

●First Glances at New Books

Economics

IF I WERE DICTATOR—Julian Huxley—*Harper*, 162 p., \$2.00. The British biologist, a grandson of Thomas Henry Huxley, imagines himself Dictator to the British people and he tells what he would do, using science as his guide. Interesting to Americans is his praise of such experiments as the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Northern Parkway out of New York City, the architecture of Los Angeles city hall, etc. Some of the tasks set by his hypothetical dictatorship would be unnecessary in America because already accomplished, but in some other respects America lags. Especially interesting are Dictator Julian's plans for utilization of expert advice of scientists, in physical, natural and social science fields, and the experimental method for the testing of social experiments that he proposes.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Science—Philosophy

THE GREAT DESIGN—Ed. by Frances Mason—*Macmillan*, 324 p., \$2.50. The editor of "Creation by Evolution" here produces a symposium, participated in by such well-known men as C. Lloyd Morgan, Sir Oliver Lodge and Hans Driesch, who record their several answers to the world-old question, "Is there anything besides dead matter and blind force in the universe?" In general, the verdict favors the acceptance of the postulate of a forming and guiding Mind; though the authors may not agree wholly in matters of detail.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Embryology

THE ELEMENTS OF EXPERIMENTAL EMBRYOLOGY—Julian S. Huxley and G. R. de Beer—*Cambridge Univ. Press*, 514 p., \$7. Embryology here is something more than just a grind to be gone through by not-very-enthusiastic pre-medics; it is a science self-existing, not just a rung in a ladder. The student is given a chance to see something of invertebrate embryology, to consider physiological problems of embryonic life, to try to find the answers for some of the strange results of experimental embryology.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Entomology

ENTOMOLOGY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ITS ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS—Justus Watson Folsom—*Blakiston*, 605 p., \$4. Entomology, both "pure"

and economic, has long since ceased to be just the collection and identification of insects. In both its aspects, the science must now consider the intricate relationships existing between the insects themselves, between them and the world of plants and of animals outside their own subphylum, between them and the non-living objects and forces of their environment. The success of this ecological approach to entomology is well attested by the fact that, under the revising eye of Prof. R. A. Wardle, this work now enters its fourth edition.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Zoology

WILD LIFE OF OUR WORLD—Ed. by John R. Crossland and J. M. Parrish—*William Collins Sons & Co., Ltd.*, 628 p., \$2.50. A remarkable quantity of natural-history book, lavish with half-tones and colored plates, considering its moderate price. The editing was done in England, so that British animals naturally come rather to the fore; yet British naturalists were ever world-rovers, so that the book as a whole really is zoologically cosmopolitan.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Dendrology

POPLARS, PRINCIPAL TREE WILLOWS AND WALNUTS OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION—George B. Sudworth—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 111 p., 10c. With public attention strongly focussed on the development of plantings in the West, in which native species will presumably play a considerable part, this new publication of the U. S. Forest Service is especially timely.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Agriculture

ACHIEVING A BALANCED AGRICULTURE—*Agr. Adjust. Adm.*, 52 p., free. Herein the men who are responsible for the Agriculture Adjustment Administration stand forth and offer justification for the faith that is in them, and for the works they have wrought. Much condensed information and many persuasive arguments are presented in the few pages of this booklet.

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Economics

NEW FRONTIERS—Henry A. Wallace—*Reynal and Hitchcock*, 314 p., \$2. "The Chinese are the greatest individualists on earth. They cut their forests, silted up their streams, and destroyed millions of acres of their land by erosion gullies. . . . Over large areas we are even worse than the Chinese." Secretary Wallace, with three viewpoints—scientific, economic, social—fills his newest book with trenchant onslaughts upon American self-satisfaction, backed by cold facts and colder logic, offers remedies which he is confident will work; but in the end, as always, leaves the way out for his countrymen to choose.

Science News Letter, October 13, 1934

Petroleum Geology

PROBLEMS OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGY—W. E. Wrather and F. H. Lahee, editors—*American Association of Petroleum Geologists*, 1073 p., \$6. A thick book, bulging with information and opinion supplied by 47 authors in 43 symposial papers; it will be welcomed by the professional audience to which it is addressed, and by geologists generally. It forms a sequel to another important publication by the Association: *Structure of Typical American Oil Fields*.

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Anthropology

THE SO-CALLED WENDS OF GERMANY AND THEIR COLONIES IN TEXAS AND AUSTRALIA—George C. Engerrand—*University of Texas*, 179 p., free. An anthropological monograph on a Slavic group which has colonized only two parts of the world—Texas and Australia. A considerable literature on these people exists in other languages than English, Prof. Engerrand points out, partly because they have been the subject of much nationalistic propaganda. In producing an English work on the subject, he has attempted, he says, to avoid the bias of prejudice. The monograph is a University of Texas Bulletin.

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