

• First Glances at New Books

Entomology

THE WONDER WORLD OF ANTS—Wilfrid S. Bronson—*Harcourt, Brace*, 87 p., illus., \$1.50. Bronson's done it again! One would think that ants have been just about written to death, but such is the charm of Bronson's style, both as a writer and (especially) as an artist, that it's all fresh and new again. The author-artist is, as usual, particularly happy in his cleverly presented mechanical and anthropoeic analogies.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Zoology

PERKEY: A BIOGRAPHY OF A SKUNK—Agnes Akin Atkinson—*Viking*, 100 p., illus., \$1.50. If you're inclined to persecute animals you don't understand, because you're afraid of them, this is a book you should read. Skunks are thoroughly peaceable and goodnatured folk, only the senseless hostility of humankind (and our greed for their beautiful pelts) has erected the mephitic barrier between our two species. The Atkinsons, who made guests of a skunk family, studied, photographed, wrote them up, have done both species a real service.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Zoology

ANIMAL TREASURE—Ivan T. Sanderson—*Viking*, 325 p., illus., \$3. Adventure and misadventure, romance and hard work, in a collecting trip in West Africa to get small mammals. The story is charmingly told and as charmingly illustrated.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Geography

RICHARD HALLIBURTON'S BOOK OF MARVELS: THE OCCIDENT—Richard Halliburton—*Bobbs-Merrill*, 314 p., illus., \$2.50. From roaring Manhattan to the depths of the Brazilian jungle, from the holy portals of Rheims Cathedral to the massive gates of commerce at Panama, the owner of the world's most restless pair of feet takes us. With masterfully taken photographs well reproduced and a rush of compelling words he makes us share his travels. Junior readers will "eat up" this book—if they can get it away from their elders.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Sociology

MANUAL FOR SOUTHERN REGIONS: TO ACCOMPANY SOUTHERN REGIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, by Howard W. Odum—Lee M. Brooks—*Univ. North Caro-*

lina, 194 p., illus., \$1. Designed as an aid to the study of the author's penetrating sociological work, *Southern Regions of the United States*, this book consists mostly of questions. Some of them are very disquieting questions. Many a reader will be roused to wonder (and mayhap wrath) that so much can be amiss in so fair a land. And other readers (North as well as South) may add a question of their own: Is it I?

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Scientific Study

THE ELEMENTS OF RESEARCH—Frederick Lamson Whitney—*Prentice-Hall*, 616 p., \$3.50. Every professor who has a student or two that look as though they "might do for research men" should make this book required reading in the Senior year. It tells what research is about, in all fields from the abstractest philosophy to the concretest science, outlines requirements both material and mental, and tells something of the logic-mechanics of the process. Short bibliographies appended at section-ends, and additional literature references introduced as copious footnotes, give many more windows upon the world of learning.

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Bibliography

THE BEST BOOKS OF THE DECADE, 1926-1935—Asa Don Dickinson—*Wilson* 194 p., \$2. The greater part of the book consists of thumbnail biographies of the selected authors, with equally brief abstracts of their books. This is followed by listings of the books by categories. Nineteen titles are in science, mostly general-survey books of the Jeans and Eddington type.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Agriculture

A HISTORY OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTATION AND RESEARCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 1607-1925, INCLUDING A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—Alfred Charles True—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 321 p., 25 c. A history of agriculture in so few pages must necessarily be severely condensed; but within the limitations thus imposed this is a remarkably complete book. It is especially valuable for its exact and authentic chronicle of official acts and events. There is a bibliography of 327 titles.

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Botany

RANGE PLANT HANDBOOK—Forest Service, U. S. Dept. Agriculture—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 816 p., illus., \$2.50. Designed primarily for field use by managers of public and private range lands, in recognizing and evaluating the species they encounter, this book will serve its purpose magnificently. Every significant species of the western Prairies, the Plains, and the mountain country—grasses and sedges, forbs and shrubs, useful species and weeds—receives complete treatment. There is a complete description, with detailed illustration, together with full discussion of their ecology and economic significance. But the use of this book will not stop with range managers. The Superintendent of Public Documents might as well get set for a lot of orders from teachers and research botanists.

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Meteorology—Climatology

AN INTRODUCTION TO WEATHER AND CLIMATE—Glenn T. Trewartha—*McGraw-Hill*, 373 p., illus., \$3. A few years ago there were no good meteorology textbooks at all, now the need becomes increasingly well supplied. Newest among the worthy entries is this book of Prof. Trewartha's. The first half is mainly meteorology, oriented around the new air-mass analysis method; the second half is a discussion of principal climatic types and their distribution.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Ornithology

CONCORD RIVER: SELECTIONS FROM THE JOURNALS OF WILLIAM BREWSTER—Smith O. Dexter, ed.—*Harvard*, 259 p., illus., \$3.50. A man who loved birds sensitively, observed them acutely, wrote about them compellingly in a journal that makes him a worthy successor to great souls like Burroughs and Thoreau. "Lovely" is not an excessive word for the illustrations.

Science News Letter, September 11, 1937

Mathematics—Juvenile

THE WONDERFUL WONDERS OF ONE - TWO - THREE—David Eugene Smith—*McFarlane, Warde, McFarlane*, 47 p., illus., \$1. See page 175.

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Herpetology

SNAKES ALIVE AND HOW THEY LIVE—Clifford H. Pope—*Viking*, 238 p., illus., \$2.50. See page 175.

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