

• First Glances at New Books

Medicine

THE FIGHT FOR LIFE—Paul de Kruif—*Harcourt, Brace*, 342 p., \$3. Here is a de Kruif book with all the thrill of former books by this author plus the new one of a new, heart-string-pulling, challenging viewpoint. (Apologies to the author—the style is catching.) Mr. de Kruif is no longer content to paint romantic pictures of scientific discoveries and to give dramatic, behind-the-scenes accounts of laboratory and field work. He insists now on making his readers think about how science can be used not just to save one life or even hundreds of lives, but to safeguard for every individual his right to live.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Archaeology

A REPORT OF THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER EXPEDITION SPONSORED IN 1916 BY THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, HEYE FOUNDATION—Warren King Moorehead, comp.—*Andover Press*, 144 p., illus., \$2.45. The first detailed reconnaissance study and mapping of Indian sites in an area important in history. From what this expedition learned, Prof. Moorehead suggests that professional archaeologists might well spend four seasons of intensive surveying along this route.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Botany

THE AMERICAN SPECIES OF PASSIFLORACEAE—Ellsworth P. Killip—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 2 Vols., 613 p., \$2.50 per vol. Monographic treatment of an interesting and difficult group of plants. Botanists will be glad to have the data on this group, hitherto badly scattered, thus critically collated.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Radio

RADIO AND ELECTRONIC DICTIONARY—Harold P. Manly, comp.—*Drake*, 300 p., illus., \$2.50. An illustrated dictionary covering terms used in radio, television, sound pictures, public address, photocell and electrical work. Nearly 4,000 terms are listed and defined.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Biology

EMBRYONIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUCTION—Hans Spemann—*Yale Univ. Press*, 401 p., \$5. This book is addressed primarily to professional biologists and it will be received by them with eagerness gauged by the eminence of its author, who has been a world leader in

the development of embryology as a dynamic science. It was developed out of a series of Silliman Lectures at Yale University.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Astronomy

OUR STARLAND, AN EASY GUIDE TO THE HEAVENS—C. C. Wylie—*Lyons and Carnahan*, 378 p., 88 c. New astronomy text for grammar school students by the University of Iowa's associate professor of astronomy. Dr. Wylie describes the whole gamut of elementary astronomy and star gazing simply and clearly. The earth, moon and planets, the calendar, the night sky, legends of constellations and star maps are all given. Particularly interesting is the section on comets and meteors. Copious use is made of pictures, drawing and diagrams, suitable for the juvenile readers.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

General Science

THE GRAMMAR OF SCIENCE (New Ed.)—Karl Pearson—*Dutton*, 357 p., \$1. (Everyman's Library, No. 939) A classic of science made available to a larger audience.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Marine History

WATCHMEN OF THE SEA: The Story of the United States Coast Guard—Glen Perry—*Scribner's*, 229 p., \$2. Description of the work of the U. S. Coast Guard, and accounts of some of the more notable incidents in its history. There are numerous striking illustrations.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Biology—Chemistry

THE ORIGIN OF LIFE—A. I. Oparin; Sergius Morgulis, tr.—*Macmillan*, 270 p., \$2.75. Translation of a book that has been widely read in its original Russian. The author speculates rather conservatively, along lines of known chemical fact, on the possible mode of origin of life on the primeval earth. He believes there was a long pre-organic evolution of chemical compounds, especially of the carbon compounds, before anything recognizable as an actual organism came into being.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Natural History

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR 1937—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 304 p., \$1.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Biography

PASTEUR, KNIGHT OF THE LABORATORY—Francis E. Benz—*Dodd, Mead*, 232 p., \$2. The story of Pasteur has been told over and over, until one would imagine it impossible to tell it again without threshing empty straw. Yet this new book does tell it again, in such fascinating wise that even a veteran reader of Pasteuriana finds himself devouring page after page. Pasteur had a dramatic life; the present author realizes this well and takes full advantage of the striking highlights and vivid episodes.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Biography

CHARLES DARWIN, A PORTRAIT—Goefrey West—*Yale Univ. Press*, 359 p., \$3.50. A really definitive biography, honestly and critically worked out. The author takes away the halo which some adulatory writers have placed above Darwin's brows; yet this is by no means a "debunking" book.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Mathematics

THE KELLEY STATISTICAL TABLES—Truman Lee Kelley—*Macmillan*, 136 p., \$4.50. With an enormous amount of work Prof. Kelley has revised and computed the tables of statistics used in biometrics calculation. Normal distribution, simple correlation and probability functions are computed to eight decimal places.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Sociology

AN ISLAND COMMUNITY; Ecological Succession in Hawaii—Andrew W. Lind—*Univ. of Chicago*, 337 p., \$3. The Hawaiian Islands have long been a favorite resort of students of plant and animal ecology. In the present work, the professor of sociology at the University of Hawaii undertakes a study in human ecology, particularly the story of the coming of new races from east and west and the development of plantation agriculture in its effects on the primitive small-scale cultivation and the hitherto undisturbed native vegetation.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938

Physiology

ILLNESS: ITS STORY AND SOME COMMON SYMPTOMS. A GUIDE FOR THE LAYMAN—S. Henning Belfrage—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 175 p., \$1.50. Simply written information about everyday health questions the layman wants answered.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1938