

First Glances at New Books

➤ ALES HRDLICKA, veteran physical anthropologist, spent several prewar summers in Alaska, in pursuit of the elusive pattern of ancient migrations from Asia. Unexpectedly, these scholarly data have become dramatic background for the news coverage of the latest attempted migration from that continent, which has just ended in frustration and flight. All of which makes unusually interesting reading of *ALASKA DIARY*, in which the late Dr. Hrdlicka has set down his day-by-day experiences, enlivened by many photographic illustrations. (*Jaques Cattell*, \$5.)

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ VITAMINS we are all too apt to regard, in our self-centered human way, as something that we and the other animals require, with hardly a thank-you to the plants that synthesize most of them, or a passing question of their possible utility to the plants themselves. However, in *PLANTS AND VITAMINS*, a noted Swiss botanist, W. H. Schopfer, not only makes good the lack but presents the plant-physiological data so completely and definitively that this book automatically becomes the reference point in its field. The translation has been done with high competence by Norbert L. Nocker. (*Chronica Botanica*, \$4.75)

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ FREQUENTLY one hears the assertion that "Jews just naturally aren't fighters." This is exposed as a libel in *JEWS IN AMERICAN WARS*, by J. George Fredman and Louis A. Falk. Warrior sons of Israel have fought with distinction in every American war from 1776 to now; in World War I the armed forces received 5.73% of their strength from a people who constituted only 3.27% of the total population and of the Jewish boys in the Army, more than a third were in the Infantry and less than a tenth in the Q.M.C! (*Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.*, \$1.25.)

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ THE OCEAN is receiving more attention nowadays as a possible source of food and other necessary supplies; and in the ocean the most important organisms are the diatoms, for they are the beginning of the nutritional chain that eventuates in herring and tuna, seals and whales. A solid contribution

to scientific knowledge of these "grasses of the sea" is Easter E. Cupp's *MARINE PLANKTON DIATOMS OF THE WEST COAST OF NORTH AMERICA*, a bulletin of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (*Univ. of California Press*, \$2.50).

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ THOUGHTFUL MEN are already giving much consideration to problems of the post-war world, and especially to questions of what we shall eat and wherewith we shall be clothed. Useful in such discussions will be *WORLD TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS*, by Henry C. Taylor and Anne Dewees Taylor. It takes up in orderly fashion a number of the more important foodstuffs and fibers, and applies clear and scholarly thinking to their economics and geography. Especially valuable are the numerous compact tables, presenting data down to the beginning of the present war. (*Macmillan*, \$3.50)

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ A MOSAIC PICTURE, or perhaps better, a montage, is *THIS IS YOUR AMERICA*, assembled out of the feature and editorial sections of hundreds of newspapers, giving glimpses of all phases of American contemporary life and history and filling three good-sized volumes. A fair proportion of the material is on scientific and technological subjects; one article is by a Science Service staff writer. Compilation is by Gurdon Simmons and Ralph Louis Meyer. (*Literary Classics, Inc.*, \$3 a vol.)

Science News Letter, September 11, 1943

➤ AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION is a book for those interested in this subject who have had no previous instruction. It covers both theory and practice. In its preparation four English authorities on aviation and education collaborated; H. Stewart, A. Nichols, S. A. Walling and J. C. Hill. (*Macmillan*, \$2.)

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Just Off the Press

THE AMERICAN PATENT SYSTEM—William B. Bennett—*Louisiana State Univ.*, 259 p., illus., \$3. A factual study giving consideration to economic effects.

BEEKEEPING FOR PROFIT AND PLEASURE—Addison Webb—*Macmillan*, 116 p., illus., \$2.

COMPLEXITY OF MENTAL PROCESSES IN SCIENCE TESTING — Frederick Thomas Howard—*Columbia Univ.*, 54 p., \$1.75.

CRAB APPLES FOR AMERICA—Donald Wyman—*Amer. Assn. of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums*, 81 p., illus., \$1.

FEEDING BABIES AND THEIR FAMILIES—Helen Monsch and Marguerite K. Harper *Wiley*, 386 p., illus., \$3.50.

FLUID MECHANICS—R. C. Binder—*Prentice-Hall*, 307 p., illus., \$5.

HYPERTENSION: A Manual for Patients With High Blood Pressure—Irvine H. Page—*Thomas*, 80 p., illus., \$1.50.

INTRODUCTION TO PLANT PATHOLOGY—Frederick Deforest Heald—*McGraw-Hill*, 603 p., illus., \$4. 2nd ed.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS: The Weather as Destiny—William F. Petersen—*Thomas*, 211 p., illus., \$3.

OPTICAL CRYSTALLOGRAPHY — Ernest E. Wahlstrom—*Wiley*, 206 p., illus., \$3. A review of principles in the rapidly expanding field of crystallography.

OUR LIVING WORLD—Carroll Lane Fenton—*Doubleday, Doran*, 312 p., illus., \$4.50.

PLYWOODS: Their Development, Manufacture and Application—Andrew Dick Wood and Thomas Gray Linn—*Chemical Pub.*, 373 p., illus., \$4.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY: Symposium on Post-War Problems—Wm. E. Lingelbach, ed.—*American Philosophical Society*, Vol. 87, No. 2, 198 p., \$1. Papers read on February 19-20, 1943.

STRATEGIC AND ESSENTIAL MINERALS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST — Otis W. Freeman—*Northwest Scientific Assn.*, 74 p., illus., 35c.

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