

## First Glances at New Books

A MANUAL OF RADIOACTIVITY—George Hevesy and Fritz Paneth—*Oxford Univ.* In the thirty years since Henri Becquerel, Madame Curie, and others inaugurated the study of radioactivity, many books have appeared on the subject. Some have been popular, some technical, and others in between, but so far, there seems to have been none that systematically and exhaustively develop the whole subject in the manner of a text-book. This book does that very thing, assumes no special previous knowledge and includes such phases of the problem as the determination of the earth's age by radium-bearing minerals.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

BRIEF PHYSIOGRAPHY—Willard B. Nelson—*Globe* (\$.67). Here in 175 pages is contained a complete outline of physical geography that should be useful to the teacher as well as to the student. An appendix contains specimen examination papers.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

CHEMISTRY EXPERIMENT SHEETS—Martin Mendel and Milton B. Brundage—*Globe* (\$.80). A well designed and usable combination chemical laboratory guide and student's laboratory notebook.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

DISTRIBUTION OF MOCCASIN DECORATIONS AMONG THE PLAINS TRIBES, Anthropological Papers, Vol. 29, Part I—*American Museum of Natural History* (\$.25). The bead and quill work on moccasins of 28 tribes, during the period 1890 to 1915, is the material used in this study, which indicates that differences between the plains tribes in this respect are in small variations in technique rather than in the elements of the art itself.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

SOCIAL FACTORS IN MEDICAL PROGRESS—Bernhard J. Stern—*Columbia University Press* (\$.25). The history of medicine reviewed by a sociologist. Special attention is given to determining psychological reasons at the bottom of popular resistance to medical innovations. Interesting discussion over past rows raised in learned circles over dissection, circulation of the blood, vaccination, etc., etc.,

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

AN OUTLINE OF CAREERS—Edward L. Bernays—*Doran* (\$5). For the teacher, the clergyman, the scoutmaster, or any older person whom young people are apt to consult about their future life work, this is a book which is surely needed. Thirty-eight internationally known men and women, each an outstanding representative of his own business or profession, discuss the chances in their fields, which range from "Accountancy" to "Writing." The section "Scientific Research" is written by Dr. Vernon Kellogg, permanent secretary of the National Research Council, and chairman of the executive committee of Science Service. Prof. Samuel R. Powers, of Columbia, contributes the chapter on applied science.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

SELENIUM—Marion Foster Doty—*New York Public Library*. A complete bibliography of 1665 books and papers relating to this interesting element which transmits electricity when illuminated.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

THE RAYON INDUSTRY—Mois H. Avram—*Van Nostrand* (\$10). No tale of the Arabian Nights is more wonderful than the modern tale of how the trees of our forests are made into silky fibers which adorn our bodies as socks, shirts and dresses. Here is told the complete story, how this magic has developed into an important industry. In 1923, for instance, we learn, nearly \$5,000,000 worth of rayon hosiery alone was exported from the United States. But the book is no dry collection of figures, for details of the processes, and many other important facts are given.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

THE BEGINNING OF POTTERY MAKING IN THE SAN JUAN AREA; UNFIRED PROTOTYPES AND THE WARES OF THE EARLIEST CERAMIC PERIOD—Anthropological Papers Vol. 28, Part II—*American Museum of Natural History* (\$1). A careful study, well illustrated, of the development of pottery in the country around the San Juan River, up to the end of the Post Basket Maker period. Mr. Morris shows that in this region "pottery-making has been traced back to and almost beyond its beginnings with a definiteness which has not been paralleled or even approached anywhere else on the continent." The sequence will be carried on in a future publication.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

AIRPORTS AND AIRWAYS—Donald Duke—*The Ronald Press Company*, N. Y. (\$5). The author is first lieutenant in the Air Corps, U. S. A., and one of those specialists writing authoritative information for the Ronald Aeronautic Library. As each city has its individual traffic problems, so it may anticipate similar problems in dealing with increased air traffic. While in no sense a handbook on the subject, this volume may be used as a reliable source of information on the basic factors affecting airport operation and air commerce development.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

A PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL SURVEY OF 1916 PRISONERS IN THE WESTERN PENITENTIARY OF PENNSYLVANIA—William T. Root, Jr.—*Western Penitentiary*. Much information on prisoners is recorded in this survey report, with a view to finding out how more of the people who become criminals can be salvaged, and at the same time how society can best be protected.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

ACROSS ARCTIC AMERICA—Knud Rasmussen—*Putman*. A great epic of a great exploration, geographical and ethnological, into the American Arctic. Rasmussen's story was first presented to the public through newspaper articles issued by Science Service.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

HEREDITY—A. Franklin Shull—*McGraw-Hill*. Here is the story of heredity from the chromosome to the last dying cell, from amoeba to man, prepared for college use. Professor Shull is an authority.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

YOUR MONEY'S WORTH—Stuart Chase and F. J. Schlink—*Macmillan* (\$2). This book gives some hint of just how we, the poor consumers, waste our dollars when we spend them. It is a first reader geography of the dangers that beset Alice in the Wonderland of high pressure salesmanship.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927

MILBANK MEMORIAL FUND—Report for 1926. As a progress report upon the vital and interesting public health demonstration in Cattaraugus County, New York, Syracuse, New York, and in the city of New York, this report is a real contribution to better living.

Science News-Letter, July 30, 1927