

• First Glances at New Books

Anthropology

SOURCE BOOK IN ANTHROPOLOGY—A. L. Kroeber and T. T. Waterman—*Harcourt, Brace*, 571 p., \$3.75. Fifty-five notable papers by noted scientists. Some appeared years ago and are with difficulty found in print nowadays. Some are recent, as Dr. Douglass' report on the tree ring calendar. The papers have been chosen because they have the value of stimulating discussion. The editors disclaim any intent to cover the broad field of anthropology, but any student who has read these contributions by such men as Darwin, Galton, Boas, Holmes, Hrdlicka, Nordenskiöld, must gain a new understanding of the larger problems of anthropological science. This is a revised edition, considerably different from earlier printings.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Physics

ELECTRICITY, WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT ACTS—A. W. Kramer—*Technical Publishing Company*, 2 vols., 271 and 290 p., \$4. This book is designed to tell the layman just what the science of electricity is like after the revolution of the last thirty years. Full weight is given to the new views. Practically no mathematics is used, but the diagrams and explanations are clear and convincing. The author is associate editor of "Power Plant Engineering" in which periodical the material was first published serially.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Psychology

ANIMAL DRIVE AND THE LEARNING PROCESS—Edwin B. Holt—*Holt*, 307 p., \$2.50. The subtitle, "An Essay Toward Radical Empiricism," indicates the purpose of the work. It is dedicated to Morton Prince and was originally intended by the author as a tribute to his friend on his seventieth birthday. An interesting and enjoyable book.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Psychic Research

HUMAN EXPERIENCES—Walter Franklin Prince—*Boston Society for Psychic Research*, 311 p., \$3.50. To some ten thousand men and women listed in "Who's Who in America" the Boston Society for Psychic Research sent a questionnaire asking if they ever had any psychic experiences for which no "normal" explanation was apparent. Of the 2,693 responses, 430 were affirma-

tive. In this report, the returns are analyzed statistically according to age, education, occupation, religious belief. Following are printed the cases of apparitions, dreams, "monitions," and "premonitions" which were thus obtained, together with Dr. Prince's comments.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

General Science

SCIENCE TODAY—Edited by Watson Davis—*Harcourt Brace*, 310 p., \$2.50. In their original form the 67 chapters that compose this book were read by various eminent men of science as Science Service radio talks. Before inclusion in the book they were carefully revised by their several authors. This volume, therefore, will present the latest news and views, crisp as a head of new lettuce, on all manner of things that are in the heavens above, in the earth beneath and in the waters that are under the earth.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Ornithology

THE RED BOOK OF BIRDS OF AMERICA; THE BLUE BOOKS OF BIRDS OF AMERICA; THE GREEN BOOK OF BIRDS OF AMERICA—Frank G. Ashbrook, illustrations by Paul Moller—*Whitman Publishing Co.*, each volume 96 p., 10c each. This series of little books, each one literally of vest-pocket size, includes most of the birds the non-professional naturalist is likely to encounter in his walks afield. Although the colored illustrations are not exactly those of a first-edition Audubon, it is astonishing that colored pictures could be supplied at all at the low price at which the books are offered.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Child Study

THE INFANT WELFARE MOVEMENT IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY—Ernest Caulfield—*Hoeber*, 203 p., \$2. Those were the days when it was commonplace for unwanted babies to be exposed in the streets to die, and when 75 per cent of the infants christened in London were said to die before the age of five. The eighteenth century, however, also marked the beginnings of that interest in child welfare which has taken such enormous strides in recent years. The author gives an interesting description of both the ignorance and the progress of that time.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Archaeology

THE TEMPLE OF THE WARRIORS—Earl H. Morris—*Scribner*, 251 p., \$5. Without much exaggeration, this might be called something new in writings on archaeology. Mr. Morris tells with a nice dramatic swing the story of one heroic-size archaeological project—"the adventure of exploring and restoring a masterpiece of native American architecture in the ruined Maya city of Chichen Itza, Yucatan." But as he unfolds the adventure, he interrupts himself now and again. He pauses to explain some point about the ancient Mayas or to tell some incident showing what the life of a field archaeologist is like. The book thus becomes an informal and attractive introduction not only to the ancient Mayas but to modern archaeologists as well.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Chemistry

ELECTROCHEMISTRY, PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE—C. J. Brockman—*Van Nostrand*, 348 p., \$4.00. This is an elementary presentation of the theory and current practice of electrochemistry designed as much for the industrialist interested in the possible developments in this field, as for the chemist. The volume is one of the new series of industrial chemical monographs of which three have so far been published.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Medicine

THE FOREST HOSPITAL AT LAMBARÈNE—Albert Schweitzer—*Holt*, 191 p., \$2. Dr. Schweitzer founded the hospital in West Equatorial Africa in 1913. In this volume he tells of his work there since 1924. The tale is as fascinating as any adventure story and gives a vivid picture of life in that part of Africa. All Dr. Schweitzer's profits from the sale of the book go to the hospital, according to the introduction by his friend, Dr. Karl Reiland of St. George's Church, New York.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931

Botany

FIELD WORK FOR THE LOCAL BOTANIST—A. S. Hitchcock—*Author*, 58 p., \$1.10. The price of this book as given in the review note published in the *SCIENCE NEWS LETTER* for October 3 was given as \$1 through an error, which it is desired to correct.

Science News Letter, December 12, 1931