

• First Glances at New Books

Anthropology

HANDEDNESS: RIGHT AND LEFT—Ira S. Wile—*Lothrop, Lee and Shepard*, 439 p., \$2.75. Almost everything that has been observed, tested, or theorized regarding handedness seems to be cited in this interesting volume, and for those who demand references on statements, the author has provided a large bibliography. Dr. Wile wrote the book, he says, because there was "practically no single volume considering in detail the biologic and social factors which enter into the subject of handedness." His chapter topics include not only the familiar theories as to causes of handedness, and hand preferences in primitive man, but also "Philology and Hands," "Religion and Hand Symbolism," "Heliotropism and Heliocentrism" and other angles of the subject which shed light on man's use of his right hand versus his left.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Biology

PROBLEM SOLVING IN BIOLOGY—Elliott R. Downing and Veva M. McAtee—*Lyons and Carnahan*, 215 p., 80c. A work-book for high school students, with questions pointed at human-life significances wherever possible, and illustrated with neat line drawings. Diagrammatic cartoons, of a somewhat lighter turn, are used to illustrate certain points; among these latter is one unfortunate slip-up: picture of a cave-man pursued by a tyrannosaur!

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Television

TELEVISION, THEORY AND PRACTICE—J. H. Reyner—*Chapman and Hall, London*, 196 p., 12s 6d. An English television book standing midway in technicalities between a popular science discussion of the subject and the information appearing in the journals of radio and television engineers. Keeping a "feet on the ground" attitude the author outlines the problems of television and how they may be solved, in contradistinction to the more usual over-exuberant books and articles.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Economics

INDUSTRIAL PROFITS IN THE UNITED STATES—Ralph C. Epstein—*National Bureau of Economic Research*, 678 p., \$5.00. Another welcome addition to the fat, competent reports that are coming

forth from our social science foundations, setting forth the underlying facts of our social, money-handling national existence. After a statement by Wesley C. Mitchell on the problem of measuring profits, broad findings on the earnings of industries are presented, followed by two parts devoted to large and small corporations, and a fourth part devoted to estimation and interpretation.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Archaeology

RUMEILEH, BEING AIN SHEMS EXCAVATIONS (PALESTINE)—Elihu Grant—*Haverford College*, 99 p., 35 plates, 6 maps, \$10. About half the hill where old Beth Shemesh stood has now been explored and the town's culture history through Bronze and Iron Age periods seems very well understood—barring future surprises—as a result of Haverford College's careful work. This report takes the ruins, room by room, and describes the discoveries of 1933, with references to finds of previous seasons.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Ornithology

THE AMERICAN EAGLE—Francis Hobart Herrick—*Appleton-Century*, 267 p., \$3.50. We Americans are a paradoxical people. We proudly chose a proud bird to be our national emblem; and now we hunt and harry him to destruction because he has to eat. To get the story of our eagle on record before he is driven to extinction or to retreat in the most inaccessible fastnesses is therefore a service. Such a service Prof. Herrick has performed, telling both of "bald" eagles in general and of one family of them in intimate particular. He also adds chapters on the history of the eagle in heraldry.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Science

YEAR BOOK NO. 33—*Carnegie Institution of Washington*, 390 p., \$1, paper, \$1.50 cloth. Annual report and review of the multitude of researches conducted by the wide-flung staff of America's largest endowed research organization.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Physics

ELEMENTARY QUANTUM MECHANICS—R. W. Gurney—*Macmillan*, 159 p., \$2.35. Dr. Gurney's book is written with the intention of enabling experimental physicists to think as easily in terms of wave mechanics as they formerly did, and still do, in terms of atom models. It handles definite atomic problems treating them, as far as possible, by graphical methods which are explained and illustrated with diagrams. In mathematical sections no details between equations are neglected. Always the physical reality and the actual numerical magnitudes of the various quantities are kept in mind. Theoretical physicists will probably pass off the book as too elementary but the other 90 per cent. of the physicists will read it with much benefit.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Meteorology

SUBSIDENCE WITHIN THE ATMOSPHERE—Jerome Namais—*Harvard University Press*, 61 p., 85c. A comprehensive study in atmospheric physics.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Economics

MERITISM: A NEW IDEA FOR AN ECONOMY OF EQUITY THAT WILL ABOLISH PROFIT AND PRESERVE INCENTIVE—Jerome G. Locke—*Christopher Publishing House*, 260 p., \$2.50.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Meteorology

WEATHER PROVERBS AND PARADOXES: 2nd ed.—William J. Humphreys—*Williams & Wilkins*, 126 p., \$2. This entertaining and instructive little book by a veteran weather-scientist has won for itself a permanency in the literature of popular science. To the text of the first edition there is now added a section on the "weatheriest" of American regions—New England.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1935

Biology

THÉORIE ANALYTIQUE DES ASSOCIATIONS BIOLOGIQUES—Alfred J. Lotka—*Hermann et Cie., Paris*, 28 p., 14 francs.

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