

# ● First Glances at New Books

## General Science

A HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, 1919-1933—*National Research Council*, 61 p., 50c. "A partial record of the accomplishments of the National Research Council" is set forth in this pamphlet. Organized to mobilize the scientific and technical resources of the country during the World War, this important agency has since then undertaken many peacetime tasks for science. The Council administers funds amounting in recent years to about \$800,000 a year for special research purposes. Besides these funds used as research fellowships, grants, and other financial aids, the Council sponsors a variety of enterprises which require other forms of assistance. Its divisions of special sciences, aiming always not to duplicate work of other organizations, fill in many gaps, and pioneer in neglected fields, working widely through committees and conferences.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Ethnology

THE COCOPA—E. W. Gifford—*Univ. of California Press*, 77 p., 7 pl., \$1. An ethnological study of a branch of the Yuman family living in the valley of the Rio Colorado. The author has very sensibly reduced his material to its lowest terms presenting the facts in almost notebook fashion, under orderly headings and sub-heads. This method produces a decidedly handy reference work.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Economics

UTILIZATION AND COST OF POWER ON CORN BELT FARMS—L. A. Reynolds and others—*Govt. Print. Off.* 60 p., 5c.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Sociology

THE COMMUNITY INDUSTRIES OF THE SHAKERS—Edward D. Andrews—*Univ. of the State of New York*, 322 p., 40c. New York State Museum Handbook No. 15.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Ethnology

AN OUTLINE OF DAHOMEAN RELIGIOUS BELIEF—Melville J. Herskovits and Frances S. Herskovits—*American Anthropological Assn.*, 77 p., 85c. In this memoir, two authors attack a difficult subject of investigation bravely, and with good success. The complexity of religious ideas of the Dahomey Negroes is well known. This ethnologi-

cal study shows how the Dahomey universe is peopled with humans, deities, ancestral spirits, and familiar spirits, and how they all "get along together" in the life of West Africa.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Zoology-Photography

THE SECOND PICTURE BOOK OF ANIMALS—"Das Tier"—*Macmillan*, 120 p., \$2.50. A collection of photographically splendid and appealing pictures of animals, young and full-grown, wild and domestic. These are presented with "not many words about them" for the boys and girls of America by the German magazine "Das Tier," but we can promise that their elders will find equal enjoyment in this rare collection.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Psychology

STUDIES IN THE PSYCHOLOGY OF ART—Edited by Christian A. Ruckmick—*Psychological Review Co.*, 188 p., \$2.75. Containing the reports of eleven investigations conducted under the direction of Norman C. Meier in the psychological laboratories of the University of Iowa. Study of the artistic appreciation of children, their imagination, creative ability, is revealing much regarding the development of artistic talent. This group report, issued as one of the Psychological Monographs, is illustrated in color.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Physics

PSYCHROMETRIC CHARTS—Donald B. Brooks—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 5c.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Paleontology

TERTIARY LARGER FORAMINIFERA OF VENEZUELA—D. W. Gravel—*Smithsonian Institution*, 44 p., 6 pl., 20c.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Geology

GUIDE TO THE GEOLOGY OF JOHN BOYD THACHER PARK (INDIAN LADDER REGION) AND VICINITY—Winifred Goldring—*Univ. of the State of New York*, 112 p., 3 folded charts, 30c. New York State Museum Handbook No. 14.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Penology

HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES, 1933—Edited by W. B. Cox, F. L. Bixby, and W. T. Root—*Osborne Assn.*, 1076 p., \$2.50. This new edition of the handbook gives an individual survey of each of our correctional institutions based on personal visits of at least two representatives of the Association. In general, tendencies are toward what is now thought of as the ideal for such institutions; standards for personnel in prisons are being raised, medical and educational services are gradually improving, individual study of prisoners' needs is increasing and the principle of parole is being extended. The tendency to limit prison labor is, however, presenting a serious problem to administrators since "depriving prisoners of a chance to work not only adds greatly to the cost of maintaining penal institutions and destroys one of the most effective agencies of rehabilitation, but it also increases the likelihood of riots with their attendant property destruction and loss of life."

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Ethnology

HOPÍ AND ZUNI CEREMONIALISM—Elsie Clews Parsons—*American Anthropological Assn.*, 108 p., \$1.10. A comparison of rites and ceremonies in two Pueblo Indian groups. Dr. Parsons has not merely presented new data from her notebooks, but has correlated this information with material that has heretofore appeared scattered through other publications.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Physics

GENERAL PHYSICS—J. Joseph Lynch, S.J.—*Fordham Univ.*, 254 p., \$2. The book is intended as a set of lecture notes rather than as a textbook—an X-ray picture of the general physics course given at Fordham to meet the requirements of Medical School entrance.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

## Standards

PAPER (BASIC SHEET SIZES)—Bureau of Standards—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 17 p., 5c. Second edition.

*Science News Letter, January 13, 1934*

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