

First Glances at New Books

► **SPRING IS COMING**, and it will bring mushrooms as inevitably as it brings bluebirds and violets. Many a potential tasty dish goes to waste because most of us are never sure but that the mouth-watering growths we find in woods or pasture may be as treacherous as they are tempting. Prof. Clyde M. Christensen's **COMMON EDIBLE MUSHROOMS** tells authoritatively yet entertainingly how to make the critical identifications, in plain English text and unmistakable illustrations. (*Univ. of Minnesota Press*, \$2.50).

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **EPIC POETRY OF FIJI** is the subtitle of a beautifully translated collection of South Sea Island songs, tales and stories offered by Buell H. Quain: **THE FLIGHT OF THE CHIEFS** (*Augustin*, \$4). It is well annotated and there is a glossary, so that even a non-anthropologist can find much pleasure in the reading.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **NATURE LORE**, with a thousand fascinating facets, fills the five handy-sized volumes published under that title (*C. C. Nelson*, the set \$10; separately \$2 each). The author, Norse-born Dr. H. P. K. Agersborg, shows himself a far better knower of his adopted America than most who are native here. He is very seriously conservation-minded, and a large proportion of the essays stress that very important subject. This is a set to be recommended for the reference shelf of any school or nature camp where interest in outdoor things is really serious.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **HORSES, GUNS** and the white man's insatiable willingness to buy furs did strange things to Indians of the northern Plains region. What happened to one people is told compactly by Oscar Lewis in **THE EFFECTS OF WHITE CONTACT UPON BLACKFOOT CULTURE**, a centennial anniversary publication of the American Ethnological Society (*Augustin*, \$1.50).

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **BOTH SCIENTISTS AND LAY PERSONS** concerned with the vitamin and other nutrient values of foods — and who is not today — will find Alice V. Bradley's **TABLES OF FOOD VALUES** (*Manual Arts Press*, \$3.50), extremely useful. Besides some brief discussion of

food components of the diet and of menu planning, and a copy of the National Research Council's recommended daily allowances for specific nutrients, the book gives two tables of food values: one by 100 gram portions for the scientists; the other by average servings, with recipes for some of the foods so the housewife will know whether her angel food cake, for example, has the same value as that listed in the table.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **A CHEMICAL APPROACH** to the problems of life forms and their development is made in **BIOCHEMISTRY AND MORPHOGENESIS**, by Prof. Joseph Needham of Cambridge University (*Macmillan*, \$12.50). It is a book definitely for professional zoologists, especially for the physiologist and the morphologist; but for this limited audience it is a work of prime importance.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **BOTANISTS WILL** appreciate the listing of local and regional floras carefully compiled by S. F. Blake, senior botanist, and Alice C. Atwood, botanical bibliographer, in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and published as **GEOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO THE FLORAS OF THE WORLD**. This first volume covers the literature of the world except Europe and Asia. (*Govt. Print. Off.*, 75c.)

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

► **WHAT IS AQUINITE? HMTD? Novit? Tetranitromethane?** What are their respective properties and uses? You probably can't answer all these, even if you are an officer of Engineers or Ordnance. All the answers, and hundreds of others, are concisely and authoritatively given in Dr. Jules Bebie's **MANUAL OF EXPLOSIVES, MILITARY PYROTECHNICS AND CHEMICAL WARFARE AGENTS** (*Macmillan*, \$2.50).

Science News Letter, January 30, 1943

Just Off the Press

ART. XII: LIST OF THE HUMMINGBIRDS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM—W. E. Clyde Todd—*Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.* 99 p., 70c. (*Annals of the Carnegie Museum*, vol. xxiv, p. 271-370).

A.S.T.M. STANDARDS ON CEMENT: Specification, Chemical Analysis, Physical Tests—A.S.T.M. Committee C-1 on cement—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 119 p., \$1.35.

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF WEATHER FORECASTING—Victor P. Starr—*Harper*—299 p., illus., \$3.

CALCULUS—R. E. Frickey. Instruction book, with 50 charts, \$3.

CAN OUR CITIES SURVIVE—José Luis Sert—*Harvard Univ. Press*—259 p., illus., \$5.

THE CARNIVOROUS PLANTS—Francis Ernest Lloyd—*Chronica Botanica Co.*, 270 p., 38 plates, illus., \$6.

CELLULOSE CHEMISTRY—Mark Plunguian—*Chemical Publishing Co.*, 97 p., illus., \$2.25.

THE CIBONEY CULTURES OF CAYO REDONDO. CUBA—Cornelius Osgood, and ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE MANIABON HILLS, CUBA—Irving Rouse—*Yale Univ. Press*, 186 p., illus., \$3.50. (Yale University Publications in Anthropology, numbers twenty-five and twenty-six).

COMPLEX VARIABLE & OPERATIONAL CALCULUS WITH TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS—N. W. McLachlan—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 355 p., \$4.75.

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS—Ralph Palmer Agnew—*McGraw-Hill*, 341 p., illus., \$3. "For students with a reasonably good knowledge of elementary calculus."

ESSENTIALS OF NUTRITION—Henry C. Sherman and Caroline Sherman Lanford—*Macmillan*—442 p., illus., \$3.50. 2d. ed.

GENERAL PHYSICS: For the Laboratory—Lloyd W. Taylor, William W. Watson, and Carl E. Howe—*Ginn*—184 p., 107 record sheets, illus., \$2. Revised edition. Textbook.

THE GREATEST EYE IN THE WORLD—A. Frederick Collins—*Appleton-Century*, 266 p., illus., \$3. A history of astronomical telescopes with descriptions of present day observatories both here and in England.

KNOW YOUR NAVY NOW—Francis A. Ford—*Cornell Maritime Press*—84 p., illus., \$1.

LABORATORY MANUAL ON FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF BACTERIOLOGY—A. J. Salle—*McGraw-Hill*, 184 p., illus., \$1.50.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AND FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS 1942—*Smithsonian*, 112 p., illus., 25c.

SUBSTITUTES—H. Bennett—*Chemical Publishing Co.*, 225 p., \$4. "A handbook of substitutes and alternatives for chemicals, metals, fibers and other commercial products, including a plan for choosing proper substitutes."

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF HEAT ENGINES—D. A. Wingham—*Macmillan*—756 p., illus., \$10.50.

THE TOTAL AND FREE ENERGIES OF FORMATION OF THE OXIDES OF THIRTY-TWO METALS—Maurice deKay Thompson—*The Electrochemical Society, Inc.*, 89 p., free. Direct application to Electrochemical Society.