

● First Glances at New Books

Population

DYNAMICS OF POPULATION—Frank Lorimer and Frederick Osborn—*Macmillan*, 461 p., \$4.00. Population is the important raw material of our civilization, changing and determining the future. Some of America's human stocks are increasing while others are decreasing. Just what this means is analysed in this documented and authoritative volume with detailed appendices. The first two parts are devoted to the population trends and the measurable characteristics of American groups. The third part covers the influence of differential reproduction on the characteristics of the American people and part four considers cause and control.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Sociology

RADBURN, A PLAN OF LIVING—Robert B. Hudson—*American Association for Adult Education*, 118 p., \$1.25 (\$1.00 to A. A. A. E. members). Radburn is a community within Fair Lawn, New Jersey, designed and built by experienced architects and community planners to provide salaried persons of moderate income with homes in which to enjoy life. The wealth of community activities, and provisions made for them, are described.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Electronics

ELECTRON TUBES IN INDUSTRY—Keith Henny—*McGraw-Hill*, 490 p., \$5.00. A gathering of scattered references on the use of electron tubes in industrial processes. Only when the field is viewed as a whole—as in this book—can it be realized how widespread is the dependence of industry on the vacuum tube in its wide ramifications.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Biography

EDISON, HIS LIFE, HIS WORK, HIS GENIUS—William A. Simonds—*Bobbs-Merrill*, 364 p., \$3.50. Since books on the life of Edison first began to appear in 1879 it seems difficult to believe that any unknown facts about the life of the great inventor have not been discovered.

Mr. Simonds has, however, unearthed a "lost" grandfather of Edison and added him to the family tree in his rightful place. The author had the opportunity of probing the famous Menlo Park laboratory while Edison was still alive. Mainly he is interested in Edison "the man," agreeing with Will Rogers that "Edison would have been a grand fellow if he had never invented anything." Frank J. Sprague—early associate of Edison, Annapolis graduate and "Father of Electric Traction"—appears in the book as a member of the British Royal Navy!

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Physics

FOUNDATIONS OF PHYSICS—Alfred M. Butler—*M. Barrows*, 613 p., \$2.00. Designed for high school and non-college preparatory students. Replaces the author's well known *Household Physics*. Over seventy pages are devoted to how and why radio works, a topic not usually explained so fully in elementary texts.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Science

THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, 1934—*British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 232 p., 3s 6d. The annual volume in paper cover that brings together the valuable presidential addresses delivered before the British Association for the Advancement of Science. This volume contains those delivered at Aberdeen in September.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Silviculture

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SILVICULTURE—F. S. Baker—*McGraw-Hill*, xiv, 502 p., \$5. Another valuable addition to the American Forestry Series. We are going in for a lot of forest-planting in this country in the near future, and it behooves us to see the planting of a forest as something quite different from just sticking a lot of any kind of trees into any kind of soil, anywhere, and then bidding the poor things, "Grow!" A forest is a community of trees as a town is a community of people; successful modern forest planting is as different from the old go-as-

you-please method as modern town planning is different from the haphazard growth of sprawling prairie settlements or the mushroom mining camps of the Old West. Books like this will help the new generation of forest planners.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Sociology

THE FAMILY—M. F. Nimkoff—*Houghton, Mifflin*, 526 p., \$3.00. Intended as a textbook for the newly established courses on the family in colleges and high schools. Four general chapters on the structure and functions of the family and the historic background are followed by others discussing the biological, economic, and psycho-social aspects of the modern American family. Cases from the Institute for Family Guidance, Lewisburg, Pa., of which the author is director, are used for concrete illustration.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

Chemistry

MYSTERY EXPERIMENTS AND PROBLEMS—J. O. Frank and Guy J. Barlow—*J. O. Frank & Sons, Oshkosh, Wisconsin*, 187 p., \$2.25. This book is the answer to the prayers of busy instructors in chemistry and physics for more demonstration experiments which will catch student interest with a touch of mystery and, at the same time, explain some principle of science. It will be valuable to every lecturer who probably knows a few of the experiments and would like to know more.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1934

★ *A Cosmic Safari* ★
Explains and Challenges
Scientific Thought

THE DESCENT OF THE ATOM

A LAYMAN'S CREATION

Anonymous

Fresh, striking concepts of the origin and make-up of the universe—interesting to layman and scientist. A "highly recommended book . . . extremely entertaining."—*Scientific Book Club*.

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