

●First Glances at New Books

Physics

THE DESCENT OF THE ATOM—Anonymous—*Lothrop, Lee and Shepard*, 154 p., \$2.00. A book with appeal for laymen or scientists who find themselves lost in the maze of modern atomic physics. All the new terms of atoms—proton, photon, neutron, deuteron, positron and negatron—pass through the pages of this little anonymous volume. From them, the author builds up his own concept of what it all means choosing and discarding theories of physics as they fit the picture. One would like to know who wrote this book. Whether scientist, schoolteacher or streetcar conductor, lawyer, laborer or layman, he or she knows the facts of physics.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

General Science

SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC PRESS—Sir Richard Gregory—reprinted from *Science*, October 12, 1934, 8 pp. Free when requested from Science Service. The editor of *Nature* (London) analyzes the situation surrounding the popularization of science in England and comments upon the work of Science Service.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Psychology

AN INTRODUCTION TO SEX EDUCATION—Winifred V. Richmond—*Farrar and Rinehart*, 312 p., \$2.50. Starting with a comprehensive survey of the biology, history and psychology of sex, Dr. Richmond proceeds to such subjects of everyday discussion as petting, birth control, divorce and homosexuality. The final chapter gives ad-

vice on teaching children about sex. The material, scientifically sound, is presented clearly and simply and without sacrifice of literary style. Thoughtful reading of this book will certainly help parents, teachers, and the children whom they have in their guidance, but its value is not limited to these groups. It may be used as a source of reliable information and opinion by anyone interested in the subjects it covers.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Psychology

MANUAL SKILL, ITS ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT—J. W. Cox—*Macmillan*, 247 p., \$5. The report of a comprehensive program of research to determine the nature and relations between the abilities measured by "mechanical" and "routine" assembling tests; the psychology of improvement which comes with practice and that which comes with training; and whether the effects of practice or of training in one mechanical operation transfer to other operations. The author, who is connected with the City of London College, is research fellow of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, England.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Economics—Sociology

ESSAYS IN OUR CHANGING ORDER—Thorstein Veblen—*Viking Press*, 472 p., \$3. Veblen is recognized as one of the pioneer minds in our present day analysis of the impact of science and engineering upon civilization. This volume of essays now published five years after his death, bring together much significant material that has not hitherto been easily accessible. It is a contribution to the school of economic thought that seems to be growing stronger with the passage of time.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

VITALISM and MECHANISM A DISCUSSION

between

HERBERT V. NEAL
Professor of Zoology, Tufts College
and
JAMES F. PORTER

Being a survey of these opposing theories from the point of view of a scientist and a layman.

50 Cents

SHERMAN M. GOBLE
105 W. Adams St. Chicago, Ill.

Anthropology

PATTERNS OF CULTURE—Ruth Benedict—*Houghton Mifflin*, 291 p., \$2.50. Choosing three tribes as illustrative material, Dr. Benedict makes some highly interesting contributions to the understanding of human behavior. From the simpler, pre-literate societies, she demonstrates, it is possible to learn much about behavior patterns that are specific to a local manner of life, differentiating these patterns from those of general human behavior. The groups chosen for this psychological approach to anthropology were Pueblos of New Mexico, Indians of the Northwest Coast, and people of Dobu Island.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Anthropology—Religion

THE FEAR OF THE DEAD IN PRIMITIVE RELIGION—Sir James G. Frazer—*Macmillan*, 204 p., \$4. The author of the famous "Golden Bough," gives us in print a lecture course on "a prime source of primitive religion" which he recently delivered at Cambridge. The lectures, he promises, are to be expanded later into a larger work on this subject which has heretofore received less attention than it deserves.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Economics

AMERICA'S CAPACITY TO CONSUME—Maurice Leven, H. G. Moulton and Clark Warburton—*Brookings Institution*, 272 p., \$3. As the second of the Brookings Institution studies directed at factual determination of the distribution of wealth and income in relation to America's economic progress, this volume tells the income of the American people, the disposition of this income and the relation between consumption and production. No planned society, such as many are hopeful that America will achieve, can be accomplished without such fundamental data as are contained in this volume and the earlier companion volume titled "America's Capacity to Produce."

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

Advertising

MAKING MILLIONS READ AND BUY—William A. Thomson—*Walter Drey*, 248 p., \$3. Written from the inside, this volume gives a picture of the methods and practices of the widespread newspaper advertising which is so influential in our daily life.

Science News Letter, October 20, 1934

PARASITISM AND DISEASE

By Theobald Smith

The Director, Emeritus, of the Department of Animal Pathology of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, the discoverer of the cause of Texas fever, and the world's authority in his field, has written an important and interesting account of the relation between disease and parasitism in its broadest manifestations.

\$2.00

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