

• First Glances at New Books

Botany—Biography

THE WORLD WAS MY GARDEN—David Fairchild—*Scribner's*, 494 p., \$3.75: David Fairchild roamed the world for years, seeking living treasure of valuable plant life to send back for the enrichment of his home country. Here he sits in the sunset and recites his long Odyssey. A rich life, and like all lives that are truly thus, also an enriching one.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Sociology

PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATIONS AND HIGHER EDUCATION—Ernest Victor Hollis—*Columbia Univ. Press*, 365 p., \$3.50. A critical appraisal of the great American phenomenon of giving for the purpose of higher education and research. The foundation is considered first as a social institution and then in relation to universities and institutions. There are illuminating lists and compilations. See page 280.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Mining

MINERALS YEARBOOK 1938: REVIEW OF 1937—U. S. Dept. Interior—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 1339 p., \$2. Every year the Bureau of Mines gives us a comprehensive report on the state of the nation, mineralogically considered. The present volume, like its predecessors, presents detailed and statistical information about every kind of mineral product found beneath American soil, together with comprehensive reviews of the mineral situation in foreign lands.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Geography

THE UNITED STATES AT WORK—656 p., illus., \$1.96; **TEACHER'S MANUAL FOR THE UNITED STATES AT WORK**, 37 p., 16 c.—Maude C. Martin and Clyde E. Cooper—*Heath*. An economic geography text for junior high schools, treating the subject by regions, and showing how geographic factors limit and offer opportunities for development.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Archaeology

EXCAVATIONS AT OLYNTHUS. PART VIII: THE HELLENIC HOUSE—David M. Robinson and J. Walter Graham—*Johns Hopkins Press*, 370 p., 110 plates, \$15. At Olynthus, excavations have added a great deal to knowledge of fifth century B. C. Greek homes. This volume is devoted entirely to the types of these homes, their floor plans, architectural features, even to the door steps and types

of keyhole, the mural decorations, water supplies, and household equipment.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Natural History

LIFE IN AN AIR CASTLE—Frank M. Chapman—*Appleton-Century*, 250 p., \$3. Chapman's "air castle" books have something of the nature of a continued story about them, for old friends crop up in them, with another year or two of life-history and adventures added to their stories. And one meets, of course, fascinating new acquaintances. Only, they have a way of making the reader long for a one-way ticket to Barro Colorado Island, C. Z.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Anthropology

DAHOMY: AN ANCIENT WEST AFRICAN KINGDOM—Melville J. Herskovits—*Augustin*, 2 vols., illus., \$12. From natives of Dahomey, Dr. Herskovits is learning much about the ancestral homeland of many of the American Negroes, and at the same time recording beliefs and customs of a region particularly tenacious of its ancient forms. In these two volumes he describes life in Dahomey with its many remarkable features, and suggests that understanding this culture may help to replace stereotyped views of "savage" African background with a truer picture.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Economics

RESEARCH MEMORANDUM OF POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES—Rupert B. Vance—*Social Science Res. Coun.*, 134 p., \$1. See page 281.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Protozoology

BIG FLEAS HAVE LITTLE FLEAS, OR WHO'S WHO AMONG THE PROTOZOA—Robert Hegner—*Williams and Wilkins*, 285 p., illus., \$3. A leading student of microzoology takes his fling at popularizing the protozoa. This might seem a rather difficult undertaking, for surely the swarming beasties that do their villainies among our villi, or try to break our very bones with fever-'n'-ague, can hardly be expected to be popular. But Prof. Hegner goes so gaily to his task, aided and abetted by two of his students who have contributed scores of whimsical drawings, that a best-seller career for this book seems an entirely reasonable prospect.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Photography

THE LEICA BOOK IN COLOR—Anton F. Baumann and others—*Westermann*, 56 p., 72 color plates, \$4.50. Whether or not you are interested in taking photographs in color with your own camera, you would enjoy the beautiful color pictures in this volume. A brief section of text gives "Fifteen Minutes of Theory" and information regarding new color film and the making of prints from your transparencies.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Botany

FERNS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES—John Kunkel Small; illus. by Ruth Sinclair George—*Science Press*, 517 p., \$3.50. It was fortunate that before his lamented death in January of this year Dr. Small had the manuscript for his long-awaited fern book in completed form. It forms a fitting capstone to the monument his labors in systematic botany built, and it will for many years make life easier for botanists and pteridophiles. Descriptions are full, and there are useful and pertinent supplementary remarks; illustrations (all full-page) are simple and clear; keys "work".

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Physics

A MANUAL OF EXPERIMENTS TO ACCOMPANY A FIRST COURSE IN PHYSICS FOR COLLEGES (Rev. ed.)—R. A. Millikan, H. G. Gale and C. W. Edwards—*Ginn*, 221 p., \$1.10.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

History of Science

HERBALS, THEIR ORIGIN AND EVOLUTIONS: A Chapter in the History of Botany, 1470-1670 (New ed.)—Agnes Arber—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 326 p., \$7.50. Fascinating not only for the botanist but for everyone, is the story of botany in its earliest days, when it was still mainly the *famulus* of the physician. This new edition of Agnes Arber's history of herbals will be received with renewed enthusiasm. There has been much new matter discovered since the first edition appeared in 1912, and the book profits not only by these textual additions but also by the inclusion of many more illustrations. To any one interested in either plants or books, this book is a treasure.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938

Electrical Engineering

STANDARDS OF RADIO RECEIVERS, 1938—*Institute of Radio Engineers*, 58 p., 50 c.

Science News Letter, October 29, 1938