

• First Glances at New Books

Physics

RELATIVITY, GRAVITATION AND WORLD-STRUCTURE — E. A. Milne — *Oxford*, 365 p., \$8.50. Prof. Milne is one of the world's best known mathematicians who does not believe, like so many of his colleagues, that it is ever impossible to gain insight into seemingly abstract mathematical concepts. Such a situation may be so, Prof. Milne admits, but it never can be established. Hearing a distinguished colleague state that "we do not know, and probably shall never know, why space is expanding" Prof. Milne felt this statement was carrying scientific pessimism too far and was stimulated to attempt an understanding of this fascinating subject for himself. The result is the present book where one can follow Prof. Milne from his elementary common sense viewpoint, at the start, to highly technical discussions later on. It is possible to see how it came about that the universe is expanding and why the relative velocities of the various objects are proportional to their mutual distances. Not written for popular "best-seller" consumption like the works of Jeans and Eddington, Prof. Milne's book will be welcomed by all those who have had graduate training in physics and mathematics.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Medicine

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HEART DISEASE—H. E. B. Pardee—*Lea and Febiger*, 127 p., \$1.50. This simply written authoritative book should be of great help to the person who has heart disease by supplementing the advice and explanations his physician has given him. Its usefulness, however, is not limited to sufferers from heart disease. Any interested lay reader will find in this volume an adequate explanation of how the heart works and the blood circulates, what things disturb these functions, the early symptoms of heart disease, and similar valuable information.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Chemistry

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF GENERAL CHEMISTRY — P. A. Bond — *Farrar & Rinehart*, 421 p., \$3. An elementary chemical textbook which strikes out from the time-worn beaten path. The traditional chemistry begins by a description of the various elements and brings in the underlying chemical laws later. Prof. Bond does just the opposite in his book. The fundamental laws of the conserva-

tion of energy and mass come where they should be; right at the start of the book. A touch of atomic theory is followed by kinetic theory and then one is ready to go ahead with chemistry. The book is chemistry with a physical approach and more in keeping with the thinking methods of advanced chemistry than previous more orthodox books in its field.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Physiography

THE POLAR REGIONS—Ed. by J. M. Scott—*Oxford University Press*, 100 p., \$2. An even hundred beautiful photographs of the Arctic and Antarctic regions. They give new concepts of the flora and fauna of the polar regions and show what man must meet when he ventures there. Some of the pictures are historically priceless, as, for example, the scene photographed by Robert Scott's South Pole expedition at the South Pole itself where they found the camp made by Amundsen but a short time earlier.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Miscellaneous

ADVENTURES IN AMERICANA—Frederick Woodward Skiff—*Metropolitan Press*, 366 p., \$2.50. A veteran collector tells some of the exciting and amusing experiences that have occurred in his 40 years of antique-hunting. While he has pursued such game as old china, furniture, pewter, and paintings, Mr. Skiff reserves his greatest enthusiasm for first editions of American authors. Many notes on pioneer life in the West are interesting by-products of his collecting adventures in Oregon.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Photography

MAKING A PHOTOGRAPH — Ansel Adams — *Studio Publications*, 96 p., XXXII plates, \$3.50. An introduction to the art of making good photographs which starts from the planning of a darkroom and goes to the finer shades of meaning in composition of pictures. Beautifully illustrated with the author's own photographs.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Anthropology

THE EMPIRE OF THE SNAKES—F. G. Carnochan and H. C. Adamson—*Stokes*, 290 p., \$2.50. The search for African snakes for the Washington zoo led Dr. Carnochan into the adventures described in this entertaining book. In Tanganyika he not only "found the Snake-People and became a friend of their Emperor, but was also enrolled in their ranks and taught their secret medicine." Medicines used by these Africans in treating ills, particularly the bite of deadly snakes, were obtained in sample portions for analysis, and further investigation is believed warranted. The collaborator, Mr. Adamson, to whom Dr. Carnochan told his exciting experiences, is assistant to the president of the American Museum of Natural History.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Astronomy

AN INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY—Robert H. Baker—*Van Nostrand*, 312 p., \$3. Prof. Miller here adapts the meat of a larger work, without sacrificing essentials, for use in shorter introductory courses.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Physics

MECHANICS AND APPLIED HEAT WITH ELECTROTECHNICS — S. H. Moorfield and H. H. Winstanley — *Longmans, Green*, 403 p., \$2.25. A British textbook for first-year engineering students.

Science News Letter, June 15, 1935

Anthropology

THE RACES OF MAN, DIFFERENTIATION AND DISPERSAL OF MAN—Robert Bennett Bean—*University Society*, 134 p., \$1 cloth, 60c paper. A new edition of a handbook which, being written by an anatomist, stresses interesting facts about racial differences from an anatomist's viewpoint. Sixty-nine illustrations and a number of charts and tables are provided.

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Aeronautics

PIONEER WIND TUNNELS — N. H. Randers-Pehrson — *Smithsonian Institution*, 20 p., 4 pl., 20c.

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