

# First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews

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**Engineering**

**MACHINES AND THE MEN WHO MADE THE WORLD OF INDUSTRY** — Gertrude Hartman—*Macmillan*, 278 p., \$2.50. For young people is told the drama, excitement and historical origins of the machines and inventions that make the world today far different from that of our fathers. Typical chapter headings: The Horseless Carriage, When Wires First Talked, Towering Cities and Man Learns to Fly.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Chemistry**

**QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS BY SPOT TESTS** (2d English ed. trans. from the 3d German ed.)—Fritz Feigl; Janet W. Matthews, trans., *Nordemann*, 462 p., \$7. The use of litmus paper to detect hydrogen ions is the most common and best known of the so-called spot tests in chemistry. Spot tests, however, have increased in numbers greatly in the last few years and here is the complete and authoritative book which tells all about them.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Juvenile**

**IT HAPPENED IN ENGLAND** — Marian King—*Albert Whitman*, 134 p., \$2. Life in England presented in story-book form for child readers. Leading characters are a small girl and boy, who enjoy farm life and festivals, and come to the exciting adventure of visiting London to view the coronation. Illustrated, in color and black and white, by Hildegard Woodward.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Anthropology**

**TABOO**—A. R. Radcliffe-Brown—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 47 p., 90c. A lecture commemorating the work of Sir James Frazer, who was first to investigate taboos systematically some 50 years ago.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Electrical Engineering**

**THE TELEVISION HANDBOOK, LOOK AND LISTEN**—M. B. Sleeper—*Henley*, 96 p., paper, \$1, cloth, \$1.50. Describing 1939 practice in the servicing and construction of television systems.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Entomology**

**THE PRINCIPLES OF INSECT PHYSIOLOGY**—V. B. Wigglesworth—*Dutton*, 434 p., \$8. A thorough-going discussion of the physiology of a class of animals, highly important but too much neglected as a

rule. It carries insects from egg to maturation and reproduction, illustrating important points with helpful diagrams. This book will be welcomed not only by entomologists and physiologists, but by all biologists.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**General Science**

**THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COURSE IN THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES FOR THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL OF THE LINCOLN SCHOOL OF TEACHERS COLLEGE** — H. Emmett Brown — *Teachers College, Columbia Univ.*, 205 p., \$2.25.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Mineralogy**

**STRATEGIC MINERAL SUPPLIES** — G. A. Roush—*McGraw-Hill*, 485 p., \$5. Experts of the War Department, charged with the gathering of strategic minerals for emergency stockpiles, report that this work is excellent for the 12 minerals it covers.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Natural History**

**"NATURE TALKS", A Book of Days**—Alice C. Erwin; Caroline Harrington, ed.—*Fay Erwin*, 399 p., \$2.50. Around the calendar with short essays on nature subjects, interspersed here and there with most sensitively drawn black-and-white illustrations.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Engineering**

**SPONS' ELECTRICAL POCKET-BOOK** (7th ed.)—Walter H. Molesworth and G. W. Stubbings—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 400 p., \$2.50. A reference book of general electrical information, formulae and tables for practical engineers.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Engineering**

**ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM, An Introduction to the Mathematical Theory**—John B. Whitehead—*McGraw-Hill*, 221 p., \$3. For fourth year students in electrical engineering is this excellent text designed for studious attention.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Engineering**

**PRACTICAL MECHANICS HANDBOOK**—F. J. Camm—*Fortuny's*, 400 p., \$3. For the amateur with his little home lathe and few tools, and for the professional with his great assortment of machinery, is this handbook telling the tricks of the trade and approved procedures for precision work.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Horticulture**

**THE INDOOR GARDENER**—Daisy T. Abbott—*Univ. of Minn. Press*, 117 p., \$1.50. Thousands of housewives constantly complain that their mothers had "wonderful luck" with potted plants but that somehow they can't make a go of indoor gardening. This small book, understandably written and cleverly illustrated, should help materially in reviving a nearly lost art, especially since it takes into account the environmental changes that have taken place indoors since mother's day.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Horticulture**

**MAGIC GARDENS, A Modern Chronicle of Herbs and Savory Seeds**—Rosetta E. Clarkson—*Macmillan*, 369 p., \$3. The ancient and intriguing lore of the herb- alists is undergoing a most interesting revival, in which this book should be highly helpful. It gives historic background culled from old-time herbals, tells how to grow herbs in modern gardens, how to use them in modern kitchens.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Architecture**

**FLOORS AND FLOOR COVERINGS**—Cornelia D. Plaister—*Amer. Library Assoc.*, 75 p., 75c. Appearing as Number Two of Library Equipment Studies, this booklet analyzes installation and maintenance of all types of floors, specifically and completely. Written for librarians, it will be of equal interest to builders, home-makers, and operators of buildings.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Chemistry**

**CHEMISTRY IN USE**—Raymond B. Brownlee, Robert W. Fuller, William J. Hancock and Jesse E. Whitsit—*Allyn and Bacon*, 678 p., \$1.80. A high school chemistry text as used in New York City, particularly in vocational and technical schools as a survey course.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

**Chemistry**

**HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY** (3rd ed.)—Norbert Adolph Lange, Gordon M. Forker and Richard S. Burington, eds. and comps.—*Handbook Publishers*, 1826 p., \$6. Slightly larger page size and excellent typography make the information in this book easy to get at and easy to read. It contains authentic chemical and physical data useful in the laboratory and in manufacturing.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

# • First Glances at New Books

## Geography

FLORIDA, A GUIDE TO THE SOUTHERNMOST STATE—Federal Writers' Project—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 600 p., \$2.50. Time-ly in view of the South's expectation of an unusually large flock of winter visitors, this comprehensive tourbook and guide should prove popular with motorists and sightseers, and also those who like to know about a State's people, its problems, history and resources.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Zoology

LAND MOLLUSCA OF NORTH AMERICA (NORTH OF MEXICO), Vol. I, Pt. 1—Henry A. Pilsbry—*Acad. of Nat. Sciences of Philadelphia*, 582 p., \$10. (To be published in 3 vols. By subscription to entire work, Vol. I, \$7.50; Vol. II, \$7.50; Vol. III, \$10.) A monumental work by America's best known malacologist, this monograph has been eagerly awaited by his fellow specialists and by zoologists generally. It has little popular appeal, but its scientific value is immense.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Geography

DISCOVER PUERTO RICO—John W. Vandercook—*Harper*, 44 p., \$1. A gift-book type of guide, appropriate for deck reading in the Caribbean. It tells in essay style what the island of Puerto Rico is like, leaving prosaic maps, rates, and directions for other guide books to supply.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Ethnology

THE AMERICAN INDIAN—Sue Northey—*Bradley*, 216 p., \$2. Ethnology for school boys and girls, presented simply and with good choice of detail. It describes life in the Northwest and Southwest as well as Plains and Woodlands, and provides a good antidote for the stereotyped notion of "an Indian" in many children's minds.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Public Health—Engineering

ELEMENTS OF SANITATION—Edward S. Hopkins, ed—*Van Nostrand*, 435 p., \$4. A thorough and comprehensive textbook, useful also as a general reference work.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Documentation

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES—A. F. Kuhlman, ed.—*American Library Assoc.*, 108 p., \$1.75. Papers presented at the 1939 conference of the American Library Association, representing the joint program

of the Committee on Archives and Libraries of the A. L. A., the Pacific Coast members of the Society of American Archivists and the Historical Records Survey.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Zoology—Anatomy

A LABORATORY MANUAL OF VERTEBRATE EMBRYOLOGY, Anatomy of Selected Embryos of the Frog, Chick, and Pig—F. B. Adamstone and Waldo Shumway—*Wiley*, 87 p., \$1.25.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Physiography

A WORKBOOK AND LABORATORY MANUAL IN EARTH SCIENCE (PHYSIOGRAPHY)—Donald B. Stone; Edward S. C. Smith, ed.—*College Entrance Book Co.*, 278 p., 88 c. UNIT TESTS IN EARTH SCIENCE to accompany the above, free with each Workbook.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Economics—Forestry

A SURVEY OF RESEARCH IN FOREST LAND OWNERSHIP—Special Committee on Research in Forest Economics—*Social Science Research Council*, 93 p., 60 c. A carefully documented study, going into all phases of forest land ownership and use.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Botany

A SECOND BOOK OF PLANT NAMES AND THEIR MEANINGS—Willard N. Clute—*Willard N. Clute & Co.*, 164 p., \$3. A veteran botanist tells the stories back of shamrock, Jerusalem artichoke, *Aquilegia*, *Cynoglossum*, and many another plant name, both botanical and "vulgar".

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Biology

AN INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL BIOLOGY—John B. Parker and John J. Clarke—*Mosby*, 503 p., \$3.75. A well-planned and unusually well illustrated text for beginning college classes, by two members of the faculty of the Catholic University of America.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Zoology

THE CARE OF A SMALL RAT COLONY—Rolland J. Main—*Mosby*, 101 p., \$2. Experimental work with animals, especially in nutrition, is becoming so widespread that rat colonies are becoming virtual necessities in many institutions that formerly were without them. This small book will save much work and worry to newcomers in the rat-raising business.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Physics

COSMIC RAYS: Three Lectures—R. A. Millikan—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 134 p., \$2.50. A definitive and readable summary of the exploration of cosmic rays as conducted by Dr. Millikan, giving his latest data and conclusions. The introductory lecture, surveying the history of the subject, includes observations on the state of the world and the relation of science to everyday affairs, engendered by the question often put to Dr. Millikan: "What are cosmic rays good for?"

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Physics

STATIC AND DYNAMIC ELECTRICITY—William R. Smythe—*McGraw-Hill*, 560 p., \$5. A textbook for advanced undergraduate and graduate students and for the experimental physicist and the engineer.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Zoology

A PULSATING CIRCULATION APPARATUS FOR TISSUE CULTURES, EMBRYOS, AND SMALL ORGANS—J. A. Long—*Univ. of Calif. Publ. in Zool.*, v. 43, no. 10, 6 p., 1 pl., 25 c.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Geology

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND INDEX OF GEOLOGY, EXCLUSIVE OF NORTH AMERICA, Vol. 6—1938—John M. Nickles, Marie Siegrist and Eleanor Tatge—*Geological Soc. of Amer.*, 471 p., \$2.50. Sixth in a series of annual publications of utmost usefulness to working geologists.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Chemistry

ESSENTIALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY (2d ed.)—G. H. Whiteford and R. G. Coffin—*Mosby*, 534 p., \$4. A beginners' text with excellent presentation, many problems and questions, fine diagrams and a glossary of chemical terms that will help many a student over the initial, difficult stages of his course.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*

## Sociology

THE FAMILY MEETS THE DEPRESSION, A Study of a Group of Highly Selected Families—Winona L. Morgan—*Univ. of Minn. Press*, 126 p., \$2. Such a profound experience as the long depression had a serious effect on family life. This is a study of how 331 families met such problems as depleted incomes, lack of help in the household, dependent relatives and sickness.

*Science News Letter, December 30, 1939*