

• First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews
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Geography

I WENT TO THE SOVIET ARCTIC—Ruth Gruber—*Simon and Schuster*, 333 p., \$3. A newspaper woman's assignment to find out what is happening in the northern Soviet country results in this personal experience volume, easy to read, full of the drama of new Russian experiments. Dr. Gruber, a young university Ph.D., author of a critical literary volume, combined with this background a knowledge of Russian and friendliness for people. Her book gives a favorable impression of the lives of the Soviet Arctic's women—with whom she was particularly concerned.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Anthropology

PUEBLO INDIAN RELIGION—Elsie Clews Parsons—*Univ. of Chicago Press*, 2 volumes, 1275 p., \$7. Dr. Parsons is well known for her Indian studies, which always delve into the heart and reason of what she sees. In these thick volumes, she tells us that religion is Life to the Pueblo Indian. If we understand his animistic beliefs and their influence on behavior, we shall come close to understanding Southwestern patterns of living. The study discusses all but four Pueblo tribes, and draws parallels also with surrounding Indian cultures.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Education

HISTORY OF EDUCATION CHART—Lester B. Sands and John C. Almack—*Stanford Univ. Press*, \$1. One of those fascinating history-by-the-yard devices that unfold, and set the reader following green lines and blue lines to find out what happened when. It starts with the Homeric period and ends now.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Archaeology

THE MAKING OF EGYPT — Flinders Petrie—*Macmillan*, 187 p., 82 plates, \$3.75. Prof. Petrie has produced an unusual book in this history of Egypt told in terms of significant advances and changes. He tells the story with numerous illustrated objects, largely from his own excavations, and comments on their meaning for Egyptian history from the Stone Age to the Ptolemies.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Medicine—Geography

WE DIDN'T ASK UTOPIA—Harry and Rebecca Timbres—*Prentice-Hall*, 290 p., \$2.50. This book contains so much excitement, drama and heroism that it is worth reading for its entertainment

value alone. It is a modern adventure story, but it is much more because of the remarkable inside view it gives of life in Soviet Russia. The book consists of the personal letters and journal which tell the experiences of an American family who lived and worked, Russian-style, in a small mill town on the Volga. Not only conditions but people are vividly described, so that the reader feels he knows Annushka, Julie, Polya and the Timbres' other Soviet friends, and through knowing them comes to understand better their country and their ideals.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Geology

A SOURCE BOOK IN GEOLOGY—Kirtley F. Mather and Shirley L. Mason—*McGraw-Hill*, 702 p., \$5. A companion to source books already published in astronomy, mathematics, physics and geology, this volume tells in the words of the pioneers themselves the story of the earth and its ancient rocks and life up to the beginning of our century. The ubiquitous da Vinci leads the procession of some 125 scientists whose works are included. The most entertainingly and expertly written books about geology must fail to give the peculiar flavor of the discoverers who write perforce plainly because what they are telling has not been told before.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Agriculture

GROWING PLANTS WITHOUT SOIL—D. R. Matlin—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 137 p., \$2. Despite rather numerous inaccuracies, this book can be used to advantage by persons interested in growing plants in solution culture, particularly by students in high school and beginning college classes. It contains a good deal of tabulated information not found in other books on this subject.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Geography

THE LAKE OF THE ROYAL CROCODILES—Eileen Bigland—*Macmillan*, 299 p., \$2.50. A diverting travel book, full of incidents and dialog brightly told. Voyaging by flyingboat from Southampton to Africa, the author carries the reader into the heart of the Bemba kingdom. Light though the book is, it provides a clearer picture of modern African travel and the interesting people met there, than some more weighty tomes.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Archaeology

SO LIVE THE WORKS OF MEN. SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY VOLUME HONORING EDGAR LEE HEWETT—Donald D. Brand and Fred E. Harvey, eds.—*Univ. of New Mexico Press*, 366 p., \$10. Variety governs the leisurely archaeological essays in this honorary volume. The authors range the world for their subjects, and discuss Aeneas as a hero, the empire of the Incas, applications of tree ring analysis, and Babylonian records, and so on, all suitable here in view of Dr. Hewett's own broad interest in matters archaeological.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Ethnology

RACE; A History of Modern Ethnic Theories—Louis L. Snyder—*Longmans, Green*, 342 p., \$3. Written for the general reader, this timely book by a college history teacher, explains the development and present state of racial theories and controversies. He discusses not only German Nordic notions but also such matters as Pan-Africanism, Pan-Slavism, Mussolini's attitude toward race, and racialism in the United States.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Bibliography

BOOKLIST BOOKS, 1938—*American Library Association*—64 p., 75 c. 10 or more, 65 c. This needs no introduction to librarians; the general public will find it invaluable as a buying and reading guide. Selected by the vote of many librarians, the 275 most important books of 1938 are grouped conveniently by subject.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Fiction

ORDEAL—Nevil Shute—*Morrow*, 280 p., \$2.50. Pertinent reading these days of perpetual crisis and air raid threats, this tells what happens to one family when England is blasted by enemy air bombing. Water supply failures, cholera and typhoid add to the horrors.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Medicine

ORGANIZED PAYMENTS FOR MEDICAL SERVICES—Bureau of Medical Economics—*American Medical Association*, 182 p., 50c. Many of the plans developed within recent years for helping patients to get medical service without being swamped by the bills are described and analyzed in this publication. Physicians and others wishing to know at first hand what the American Medical Association thinks of these plans will want to read this account.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

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Geography

NEBRASKA; A Guide to the Cornhusker State—Federal Writers' Project—*Viking Press*, 424 p., \$2.50. Seeing Nebraska is presented as a varied and interesting expedition for motor tourists in this new Federal guide.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

History

A HISTORY OF BRAZIL—João Pandiá Calogeras—*Univ. of North Carolina*, 374 p., \$5. This translation of a well-known Brazilian historian's one-volume story of his country is timely, in view of growing interest in Pan-American problems. Calogeras has been called an original and vigorous thinker. He is also a writer who deals in colorful phrases and strongly painted pictures of the times he recounts.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Physics

RÉUNION INTERNATIONALE DE PHYSIQUE-CHIMIE-BIOLOGIE, CONGRÈS DU PALAIS DE LA DÉCOUVERTE, Part II, Physique Nucléaire—N. Bohr, P. Scherrer, J. D. Cockcroft and W. Bothe—52 p., 11 fr., Part III, Rayons Cosmiques—J. Clay, P. M. S. Blackett and G. Lemaître—36 p., 10 fr., *Hermann et Cie.*

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Botany

GERMAN-ENGLISH BOTANICAL TERMINOLOGY—Helen Ashby, Eric Ashby, Harald Richter and Johannes Bärner—*Nordemann*, 195 p., \$3. This book, in form a rapid statement of the outlines of botany in parallel English and German texts, with bilingual registers of names at the end, is at once a unique thesaurus of botanical terminology in the two languages and a good language drill-book for both English-speaking and German-speaking students in the plant sciences.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Physics

LE PRINCIPE DE CORRESPONDANCE ET LES INTERACTIONS ENTRE LA MATIÈRE ET LE RAYONNEMENT—Louis De Broglie—*Hermann & Cie.*, 167 p., 10 fr.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Geology

THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES—Frank Dawson Adams—*Williams and Wilkins*, 506 p., illus., \$5. A most scholarly examination of all available documents bearing on knowledge and beliefs about the earth and its structure in ancient, medieval and early modern times. It will prove

fascinating reading not only to geologists but to any one in whom a feeling for science and a sense of history are combined.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Mathematics—Agriculture

ARITHMETIC IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE—C. A. Willson—*Edwards*, 160 p., \$1.80. How to compute the area of a field, the contents of a silo or bin, the payments due on a note, the calories in a bushel of corn or potatoes—highly practical problems like these will recommend this as a textbook to rural boards of education and should make the lessons at least endurable to the kids behind the desks.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Botany

WONDER PLANTS AND PLANT WONDERS—A. Hyatt Verrill—*Appleton-Century*, 296 p., \$3. This book is exactly what its title implies—a wonder book for the popular audience, without regard to age or degree of previous botanical knowledge.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Horticulture

THE GENETICS OF GARDEN PLANTS—M. B. Crane and W. J. C. Lawrence—*Macmillan*, 287 p., \$3.25. A reference book by two leading English workers goes into its second edition. Although designed primarily for use in Great Britain, it will be worth consultation by geneticists in other countries as well.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Agriculture

AGRICULTURE AND FARM LIFE—Harry A. Phillips, Edgar A. Cockefair and James W. Graham—*Macmillan*, 496 p., \$1.48. A well-organized textbook, intended to carry students in rural schools through a continuous and integrated two-year course.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Geology

THIS EARTH OF OURS—Victor T. Allen—*Bruce*, 364 p., \$3.50. Structural and historical geology, simply and straightforwardly presented and well illustrated. The book is well adapted for elementary classes as well as for general reading. The author, a member of the Society of Jesus, touches upon the dispute over evolution, stating that "The Catholic Church has adopted the wise policy of leaving the subject of evolution open for the present."

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Horticulture

HERBS, HOW TO GROW THEM AND HOW TO USE THEM—Helen Noyes Webster—*Hale, Cushman & Flint*, 156 p., \$1. One of the most interesting of recent developments, in the field of home gardening, has been the return of herbs. This compact, well-illustrated book tells what herbs to plant and how to use them, and also gives generous samples of the lore and tradition inevitably associated with these ancient members of the garden community.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Engineering

FARM MACHINERY—C. Culpin—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 405 p., \$7.25. This book is by an English author, but its applicability is world-wide. It should be read especially by those interested in the use of farm machinery in the North American continent, if only to get a fresh slant on their problems.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Photography

AMATEUR FILM-MAKING—George H. Sewell—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 114 p., \$1.50. A book of British origin for the man who, like King George, likes to make movies of his family and his trips to show at home or in a small hall.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Engineering

MACHINE DESIGN—Stanton E. Winston—*American Technical Society*, 333 p., \$3. A text presenting those fundamentals of theory and analysis which are basic to the field of machine design.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Physics

LES ÉLECTRONS LOURDS (MÉSOTONS)—Jean-Louis Destouches—*Hermann & Cie.*, 70 p., 21 fr.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Geology

THE STONE INDUSTRIES (2d ed.)—Oliver Bowles—*McGraw-Hill*, 519 p., \$5. A new edition of a comprehensive and useful reference book about building stone and allied industries.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939

Electrical Engineering

PRACTICAL ELECTRICITY—John Edmund Crawford—*Bruce*, 277 p., \$1.96. An elementary text designed for the beginning student in vocational and industrial schools. The emphasis is on practical use of electricity, although something of a theoretical background is given the student.

Science News Letter, July 15, 1939