

## First Glances at New Books

THE NEW TYRANNY—Francis J. Oppenheimer—*Boni*. This is a book that leaves the reader dazed—and excited. A medley of clever epigrams, pungent criticisms, with characterizations, puzzling paradoxes, strange juxtapositions of antipodal statements, startling inversions of conventional conceptions. The author out-Hegels Hegel in the unification of opposites. Mysticism and skepticism are identical in ethics, esthetics and economics. "Modern thought is in a turmoil. Modern art is in a stew." The volume is filled with imperfectly fused fragments gathered by an astonishingly wide range of reading. Turning over a dozen pages one strikes citations from Plato, Swendeborg, Mrs. Eddy, Papini, Paracelsus, Gandhi, Uspensky, Nietzsche, Freud, Lao-Tse, Spinoza, Wells, Moses and Marx. Everything that the Jew has been charged with or credited with is denied by Mr. Oppenheimer who thereupon proceeds to prove that the Jew really runs to the opposite extreme.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

ESSENTIALS OF PSYCHIATRY—George W. Henry—*Williams and Wilkins* (\$2.75). A clearly written, upto-date text, which aims not merely to classify and describe mental diseases but also to show the significance of mental symptoms in physical disease. A practical chapter on psychiatric nursing by Adele Poston adds to the value of the book, in view of the growing interest in securing adequate nursing care for mental cases.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

HEART AND ATHLETICS — Felix Deutsch and Emil Kauf—*Mosby* (\$2.50). A clinical study of the influence of athletics on the heart. The authors conclude that the "fact is that athletics brings about changes in the heart . . . . which . . . . cannot be looked upon as harmless"

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

THE QUALITY OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN EUROPE—William S. Learned—*Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching*. An orderly analysis, showing how an education in England, France and Germany differs from an American education, and drawing attention to methods by which European systems seek to develop the intellectual abilities of their students to the utmost.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

GENERAL CHEMISTRY—Thomas P. McCutcheon and Harry Seltz—*Van Nostrand* (\$3.50). A complete and well written college text by a University of Pennsylvania professor and his former colleague. The division into two parts, one on theoretical chemistry (with a large proportion of physical chemistry), and the other on descriptive chemistry (intended to accompany a laboratory course), is an innovation that will be welcome to many college teachers.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

CLASSICS OF MODERN SCIENCE (Cöpernicus to Pasteur)—William S. Knickerbocker—*Knopf*. Who can tell more adequately what the great pioneers of science really thought and discovered than their own writings? And here is assembled choice and important extracts presented so that all may read.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

THE ABILITIES OF MAN, THEIR NATURE AND MEASUREMENT—C. Spearman—*Macmillan* (\$4.50). A technical handling of this subject, in which a psychologist and philosopher of the University of London advocates that special abilities be distinguished from general or group abilities. The author fits his facts into mathematical formulae and arranges them into a system, in the hope of taking a step toward "supplying psychology with a genuinely scientific foundation."

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

SELECTION AND CARE OF GARDEN HOSE—Bureau of Standards Circular 327 — *Government Printing Office* (\$1.00). For the average person, who, having little knowledge of the construction and relative value of different kinds of garden hose, may be guided by price and appearance or influenced by a familiar trade name, this pamphlet holds dependable information. The three types of hose are described in detail and simple methods of inspection and test are given in a non-technical way.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

THE ROMANCE OF THE FUNGUS WORLD—R. T. Rolfe and F. W. Rolfe—*Lippincott* (\$3.50). A well written popular account of the fungi most commonly encountered, illustrated with many excellent photographic plates. Deserves a place on every botanical bookshelf.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE. VOLUME I. FROM HOMER TO OMAR KHAYYAM—George Sarton—*Williams and Wilkins*. This is literally a monumental work surveying in large part untouched fields in the history of science, and bringing for the first time Chinese, Hindu, and Arabic achievements in science into juxtaposition with contemporary progress in Western Europe. Professor Sarton set about his life work in Belgium before the war through the publication of the quarterly journal, *Isis*, and has pursued it steadfastly through all the vicissitudes of the years since. The manuscript itself has had an adventurous career since it was buried in a garden near Ghent for five years on account of the German invasion. In these eight hundred pages some mention is made of all writers of importance on scientific subjects in any part of the world from the dawn of history to the twelfth century, with a brief summary of their contributions and a careful bibliography of texts, translation, and criticism. The author gives a comprehensive survey of science throughout the world for each half century, and besides the bibliographical data enriches the volume with personal observations on the intellectual development of the period. This first volume stretches from Homer to Omar, neither of whom are ordinarily considered among men of science.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

DIX ANS D'EFFORTS SCIENTIFIQUES, INDUSTRIELS ET COLONIAUX: 1914-24—*Chemie et Industrie*. To anyone who thinks that the war killed industry in France, this work will be a revelation! In its 1508 pages prominent French authorities tell of the accomplishments of the ten years ending in 1924 in commerce, textiles, rubber, aviation, automobiles, use of hydraulic power, river transportation, and many other fields.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION—A Review for 1926—George E. Vincent. The far-flung work of this great health foundation is interestingly described in this annual report.

Science News-Letter, July 16, 1927

CATALOGUE OF BIRDS OF THE AMERICAS AND THE ADJACENT ISLANDS, Part V, Tyrannidae—*Field Museum of Natural History*. This is the continuation of an ambitious catalogue.

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