \$4. A most thorough and painstaking study of all the aspects of the lives of children on American farms as compared with children in the consolidated school district similar to the locality that was the birthplace of President Hoover. Here are described in detail the homes, religious training, physical condition, intelligence, educational achievement, musical talent, and daily activities of the children of rural Iowa.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Engineering

A. S. T. M. TENTATIVE STANDARDS, 1930—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 864 p., \$7. A splendid annual publication of value to all users of engineering materials.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Archaeology

EXCAVATIONS AT ZACATENCO—George C. Vaillant—*Amer. Museum of Natural History*, 197 p., \$2. The archaic culture of Mexico had no less than three stages, Vaillant has clearly demonstrated by his intensive excavations at a site near Mexico City. In the course of the excavations, a large collection of pottery, bone, and stone objects have been recovered, and chronological sequences carefully charted. So significant a piece of research deserves a detailed report, and Dr. Vaillant's is as complete as any one could ask. Nineteen burials, were found, but these are mentioned only incidentally as they are to be the subject of a separate, later report.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Botany

AUSTRALIAN RAIN-FOREST TREES—W. D. Francis—*Government Printer, Brisbane*, 347 p., 11s 6d. Full descriptions and astonishingly good photographic illustrations of all the non-tropical rain-forest trees of Australia. This book may be obtained from The Secretary, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, 314 Albert Street, East Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Aviation

AIRCRAFT BOOK FOR BOYS—Dorothy Verrill—*Harpers*, 312 p., \$2.50. Boys now riding aviation as a hobby will read this book with pleasure and profit.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Essays

A NUMBER OF THINGS—Edwin E. Slosson—*Harcourt, Brace*, 342 p., \$2. No better quotation could be chosen for the title of this collection from the writings of the late director of Science Service. Dr. Slosson found the world so full of things as to be perpetually diverting. His pithy, ingenious, and thoughtful comments on literature and the human comedy in general were a feature of the *Independent* for the seventeen years that he served as literary editor of that publication. It is chiefly from those writings that his son, Dr. Preston Slosson, has made up this collection of his essays on non-scientific subjects.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Biology

THE PROGRESS OF LIFE: A STUDY IN PSYCHOGENETIC EVOLUTION—Alexander Meek—*Longmans, Green*, 193 p., \$4.20. The author states, "This book is not meant to introduce a new theory but to indicate a way to recover that elasticity of conception of the process of evolution which the behaviour of protoplasm invites and which the germ-plasm theory of development has for many years prevented."

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Botany

GENERAL ELEMENTARY BOTANY—Elmer Campbell—*Crowell*. 410 p., \$3. A revised edition of a successful text.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Sociology

YOUTH AND CRIME—Dorothy Williams Burke—*Government Printing Office*, 204 p., 35c. A study of the prevalence and treatment of delinquency among boys over juvenile-court age in Chicago published as Bulletin No. 196 of the U. S. Children's Bureau.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931

Chemistry

SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PHOTOCHEMISTRY—Hugh S. Taylor—*National Research Council*, 45 p., 50c. The more man knows about the way in which light brings about chemical reactions, the closer he will be towards a more effective utilization of raw materials and energy, including sunshine. This summary will interest those engaged in this important problem.

Science News Letter, January 31, 1931