

# • First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews

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**History**

A CHILD'S STORY OF THE WORLD FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS TO OUR OWN TIME—Donald Culross Peattie, illus. by Naomi Averill—*Junior Literary Guild and Simon and Schuster*, 74 p., illus. in color, \$2.50. Telling the story of man from the Stone Age to the present, so briefly and in language for children, is quite an undertaking. A captious anthropologist might worry over the telescoped version of a few hundred thousand years of man's beginnings, but at least the author writes in short sentences, plain statements, and is interesting. The colored pictures that adorn the pages are highly decorative.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**History—Geography**

MAP MAKERS—Joseph Cottler and Haym Jaffe; illus. by Frank Butler—*Little, Brown*, 293 p., \$1.75. Written for young readers, these career stories of 18 explorers are told with lively dialog and exciting incident. It is interesting to find that, while the stories move swiftly, the authors manage to capture atmospheres as different as Livingstone's Africa, Amundsen's polar background and Beebe's undersea realms.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Travel**

TOMBS, TRAVEL AND TROUBLE—Lawrence Griswold—*Hillman-Curl*, 337 p., \$3. Mr. Griswold's exploring urge has carried him to some interesting parts of the world, and he displays unusual facility in telling what a stay-at-home might want to know about "tombs, travel, and trouble."

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Zoology**

LIFE IN THE ANIMAL WORLD—F. H. Shoosmith—*McBride*, 278 p., illus., \$2.50. A popular zoology book by a British author, treating animal life as a series of functions to meet specific needs: food, locomotion, care of young, etc. Illustrations, though not profuse, are well chosen.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Entomology—Biography**

FRAGMENTS OF ENTOMOLOGICAL HISTORY: INCLUDING SOME PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF MEN AND EVENTS—Herbert Osborn—*Published by author, c/o Ohio State Univ., Columbus, O.*, 394 p., illus., \$5. Although conscientiously labeled "fragments" by the author, the contents of this book are important fragments, not found in such convenient form else-

where. Thus, there are historical sketches, full of names and dates, of such things as experiment station entomology, entomological publications, etc.; and the section headed Personal Sketches is a veritable Who's Who of entomologists living and recent.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Home Economics**

THE FAMILY'S FOOD—Faith Lanman Gorrell, Hughina McKay, Frances Zuill—*Lippincott*, 630 p., illus., \$1.68. Revision of an attractive and informative text book on buying, cooking, and serving foods. It covers a great deal of ground, teaching high school students to deal with food problems in an average family.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Plant Physiology**

STUDIES ON WHEAT GROWN UNDER CONSTANT CONDITIONS—H. L. van de Sande-Bakhuyzen—*Food Research Institute*, 400 p., \$4. Most experiments on fertilizer requirements, water relations, etc., of plants, however valuable they may be in terms of immediate applicability, are not sufficiently exact in their methods to yield basic data. This monograph records thorough and well-thought-out efforts to obtain really significant data on the growth of one important crop plant under scientifically satisfactory environment conditions.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Botany**

BOTANIC GARDENS OF THE WORLD; MATERIALS FOR A HISTORY—*Brooklyn Botanic Garden*, 204 p., \$2. Brooklyn Botanic Garden Record, Vol. XXVI, No. 3, July 1937. A listing that will be eagerly welcomed by botanists, horticulturists, and museologists all over the world. Data include location, date of establishment, sponsorship, name of director, area, number of sheets in herbarium, size of library, hours open to public, etc.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Chemical Engineering**

MODERN PLASTICS: Catalog, Directory, October, 1937—*Breskin & Charlton*, 342 p., illus., \$2. The catalog number of a technical journal devoted to one of the newest chemical industries, lavishly illustrated with examples of what is being made from synthetic resins. Charts and technical articles make up the bulk of the journal.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**History of Astronomy**

ASTRONOMICAL THOUGHT IN RENAISSANCE ENGLAND—Francis R. Johnson—*Johns Hopkins*, 357 p., \$3.25. A history of one phase of the history of science in England during the century and a half of intellectual ferment from 1500 to 1650. By limiting his field, the author has given himself scope to explore with scholarly thoroughness the modest portion he has taken to be his province. A highly useful appendix consists of an annotated list of all astronomical works printed in England prior to 1640.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**National Parks**

BOB FLAME IN DEATH VALLEY—Dott G. Yeager—*Dodd, Mead*, 238 p., \$2. This fictionalized account of Death Valley, centering about the ranger figure developed by Mr. Yeager in earlier books about other national parks, offers a great deal of information about Death Valley in a form most acceptable to many young minds who prefer some adventure along with their geography and history.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Fishing**

BATTLES WITH MONSTERS OF THE SEA—F. A. Mitchell-Hedges—*Appleton-Century Co.*, 349 p., \$4. Big game fishing with the accent on the *big*. Jewfish, sharks, barracuda, rays, sawfish, and a few reptiles like alligators and big turtles. A fish story wherein the fish are already so big "there is no need to lie." And photographs to prove it.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Geography—Sociology**

ICELAND, A LAND OF CONTRASTS—Hjalmar Linroth; Trans. by Adolph B. Benson—*Princeton Univ.*, 234 p., \$3.50. In Iceland much of the old has survived until now, and a cultural struggle of great interest is going on there. Whether the machine age will finally put the old ways to rout, or blend with them, remains to be seen.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Economics**

WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—Mary Elizabeth Pidgeon—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 137 p., 15 c. See page 308.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

**Biology**

ASCARIS: THE BIOLOGIST'S STORY OF LIFE—Richard Goldschmidt—*Prentice-Hall*, 390 p., illus., \$3.25. See page 312.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

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## Paleontology

ANIMALS ON THE MARCH—W. Maxwell Reed and Jannette M. Lucas—*Harcourt Brace*, 335 p., \$3. The story of the evolution of animals, told by a pair of masters at the craft of popular science exposition, and beautifully illustrated, mainly with reproductions of restoration drawings from the American Museum of Natural History. If you (or any of your junior kinsmen) liked *The Earth for Sam* and the other "Sam" books, here is a no-mistake purchase for your early Christmas shopping.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Geophysics

TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION, EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 28, 29, 30, 1937, WASHINGTON, D. C. REGIONAL MEETING JUNE 21 TO 26, 1937, DENVER, COLORADO. PART I: REPORTS AND PAPERS, WASHINGTON, D. C. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SECTIONS OF GEODESY SEISMOLOGY, METEOROLOGY, TERRESTRIAL MAGNETISM AND ELECTRICITY, OCEANOGRAPHY, AND VOLCANOLOGY, 264 p., illus., \$1.75. PART II: REPORTS AND PAPERS SECTION OF HYDROLOGY AND SOUTH CONTINENTAL DIVIDE SNOW-SURVEY CONFERENCE, 398 p., illus., \$2.25—*National Research Council*. These two volumes are a mine of up-to-date technical information which must be worked as a mine, with much labor, because of a very inadequate index. Very small figures and type make these reports extremely difficult to use. Despite these disadvantages, however, the two volumes will be of extreme value to the technical worker who needs accurate information about the latest work in his specialty.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Physics

INTRODUCTION TO FERROMAGNETISM—Francis Bitter—*McGraw-Hill*, 314 p., illus., \$4. One of America's foremost builders of giant electro-magnets has turned his hand to writing a definitive volume on the magnetic properties of iron. He pays great attention in this book to three fundamental problems of the physicist studying the structure of matter and attempts to show in what way the use of electro-magnetism will help solve these riddles.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Physics

APPLIED FLUID MECHANICS—Morrough P. O'Brien and George H. Hickox—*McGraw-Hill*, 360 p., \$3.50. The behav-

ior of fluids in theory and practice, with emphasis on the latter. The scope of the book is wider than a first thought might indicate for it covers the mechanics of gases as well as liquids, and goes into internal fluid mechanics as well.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Mathematics

PREVIEW OF MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS—Aaron Frelich, H. H. Shanholt and Joseph P. McCormack—*Silver Burdett*, 137 p., 60 c. A short text designed for the advanced high school mathematics student who wishes to prepare for the Gamma examination of the College Entrance Examination Board. It covers briefly the theory of equations, permutations, combinations, probability and differential calculus.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Mathematics

USEFUL MATHEMATICS. A HIGH-SCHOOL COURSE IN FUNDAMENTALS—Flora M. Dunn, Emmy Huebner Allen, John S. Goldthwaite, Mary A. Potter—*Ginn*, 422 p., illus., \$1.32. A revision of the authors' earlier textbook, "Ninth Grade Mathematics." Covers a bit of both algebra and geometry. The book is aimed at the so-called "backward" student.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Marine Zoology

AN ABRIDGED CHECK LIST AND BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WEST NORTH AMERICAN MARINE MOLLUSCA—A. Myra Keen—*Stanford Univ. Press.*, 87 p., \$1.50. A multilithed publication that will be exceedingly useful to field malacologists on the Pacific coast, and to museum workers everywhere. There is a bibliography of 286 titles.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Chemistry

HACKH'S CHEMICAL DICTIONARY (2d ed.)—Ingo W. D. Hackh—*Blakiston's*, 1020 p., \$12.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Mathematics

ALGEBRA FOR TODAY. FIRST YEAR—William Betz—*Ginn*, 565 p., \$1.36. A high-school mathematics text.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Chemistry

LABORATORY EXERCISES AND PROBLEMS IN GENERAL CHEMISTRY (3rd ed.)—B. Smith Hopkins and M. J. Copley—*Heath*, 234 p., \$1.76.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Chemistry

EVERYDAY WITH CHEMISTRY. MINUTE STORIES OF CHEMISTRY AND ITS PLACE IN OUR EVERYDAY LIFE—H. H. Bunzell and Samuel Nisenson—*Grosset & Dunlap*, 128 p., illus., \$1.25. Dr. Bunzell writes 78 brief sketches outlining the bases of chemistry and its applications to modern life. Everyday language plus the lavish illustrations by Mr. Nisenson make this a good start for either the curious youngster or the hurried grown-up whose interests are generally outside the range of science.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Telegraphy—Biography

A SAGA OF THE SEAS: THE STORY OF CYRUS W. FIELD AND THE LAYING OF THE FIRST ATLANTIC CABLE—Philip B. McDonald—*Wilson-Erickson*, 288 p., illus., \$3. This book is the story of the laying of the first transatlantic telegraph cable, the faith, the perseverance of Cyrus W. Field to achieve this cable, and the ingenuity of Lord Kelvin and the other British scientists to make it possible from a technical standpoint.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Radio Engineering

EXPERIMENTAL RADIO (4th ed.)—R. R. Ramsey—*Ramsey Pub. Co.*, 196 p., \$2.75.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Chemistry

ELEMENTARY CHEMISTRY, WITH PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS (2d ed.)—Imo P. Baughman—*Lea & Febiger*, 296 p., \$2.75. A small text on chemistry designed for use by junior college groups.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Chemistry

METHODS OF QUANTITATIVE CHEMICAL ANALYSIS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THEIR THEORY AND TECHNIC—M. G. Mellon—*Macmillan*, 456 p., illus., \$3. A text prepared by a Purdue University professor. A balance is maintained between theory and technique.

*Science News Letter, November 13, 1937*

## Medicine—Aeronautics

FLYING VISTAS: THE HUMAN BEING, AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE FLIGHT SURGEON—Isaac H. Jones—*Lippincott*, 255 p., \$2. The author's experiences in caring for the health of fliers is used in this book to make a sugar coating for facts about physiology and health which are equally important to the man in the street and to the pilot in the air.

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