

• First Glances at New Books

Biography

MASTER MINDS OF MODERN SCIENCE—T. C. Bridges and H. H. Tiltman—*Dial Press*, 278 p., \$3. The personality and researches of twenty-four outstanding scientists of the world are here set forth in a popular vein. The book is entertaining and designed for the casual reader of science rather than the research student.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Ecology

ECOLOGICAL MONOGRAPHS—A. S. Pearse, Managing Editor—*Duke University Press*, Quarterly, \$6 per year. Ecologists in this country have long felt the need for a journal that could take care of papers too long to fit into the already over-crowded botanical and zoological periodicals and yet not long enough to justify publication as books. To meet this need *Ecological Monographs* has arisen, its first issue being dated as of January, 1931. The contents of this first number consist of two papers: Edith S. Bowen on The Role of the Sense Organs in Aggregations of *Ameiurus melas*, and Robert Marshall on An Experimental Study of the Water Relations of Seedling Conifers with Special Reference to Wilting.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Biochemistry

THE MATERIALS OF LIFE—T. R. Parsons—*Norton*, 288 p., \$3. This popular presentation of biochemistry, using no formulae but nevertheless going into considerable detail, will depend for its success on the intrinsic interest of the subject-matter rather than on tricks of style. Sugar, starch, fat, energy, the living fire, digestion and indigestion, muscular exercise, blood and iron, vitamins, disease are among the topics discussed. It should prove its success with those who don't mind digging for mental food.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Physics-Photography

FILTERS FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF SUNLIGHT AND DAYLIGHT AND THE DETERMINATION OF COLOR TEMPERATURE—Raymond Davis and K. S. Gibson—*Government Printing Office*, 165 p., 45c. A standard daylight is necessary in photographic and other scientific work. Natural daylight is constantly varying in color with the condition of the sky, the time of day, etc. These two Bureau of Standards scien-

tists have designed filters for the production of white light, tested many that are in use and compared the results with the various kinds of daylight. The details of this fundamental research are contained in this publication.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

General Science

MORE BONERS—Compiled by Alexander Abingdon—*Viking Press*, 89 p., \$1. Glycerine is a vicious liquid, miserable in water in all proportions. A problem is a figure which you do things with, which are absurd, and then you prove it. An octopus is a person who always hopes for the best. Hereby it is abundantly evident that the appeal of the erudite Dr. Abingdon to his fellow-members of the long-suffering teaching craft, to send in samples of their choicest, has not been in vain. It is to be hoped that there will be many more volumes in this series, all illustrated, as the first two are, by the eminent Dr. Seuss.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Ophthalmic Hygiene

YOUR VISION AND HOW TO KEEP IT—H. G. Merrill and L. W. Oaks—*Putnam's*, 145 p., \$1.50. This clear and interesting exposition of an important subject will be welcomed by the layman who will find in it the answer to many questions besides much good advice.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Ornithology

GLIMPSES OF FAMILIAR BIRDS—William H. Carr—*Gabriel*, 157 p., \$1.50. A most attractive little book, giving popular descriptions and very clear colored plates of some fourscore common songbirds and their eggs. Under each plate is a blank for the reader's entries regarding the appearance or habits of the species in his own neighborhood.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Physics

PHYSICS, A TEXTBOOK FOR COLLEGES—Oscar M. Stewart—*Ginn*, 770 p., \$4. This excellent text has been widely used by college teachers. The present volume is a thorough revision which makes full use of "modern" physics and of the new applications of physics, yet the treatment remains unchanged.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Medicine

WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CANCER—*American Society for the Control of Cancer*, 27 p., free. This is an authoritative booklet about cancer written for the layman. It will answer correctly his questions as to what cancer is, what causes it, how it may be cured or prevented and what to do if he suspects he has it.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Physiology

KOSTYCHEV'S CHEMICAL PLANT PHYSIOLOGY—S. Kostychev, Trans. Chas. J. Lyon—*Blakiston* 497 p., \$6. An original Russian work which brings plant physiology to the same level as human or animal physiology. Full use is made of the parallel disciplines of physical chemistry in catalysis and colloids and of structural organic chemistry. Photosynthesis, nutrition, carbohydrates, proteins, secondary plant substances, respiration and fermentation are discussed. Kostychev regrets that his book omits treatment of the physiological significance of specific cell and tissue structure.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Chemistry

LECONS DE CHIMIE ANALYTIQUE—Alcide Journiaux—*Hermann et Cie.*, 350 p., \$2.40. Despite its title this book does not deal with volumetric analysis. Gravimetric, organic and electrolytic methods are described in detail for a large number of common anions and cations. Makes little use of modern physico-chemical viewpoints.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Evolution

CREATION BY EVOLUTION—Edited by Frances Mason—*Macmillan*, 392 p., \$2.50. Priced originally at \$5, this symposium of essays on evolution by 24 leading scientists is now offered at a lower figure. The list of authors includes such names as Jordan, Morgan, Lull, Jennings and Wheeler.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931

Geography-Politics

THE PHILIPPINES, PAST AND PRESENT—Dean C. Worcester—*Macmillan*, 862 p., \$6. A new edition, in one volume, of a well-known *apologia* for American rule in the Islands, with a biographical sketch and four additional chapters by Ralston Hayden.

Science News Letter, April 25, 1931