

# • First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews  
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## Evolution

THE CAUSES OF EVOLUTION—J. B. S. Haldane—*Harper*, 235 p., \$2.50. Haldane is better able to speak as one having authority on certain subjects, like natural selection, than most biologists, because he is one of the fortunate few among biologists who know enough mathematics to bring a statistical attack to bear on these problems. He develops his point of view in the body of his text with a minimum of mathematics, however, and judiciously holds his heavy fire for an appendix, where they may go who are able to follow him.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Evolution

THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF EVOLUTION—T. H. Morgan—*Norton*, 286 p., \$3.50. As might be expected, Prof. Morgan presents a great deal of material from the side of genetics, much of it quite recent either in basic data or in method of approach. For this reason alone the book would be well worth the reading. He also devotes chapters to the social evolution of man, and to the still vexed question of the metaphysical *versus* the mechanistic standpoint in evolution and in biology in general.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Geometry

PROJECTIVE DIFFERENTIAL GEOMETRY OF CURVES AND SURFACES—Ernest Preston Lane—*Univ. of Chicago Press*, 321 p., \$4. The second book in English on projective differential geometry which was founded as a science at the University of Chicago by Prof. E. J. Wilczynski, who published in English the first book on the subject in 1906. In the intervening period this branch of mathematics has been expanded in four countries and described in as many languages. The book contains material hitherto unpublished. It will interest students of mathematics only.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Biology

PROBLEMS OF RELATIVE GROWTH—Julian S. Huxley—*MacVeagh*, 276 p., \$3.50. Mr. Huxley is one of the foremost exponents of the application of quantitative and statistical methods to the problems of growth and related physiological phenomena. In this book he has gathered results of his own researches which have hitherto been widely scattered in the literature, and has thus been able to add the advantage of

correlation and inter-comparison. All physiologists will want this book in their libraries.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Biology

PROBLEMS IN BIOLOGY—G. W. Hunter—*American Book Co.*, 706 p., \$1.76. The newest text by one of the best known of American producers of school books in science. Dr. Hunter brings to the task of text-book writing not only a long experience as a teacher of elementary biology, but a most thorough understanding of what is needed for projecting the lessons through a book, which is an entirely separate ability, and much rarer to find.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Zoology

AT THE ZOO AND AT HOME—J. L. McCreery—*Stokes*, 160 p., \$1.75. A book about animals for readers of about high school age. It contains plenty of information, straightforwardly presented; but its chief charm is to be found in the superbly executed black-and-white illustrations which fill up nearly half its pages.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Aeronautics

THE STORY OF THE AIRSHIP—Hugh Allen—*Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co.*, 96 p., 50c. The eighth annual edition of a manual of popular information about lighter-than-air craft, issued by the world's principal constructors of airships.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Biology

A SURVEY COURSE IN GENERAL BIOLOGY—J. G. Needham—*Comstock*, 376 p., \$2.70. Prof. Needham offers here a "boiled-down" textbook for use in a short course in general biology; he has succeeded in reducing the book far below the bulk to which one is accustomed in texts of this kind, yet without sacrificing any essentials.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Zoology

MANUAL OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY—G. A. Baitsell—*Macmillan*, 382 p., \$2.50. A clean-cut textbook of zoology, developed on the type-animal system, with laboratory directions bound in the same cover. The full-page illustrations by Richard E. Harrison are much more "alive" than most text-book pictures.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Nature Study

OUT OF DOORS—Paul B. Mann and George T. Hastings—*Holt*, 448 p., \$1.60. Subtitled "A Guide to Nature," this book for high school students and young people in summer camps comes up to its profession admirably. It devotes most of its space to plants and animals, but also has good sections on geology and astronomy, as well as on organization for the study of nature.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## General Science

POPULAR SCIENCE TALKS—Edited by Ivor Griffith—*Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science*, 319 p., \$1. The ninth volume of a series, in which the popular lectures given at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science are each year offered to the public in printed form.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Zoology

THE INVERTEBRATA—L. A. Borradaile and others—*Macmillan*, 645 p., \$5.50. A complete and thorough-going textbook of invertebrate zoology, written by four leading English zoologists. There is probably no book of its size now in print that excels it as a discussion of the internal anatomy of invertebrate animals. The line illustrations are excellent.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Physics

DIRECTED STUDIES FOR THE PHYSICS LABORATORY—B. L. Cushing—*Ginn*, 168 p., 76c. An intelligently worked out notebook for physics courses in secondary schools. A useful feature is the short list of questions, appended after each section, introducing everyday encounters with physics.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## General Science

A GENERAL SCIENCE WORKBOOK—C. H. Lake, L. E. Welton and J. C. Adell—*Silver, Burdett*, 29 p., 60c. Questions and problems for the students are contained in one book; answers for the guidance of the teacher in another.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

A SHORT COURSE IN QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS—F. E. Brown—*Century*, 332 p., \$2.25. A good text for students who are preparing for advanced work in chemistry.

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## Sociology

PLANT SOCIOLOGY—J. Braun-Blanquet, transl. by George D. Fuller and Henry S. Conrad—*McGraw-Hill*, xviii + 439 p., \$4.50. Plant Sociology has long been a most attractive name for a botanical idea hitherto but vaguely realized. As a definite discipline, it has developed more rapidly in Europe, and particularly in Switzerland, than it has in this country. In Braun-Blanquet's *Pflanzensoziologie* the best doctrines and methods evolved to date have been crystalized, and a translation of this work forms the basis of the present publication. It has been revised by the addition of newly developed material and also by the inclusion of data from American sources, so that it will be thoroughly useable on this continent as well as in Europe. It forms a most admirable companion volume to Weaver and Clements' *Plant Ecology*.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Engineering-Architecture

HOUSING AND THE COMMUNITY: HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING—*President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership*, 291 p., \$1.15. Volume VIII of the final reports of the Hoover conference on the home. The section on modernizing of existing houses will interest many, while the discussions of the effect of housing on community life is valuable data for those who desire to improve their cities or villages.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

RECENT ADVANCES IN PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY—Samuel Glasstone—*Blakiston*, 470 p., \$3.50. To bridge the gap between the ordinary textbooks on physical chemistry and the extensive journal literature reporting new developments, this book has been prepared by the lecturer in physical chemistry at the University of Sheffield. It will appeal to chemists in active practice and to advance students desirous of following discoveries of the past decade in physical chemistry.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Engineering

WEIGHTS, MEASURES AND DECIMAL TABLES—*Sir Guilford Molesworth—Spon and Chamberlain*, 118 p., \$1. This is a tiny book, literally vest-pocket size, but it contains tables that will be a great comfort to engineers, physicists and

quantitative workers in general. It not only gives such conversions as one would conventionally expect, such as miles to feet, or cubic feet to gallons, but such information as the equivalence of sums in the present British coinage to those in the proposed new decimal system, and the decimal equivalents of the days in a year.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

ANNUAL SURVEY OF AMERICAN CHEMISTRY—Edited by Clarence J. West, Director, Research Information Service, National Research Council—*Chemical Catalog Co.*, 573 p., \$4.50. This important survey is now an institution in American chemical literature. Leading American chemists in thirty-seven fields summarize the progress that has been made in America. The ample indices make the book easily and practically useful. This is the sixth annual survey prepared under the direction of the National Research Council.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

FUNDAMENTALS OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY—Earl C. H. Davies—*Blakiston*, 370 p., \$2.75. A text by the Professor of Physical Chemistry at West Virginia University. The earlier chapters deal with those subjects most urgently needed to understand the laboratory work of physical chemistry and in analytical chemistry. Numerous references to recent literature are included, and these will give the student a better perspective of the growing field of physical chemistry.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Public Health

EPIDEMIOLOGY, HISTORICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL — Major Greenwood—*Johns Hopkins Press*, 80 p., \$1.50. This volume contains the three Herter Lectures for 1931, the first one having been expanded by one-fourth. The book is somewhat technical but will give the careful reader a good idea of the methods of modern and ancient epidemiology. The specialist in the field will, of course, find it valuable.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Mathematics-History of Science

SCRIPTA MATHEMATICA—Edited by Jekuthiel Ginsburg—*Yeshiva College (New York)*, Quarterly, \$3 a year. This new journal, devoted to the history of mathematics, promises to be of interest to a wide field of readers far transcending the boundaries of professional mathematics. Among the articles in this first number is one on Thomas Jefferson's interest in mathematics, a facsimile of a hitherto unpublished Jefferson letter, recollections of Einstein's boyhood and an account of the ancient Peruvian quipu.

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## Fiction

DISTANT WORLDS—Friedrich Mader—*Scribner*, 342 p., \$2. Fiction with the prophetic "scientific" background that Jules Verne made famous. It is translated from the German.

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## Physics-General Science

TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY MEASUREMENT AND CONTROL—M. F. Behar—*Instruments Pub. Co.*, 320 p., \$4. To those concerned with regulation of heat and moisture content in industry this handbook is a valuable publication. It binds in one volume parts two and three of a manual of instrumentation. It covers industrial thermometry, pyrometry, temperature control and humidity measurement and control.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

TESTING PRECIOUS METALS WITH THE TOUCHSTONE—C. M. Hoke—*Jewelers' Technical Advice Co.*, 28p., 50c. Methods of telling without assaying how much gold, platinum, and palladium are contained in precious alloys.

*Science News Letter, October 22, 1932*

## Chemistry

CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING—Walter J. Greenleaf—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 14 p., 5c. This is guidance leaflet 19 of the U. S. Office of Education devoted to a description of career opportunities in the field of chemistry.

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