

• First Glances at New Books

Philosophy

WHAT DARE I THINK?—Julian Huxley—*Harper*, 278 p., \$2.50. An eminent British biologist and popularizer of his science here sets himself the task of deciding how the insights and power that science have brought us affect the effort to "have life and have it more abundantly." He had originally intended to call the book "Scientific Humanism," but he has not hesitated to include experiences and problems that have come to him outside of his activities as a scientist.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Botany

A KEY TO THE FAMILIES OF FLOWERING PLANTS — Robert F. Griggs — *Author* (Washington), 32 p., 35c.; in lots of 10 or more, 30c. A second edition of a convenient, pocket-size, compact key to families of flowering plants in the northeastern United States. It "keys in" with the pagination of Gray's Manual, seventh edition. Prof. Griggs has given this key a thorough try-out with his students at George Washington University, to iron out possible rough spots, before committing it to print.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Ornithology

THE BIRD BOOK—Neltje Blanchan—*Doubleday, Doran*, 498 p., 68 colored pl., \$5. This volume combines two previous publications by the author: *Bird Neighbors* and *Birds that Hunt and Are Hunted*, but with new black-and-white text drawings and colored plates. It makes a really big five dollars' worth of popular ornithology.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Mathematics

BINARY LOGARITHMS—G. H. Pohlman—*The author*, 24 leaves. Binary logarithms are calculated on the base 2 instead of the usual 10 or the original (Napierian) e , and the author states that they are valuable in determining wavelengths of the electromagnetic range, and other vibratory systems.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Education

ROADS TO KNOWLEDGE—Ed. by A. Neilson—*Norton*, 349 p., \$3.75. Here a number of specialists tell the layman how to make of his graduation from school a "commencement day" in the study of his own field of interest. Each chapter gives a brief survey of a par-

ticular field and points the way to further knowledge. Some readers will regret to find most of the physical sciences neglected.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Archaeology—Ethnology

THE HISTORY OF THE MAYA—Thomas Gann and J. Eric Thompson—*Scribner*, 264 p., \$2.50. What science has learned about the people who built prehistoric America's greatest civilization is summed up admirably in this volume. Dr. Gann of the British Museum gives present views regarding the origin of the Maya, and the history of the Old Empire. He has chapters also on Mayan art and architecture and the life of modern Mayan Indians of Yucatan. Chapters by Dr. Thompson of the Field Museum deal with the history of Yucatan, the calendar, religion, ceremonies, and traditions of the Maya, and their daily life. The illustrations are good.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Geology

REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON CRUDE PETROLEUM AND ITS LIQUID REFINED PRODUCTS—U. S. Tariff Commission—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 205 p., 25c. Detailed and comprehensive statistics on the cost of production of petroleum, largely in tabular form.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

English

WORDS CONFUSED AND MISUSED—Maurice H. Weseen—*Crowell*, 310 p., \$2. Arranged conveniently in alphabetical form. The list includes words confused because of spelling as well as because of meaning, as "Confidant-Confident-Confidante." A useful addition to those books kept on your desk.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Psychiatry

DIRECTORY OF PSYCHIATRIC CLINICS IN THE UNITED STATES—Div. on Community Clinics, National Committee for Mental Hygiene—*Commonwealth Fund*, 165 p., \$1. This third edition of the directory includes clinics which give service to adults only.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Anthropology

TRIBES OF THE RIF—Carleton Stevens Coon—*Peabody Museum of Harvard University*—417 p., 67 pl. \$12.50. This "Volume Nine of the Harvard African Studies" is a truly monumental work on a race of African Nordics of Morocco. The author admires these Rifs. Perhaps that is why his scientific descriptions of their life and customs still have so many vivid and appreciative touches. The text throughout is supplemented by numerous statistical tables, lists, culture maps, and photographs. A large portion of the book is devoted to the anthropometric studies which have been made with great care and completeness.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Geology-Biology

THE EARTH AND ITS LIFE—E. E. Cureton and P. J. Rulon—*Harvard University Press*, 139 p., \$1. A well-arranged compact presentation of the principal facts and concepts in geology and the life sciences, suitable for use in the first year of the junior high school.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Chemistry

LIST OF PERIODICALS ABSTRACTED BY CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS—*American Chemical Society*, 142 p., 50c. As a handbook which allows the location of a scientific publication in the library that happens to be geographically closest, this list should prove useful to many engaged in research. It is compiled as the result of a library canvass conducted for Chemical Abstracts by the Research Information Service of the National Research Council, under the supervision of Dr. Clarence J. West, director.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1932

Unnatural History

A BOOK OF DRAGONS—Alfred Leete—*Illustrated Newspapers, Ltd., London*, 100 p., 6s. A collection of entertaining pictures by a leading English humorous artist. The principal character, Dennis, Rouge Dragon of the Fiery Breath, is a small domesticated dragon who combines the best features of house-dog and self-contained heating unit.

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