

# • First Glances at New Books

## CHEMISTRY

MAGIC IN A BOTTLE—Milton Silverman—*Macmillan*, 332 p., \$2.50. The title of this exciting book comes from the phrase said to have been used by African medicine men who persuaded native patients to allow English physicians battling a meningitis epidemic to use sulfa-pyridine to cure the ailment. The story of the sulfa drugs is, however, only one chapter in this story of scientists who discovered other chemical weapons against disease, ranging from morphine to vitamins.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## MATHEMATICS

THE THEORY AND APPLICATIONS OF HARMONIC INTEGRALS—W. V. D. Hodge—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 281 p., \$4.50. A mathematical treatise on an important concept.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## REFERENCE BOOKS

THE AMERICANA ANNUAL: An Encyclopedia of Current Events, 1941—A. H. McDannald, ed.—*Americana Corporation*, 786 p., illus., \$11. Latest edition of a valuable annual, presenting outstanding developments in history, science, the arts and other branches of knowledge. Besides the customary articles on the states and countries—especially valuable just now—there are approximately 300 biographies of distinguished persons who died or came into prominence during the year 1940.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## PHYSICS

ACOUSTICS, A Handbook for Architects and Engineers—Percy L. Marks—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 143 p., \$3. This book, by an English architect, should prove a useful manual to architects and engineers who are concerned with acoustical problems.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## PHYSICS

COLLEGE PHYSICS (Abridged)—Henry A. Perkins—*Prentice-Hall*, 591 p., illus., \$3.50. The abridgment of his larger work (with 200 more pages), Dr. Perkins explains, has been accomplished by eliminating many topics which are not fundamental physics, and thus retaining the good qualities of the original, with its full explanation, to help the student understand. Other passages have been

rewritten, in the interest of clarity or simplification.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## ART

HOW TO DRAW HORSES—John Skeaping—*Studio Publications*, 62 p., illus., \$1. The rather complicated anatomy of the horse is first reduced to simple diagrams of action, to teach proper proportions. The numerous sketches in various media show how to produce lively drawings in the simplest possible manner.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## ART

HOW TO DRAW 'PLANES—Frank A. A. Wootton—*Studio Publications*, 64 p., illus., \$1. For boys and girls—or their elders—who are fascinated with modern ships of the air, this little book will open up new fields. Elementary enough for the beginner.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## HYGIENE

FUNDAMENTALS OF HEALTH (Rev. ed.)—T. Bruce Kirkpatrick, Alfred F. Huettner and Clara Mae Taylor—*Ginn*, 595 p., illus., \$3.80.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## LANGUAGE

AIDS FOR THE SPANISH TEACHER—Lili Heimers, comp.—*Visual Aids Service*, 76 p., 50c. Brief but specific information telling where and how to obtain a wide variety of visual aids and devices for stimulating student interest in Spanish study. Aids include maps, films, marionette plays, on down to really unusual aids such as a glossary of baseball terms in Spanish.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## ENGINEERING

HOW TO BE AN ENGINEER—Fred D. McHugh—*McBride*, 187 p., illus., \$2. With interesting text, and numerous excellent illustrations, the work of the engineer is clearly outlined, for the benefit of the boy who hopes to be one.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## AERONAUTICS

AIRCRAFT INSTRUMENTS, Their Theory, Function and Use—Orion Edward Patton—*Van Nostrand*, 220 p., illus., \$2.75. Full details about the construction and use of the altimeters, compasses, temperature gauges and tachometers that add to the reliability of aerial travel.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## PHILOSOPHY—BIOLOGY

MAN ON HIS NATURE — Sir Charles Sherrington—*Macmillan*, 413 p., \$3.75. A very carefully worked out, thoughtfully written historical treatise on the development of biological thinking, from mid-sixteenth to mid-twentieth century. The author ranges the entire field of man's reflection on his nature—embryology, anatomy, brain and nerve physiology, psychology, contacts with the outside world—and makes a masterly synthesis of the best of recorded thoughts and opinions.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## CHEMISTRY

THE ANODIC OXIDATION OF ALUMINIUM AND ITS ALLOYS—A. Jenny; tr. by Winifred Lewis—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 231 p., \$6.50. The original monograph prepared by the director of the Siemens and Halske Laboratories in Germany, this translation has been prepared by a member of the staff of the "Intelligence Department" of the British Aluminium Co., Ltd.! It deals with the electrolytic and chemical production of protective surface films on aluminum and its alloys, which is a process extensively used in aircraft construction.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## ENGINEERING

RELAXATION METHODS IN ENGINEERING SCIENCE, A Treatise on Approximate Computation—R. V. Southwell—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 252 p., \$5. A part of the Oxford Engineering Science Series, this treatise, in the greater part, relates to problems confronted in the theory of elasticity. But the method is shown to have wider application, and such problems as the determination of currents and potentials in electrical networks are also considered.

*Science News Letter, July 5, 1941*

## GEOGRAPHY

MONGOL JOURNEYS—Owen Lattimore—*Doubleday, Doran*, 324 p., illus., \$4. Resisting the Japanese, says Dr. Lattimore, Mongols and Chinese now have an interest in common. And furthermore, Mongol and Chinese economy naturally complement one another. The land and people described are seen through the eyes of a geographer very much at home in the East. A high point of the narrative is Dr. Lattimore's attendance at the sacrifice festival of Jenghis Khan and the viewing of the supposed coffin of the Mongol conqueror.

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