

• First Glances at New Books

History

EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION—James Westfall Thompson, Franklin Charles Palm and John J. Van Nostrand—*Van Nostrand*, 1297 p., \$8. A textbook covering 6,000 years of civilization, disposing of the ancient world in a couple of hundred pages and arriving at early modern history before the 600th page. This allows elbow room for the authors to analyze contemporary history and events leading up to it. Excellent maps and a good index add to the value of the history for reference use.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Education

NEW YORK LEARNS—Federal Writers' Project—*Barrows*, 302 p., \$1.50. One of the useful American Guide Series, this one devoted exclusively to the educational opportunities in this great cultural center.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Ethnology

THE CULTURE HISTORICAL METHOD OF ETHNOLOGY—Wilhelm Schmidt; translated by S. A. Sieber—*Fortuny's*, 383 p., \$5. An elaborate synthesis of ethnology as a historical science; of interest mainly to readers with sufficient knowledge of the subject to appraise its theories and schools of thought. Dr. Schmidt represents the Viennese school of ethnology.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Electrical Engineering

THE PAGEANT OF ELECTRICITY—Alfred P. Morgan—*Appleton-Century*, 363 p., \$3.50. Colorful history of the development of electrical science from the earliest times down to the present. Using narrative form, the author weaves a fascinating story around the lives and achievements of the men whose skill and curiosity have made electricity man's versatile servant.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Chemistry

PIONEERS OF PLENTY, The Story of Chemurgy—Christy Borth—*Bobbs-Merrill*, 303 p., \$3. A glowingly optimistic account of the chemurgic movement, and of the men who originated and are promoting it.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Chemistry

SEMIMICRO QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS—Arthur R. Middleton and John W. Willard—*Prentice-Hall*, 446 p., \$3.50. Pur-

due University text which has evolved during the last six years and which has been tried out successfully on large groups of students. The laboratory directions are precise and workable.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Physics

THE AMPLIFICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOUND—A. E. Greenlees—*Sherwood*, 254 p., \$4. British book on the theory and application of sound, and sound amplifying systems.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Photography

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS—Julian Ellis Mack and Miles J. Martin—*McGraw-Hill*, 586 p., \$5. The theory and scientific side of photography presented in a comprehensive, clear work suitable for use as a college textbook or reference volume.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Biology

THE LITTORAL FAUNA OF GREAT BRITAIN, A Handbook for Collectors—N. B. Eales—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 301 p., \$3.50. It is to be sincerely hoped that the day will soon come when collectors, both native and visiting, can make unrestricted use of this interesting book along Britain's sea-washed rocks and sandy beaches.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Forestry

THE MANAGEMENT OF FARM WOODLANDS—Cedric H. Guise—*McGraw-Hill*, 352 p., \$3. Farm owners, even in parts of the country not naturally heavily timbered, are coming increasingly to the realization of the importance of trees as productive plants and are devoting parts of their holdings to timber cultivation. Prof. Guise's book will be found of equal value in the training of the oncoming generation of farmers and farm managers, and as a reference book for those already engaged in the creation or handling of farm timber lots.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

General Science—Juvenile

THE LADDER OF CLOUDS, 44 p.; **THE BOOK OF STONES**, 33 p.; **SNOW, GLACIERS AND ICEBERGS**, 43 p.—Federal Writers' Project—*Albert Whitman*, 50c. each. Using the simple narrative method, each of these three small books explains one major natural phenomenon, in terms suitable for readers in the lower grades.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Geography

THE THRONE OF THE GODS, An Account of the First Swiss Expedition to the Himalayas—Arnold Heim and August Gansser; translated by Eden and Cedar Paul—*Macmillan*, 233 p., \$5. When men from Switzerland leave home in order to climb mountains, it must mean that they have found some mountains worthy of their attention. The writers of this book make it abundantly evident that they did just that, and they back up their expertly competent judgment with a couple of hundred photographs that are nothing short of marvelous.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Electrical Engineering

A. S. T. M. STANDARDS ON ELECTRICAL INSULATING MATERIALS—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 309 p., \$2.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Entomology

THE BUTTERFLIES OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER REGION AND BEGINNER'S GUIDE FOR COLLECTING, REARING AND PRESERVING THEM—William Wild—*Buffalo Museum of Science Press*, 39 p., 8 pl., \$1. Butterflies are attractive objects for the beginning collector, but perhaps a little difficult to handle. This manual helps both in identification and in correct pinning-out and preservation.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Documentation

PROCEEDINGS, THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION, Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, May 23-27, 1939—*Special Libraries Assoc.*, 163 p., \$2; to members, \$1. Of great interest to librarians, especially those who were not able to attend this conference.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Psychology—Physics

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PHYSICS—Blamey Stevens—*Sherratt & Hughes; American agent, Stechert*, 282 p., \$2.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Law

LAW, THE STATE, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY—James Brown Scott—*Columbia Univ. Press*, 2 Vol., 1014 p., \$8.75.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939

Technology

MODERN PLASTICS, Catalog, Directory, October 1939—*Breskin Pub. Co.*, 454 p., \$2.

Science News Letter, December 2, 1939