Other birds that gave up flight to live on land instead of in the water stressed the evolution of legs: powerful implements in the ostrich, ending in stump toes that are almost hoofs; wide-toed feet among the swamp-dwellers like the crane, operating snowshoe-fashion on the soft, yielding muddy bottoms.

Even among the fliers, greater specialization: long wings and short tails among the great ones that brave the upper winds, like albatross and eagle; short wings and long, frequently ornamental tails among the flitters through treetops and bushes, like the macaws and the magpies.

And so the tale might be continued indefinitely: excellent fitting to the task before them, of beak, feather, claw, wing and tail. Truly, the birds must be voted biological successes!

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

GENETICS

"Like Attracts Like" May Explain Childless Couples

THE OLD saying that "like attracts like," which has been verified by statistical studies of marriage selection, may be the explanation of some childless marriages.

A study of 107 childless couples conducted by C. M. Pomerat, of Clark University, and reported by him to *Science* reveals that the men and their wives were unusually alike in height and trunk length. These couples all desired children but remained infertile.

Mr. Pomerat is continuing his research. These initial findings, if confirmed, are eugenically important because they suggest a possible relation between the similarity of man and wife and the possibility of bearing children, he pointed out.

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More than two million children of school age, up to 16 years, are not receiving education during this education crisis, a government statement shows.

Ten thousand bushels of pine cones and other seeds are being harvested by civilian conservation corps workers for tree planting in the Tennessee Valley.

The problem of dust as a health hazard in industry is shown by the case of a contractor who had more than 400 damage suits for silicosis, totalling $4,000,000, filed against him by workers boring a three-mile tunnel.

•First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews on Page 368

Psychology-Heredity

HEREDITY AND ENVIRONMENT—Gladys C. Schwesinger—*Macmillan,* 484 p., $4. A comprehensive review of studies bearing on the moot question of which contributes most to human intellectual ability, the inherited ability the infant brings into this world with him or the many varied experiences he encounters after his arrival. The author concludes that extremists on both sides of the question are wrong, and the question still awaits a conclusive answer.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Mechanical Engineering

MODERN ELECTRIC AND GAS REFRIGERATION—A. D. Althouse and Carl H. Turnquist—*Goodheart-Willcox Co.,* 265 p., $4. A practical handbook and text which should be of great service to those undertaking to prepare themselves to service mechanical household refrigerators. It will also interest any individual who wishes to know what makes it cold in his modern kitchen refrigerator.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

General Science-Education

SCIENCE STORIES, BOOK ONE—Wilbur L. Beachamp, Gertrude Crampton and William S. Gray—*Scott, Foresman,* 144 p., 60c. Simple stories on seasons, weather, animals, plants, sun, moon and stars written for easy reading and understanding by first-graders. The illustrations in full color are attractive.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Mathematics—Education

GEOMETRY PROFESSIONALIZED FOR TEACHERS—Halbert Carl Christofferson—*George Banta,* 204 p., $1.50. This book is designed to give a teacher or prospective teacher a mastery of the subject matter of geometry and simultaneously to train him in the method of teaching demonstrative geometry in the high schools.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Biology

LA PALEONTOLOGIE & LES GRANDS PROBLEMES DE LA BIOLOGIE GENERALE, Part I, L'Evolution Adaptations et Mutations—Charles Fraipont and Suzanne Leclerq—*Hermann & Cie,* 38 p., 9 fr. Part II, Adaptations et Mutations—Charles Fraipont—*Hermann & Cie,* 24 p., 6 fr.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Hygiene

PHYSIOLOGICAL HEALTH—ed. by Jay B. Nash—*Barnes* 308 p., $2. Fourth volume in the New York University School of Education series on Interpretations of Physical Education. Physiological health is defined, its relationship to other educational objectives discussed, and methods of attaining it are described. The book is written by specialists in health education and physical education, mental hygiene and psychiatry, and medicine. It is somewhat surprising not to find, in a book on physiological health, any contributions from physiologists.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Psychiatry-Psychology

DEMENTIA PRAECOX—Harriet Babcock—*Science Press,* 167 p., $3. As the subtitle indicates, this is a psychological study, not a medical work. In the modern hospital for the insane, the psychologist and the physician are of mutual assistance in solving the great enigma of mental disease. In the study here reported, 216 sane persons of widely diverse mental age are compared with 206 persons suffering from dementia praecox. The results show that the patients with this type of mental disease have a mental defect even in the earliest stages, and the author concludes that "it is unwarranted to attribute this inefficiency to any but physiological causes, although the exact nature of these causes may not be known."

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Education

PROGRAMS OF GUIDANCE—William C. Reavis—*Govt. Print. Off.,* 144 p., 10c. Monograph No. 14 of the National Survey of Secondary Education describing what is being done by the schools in the way of vocational and educational guidance.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933

Peace-Education

INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING THROUGH YOUTH—International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation—*World Peace Foundation,* 200 p., cloth $1.85; paper $1.50. A report of an inquiry into present practices with regard to the exchange of school pupils between nations and the visiting of families in foreign countries for the purpose of giving their children understanding of other peoples.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1933