

• First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews
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Arctic Exploration

THE VOYAGE OF THE CHELYUSKIN—By members of the expedition, translated by Alec Brown—*Macmillan*, 325 p., \$3.50. In 1933, the world followed with interest the attempt of the ordinary Russian cargo boat Chelyuskin to navigate the Northeast Passage. The scientific investigations during the voyage and the adventures, climaxed by the loss of the ship, shipwreck of passengers on the ice, and the rescue, are told by various members of the expedition.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Electricity

A FIRST ELECTRICAL BOOK FOR BOYS—Alfred Morgan—*Scribner's*, 209 p., \$2.50. This book might well be on the Christmas present list for boys at the age when they begin to ask embarrassing questions about how the radio, doorbell and telephone work. One might worry over such statements as "There is almost no practical use for static electricity except to teach young scientists and future engineers many facts which are useful to know," but after all the book is for boys and not college freshmen.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Science—Religion

SCIENCE AND RELIGION—N. Bishop Harman—*Macmillan*, 175 p., \$1.50. A physician looks at both science and religion, finds some points open to criticism in both, but is able in the end to reach a rational reconciliation between them.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Astronomy

HANDBOOK OF THE HEAVENS—Ed. by Hubert J. Bernhard, Dorothy A. Bennett, and Hugh S. Rice — *Whittlesey*, 131 p., \$1. A compact, well-written, well-illustrated book that covers an astonishing amount of territory considering its small size. It will be valuable alike as a text for elementary courses in astronomy and for family or science-club use.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Engineering

ELEMENTS OF STRENGTH OF MATERIALS—Stephen Timoshenko and Gleason H. MacCullough—*D. Van Nostrand Co.*, 350 p., \$3.25. This book is an abridgment of Prof. Timoshenko's well-known two-volume advanced treatise on the same subject, and is intended as a textbook for students of mechani-

cal engineering. The reader is constantly referred back to the fundamentals of the subject rather than allowed to make blind substitutions in the equations. For emphasis, the basic equations are given in bold face type. Slide rule answers to three significance figures are given for about half the problems.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

General Science

READINGS IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL GERMAN—Paul H. Curts—*Holt*, 403 p., \$1.75. This book introduces a new element into the teaching of special courses in scientific German. Instead of selecting miscellaneous subjects, arranged at random, a careful continuity is preserved throughout, beginning with "*Der Bau des Weltalls*," and concluding with "*Technik und Staat*." The student thus gets a good general-survey course while he is absorbing a German scientific vocabulary.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Psychology

THE RELATION OF PHYSICAL GROWTH TO DEVELOPMENTAL AGE IN BOYS—Thomas F. Carey—*Catholic Univ. of America*, 119 p., \$1. The author discusses previous studies of the subject and gives description and results of his own study of 259 boys. Of interest chiefly to psychologists and anthropologists.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

English

25,000 WORDS SPELLED, DIVIDED, AND ACCENTED—Louis A. Leslie and Charles E. Funk—*Funk & Wagnalls Co.*, 249 p., \$1. Not a dictionary, for no definitions are given; but a very compact little book to keep handy on the desk for checking spelling and division of words.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Chemistry

CHEMICAL KINETICS AND CHAIN REACTIONS—N. Semenov—*Oxford*, 480 p., \$10.50. An almost encyclopedic volume by the Russian authority, for specialists in this specific chemical field. Chain reactions include those types where the original release of energy is not directly transformed into heat but first creates intermediate products having considerable energy. These products react with the original compound and are renewed over and over by the released energy.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Radio

PRACTICAL RADIO COMMUNICATION: PRINCIPLES—SYSTEMS—EQUIPMENT—OPERATION—Arthur R. Nilson and J. L. Hornung—*McGraw-Hill*, 754 p., \$5. This reference book designed to cover the theory and practice of modern radio communication. It provides the knowledge necessary for all classes of radio operators' license examinations. Radio communication has now become somewhat standardized after its first hectic rush during the last decade. The authors use the current breathing spell to sum up what's gone before. So much material is available that wherever possible clear diagrams are used without a word-for-word description. The system works in making for a more compact book without sacrificing readability.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Embryology

INTRODUCTION TO VERTEBRATE EMBRYOLOGY—Waldo Shumway — *Wiley*, 390 p., \$4. Although presented as a revised book, it is to all intents practically a new one. At least two-thirds of the text has been rewritten, and over half the illustrations are entirely new.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

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Travel

JUNGLE WOMAN—Frances Yeager and Eli Colter—*Appleton-Century*, 312 p., \$3. Some years ago, Mrs. Yeager followed her husband to his business post in the Sumatra jungle, and thus became the first white woman to see the amazing conditions there, beyond civilization. Now, years afterward, she vividly describes scenes showing appalling cruelty and greed of white men among helpless natives, and the terror of what baboons and tigers can do to mere humans. Loveliness of dark green jungle and lighter moments of life are in this book, but in the main the book serves to show how terrible life can be.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Bacteriology

A TEXTBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY—Thurman B. Rice—*W. B. Saunders Co.*, 551 p., \$5. Short and to the point is this new textbook of bacteriology. These qualities should, as the author hopes, make it very useful for beginning students. Essential facts are given clearly, while details of elaborate laboratory technic, theories and controversies are left to the longer texts more suitable for advanced students and specialists.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Criminology

SCIENCE VERSUS CRIME—Henry M. Robinson—*Bobbs-Merrill Co.*, 303 p., \$2.50. In a series of vivid chapters, the author tells how scientific devices and expert knowledge make small clues—even grains of dust or a strand of hair—yield important criminal evidence. Opening and closing the discussion, he points out weaknesses of American police departments in the battle with crime, and analyzes the reasons for the discouraging fact that of all modern countries "we breed the greatest number of criminals and convict the fewest."

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Health

PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH—Clair E. Turner—*C. V. Mosby Co.*, 680 p., \$3. The fourth edition of a valuable text for persons of college level intelligence and education, whether in or out of college.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Meteorology

RAINFALL INTENSITY-FREQUENCY DATA—David L. Yarnell—*Govt. Print. Office.*, 68 p., 10c. A dozen years of

hard statistical boiling-down are condensed in the few pages of this bulletin. Designed primarily for the use of engineers, particularly highway engineers, to give them an idea of run-off crises that may be expected in various parts of the United States, it will also be of far wider use, to ecologists, soil conservationists, agronomists and all others whose works have to stand out in the rain. The data are presented both as condensed tables and curves, and graphically in maps.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

English

GET IT RIGHT!—John B. Opdycke—*Funk & Wagnalls Co.*, 673 p., \$3.50. Answers the multitudinous questions which arise in an office, in connection with spoken, written or printed English. It is more than a secretary's handbook, for it covers in addition such things as simple library arrangement, preparation of news and advertising copy, and proof-reading.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Medicine

THE WOMAN ASKS THE DOCTOR—Emil Novak—*Williams & Wilkins Co.*, 189 p., \$1.50. Written with sympathy and understanding by an authority on diseases of women, this book answers simply and clearly the many questions about themselves which women ask their doctors or their women friends.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Botany

A FLOWER BOOK FOR THE POCKET—Macgregor Skene—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 380 p., \$3. A popular field handbook of British flowers; a very desirable thing for any botanically minded person to take along on a trip abroad if he expects to get outside cities in Britain as every traveller should.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Medicine

MANUAL OF FIRST-AID INSTRUCTION—U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Mines—*Government Printing Office*, 221 p., 20c.

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Medicine

MODERN HOME MEDICAL ADVISER—Morris Fishbein, Editor—*Doubleday, Doran*, 905 p., \$9.50. Here is the modern counterpart of the family medicine book. Besides giving information on all the common and many uncommon diseases, the volume has sections on first aid, the family medicine chest, diet, posture, sex hygiene and industrial hygiene. Of course the book is not intended to replace the services of a physician, and the first chapter is devoted to the subject of how to choose a doctor. A number of eminent scientists have collaborated with Dr. Fishbein in writing the book.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Physics

LA SPECTROSCOPIE APPLIQUÉE—P. Swings—*Hermann Et Cie, Paris*, 188 p., 15 fr. The applications of spectroscopy in qualitative and quantitative analysis. Brief mention—some six pages—is made of biological applications including the detection of slight traces of metals in the human organism, and a few aspects of medical law as related to spectroscopy.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Aeronautics

THE JUNIOR AIRCRAFT YEAR BOOK, VOLUME TWO—*Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America, Inc.*, 225 p., \$1.50; to libraries, \$1. Readable summary of aviation for 1934, including private, commercial and military achievements. Nearly half the book is devoted to engineering and manufacturing developments during the year and includes outline diagrams of the some 76 different types of airplanes now built in the United States.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

Medicine

SOCIALIZATION OF MEDICINE—Julia E. Johnsen—*H. W. Wilson Co.*, 335 p., 90c. One of the Reference Shelf Series. The book should be helpful to debaters or others intending to speak on the subject as well as to the general reader wishing a compact volume of information on the much discussed subject of state medicine. Both sides of the question are presented.

Science News Letter, November 9, 1935

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