

First Glances at New Books

EXPLORATIONS IN HITTITE ASIA MINOR, A Preliminary Report—Oriental Institute Communications No. 2—H. H. von der Osten—*University of Chicago Press* (\$1). Little known regions of the land of the Hittites have been explored with illuminating results by this expedition from the Oriental Institute. The data of the investigation provide a valuable background of information for the work of excavating Hittite settlements, which has already been begun.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

STELLAR ASTRONOMY—Peter Doig—*Draughtsman* (London) (\$2). A very useful outline of present-day theories of the constitution, distribution and evolution of the stars, in 183 pages. This includes 16 appendices, which form a veritable storehouse of useful astronomical information not easily available elsewhere.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

THAT MIND OF YOURS—Daniel B. Leary—*Lippincott* (\$1.75). A collection of articles which have appeared in newspaper form, and which introduce the reader to some psychological facts and theories that he can apply to himself.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

CHILDREN OF ANCIENT GAUL—L. Lamprey—*Little, Brown* (\$1.75). This story book accomplishes the dual task of presenting for children a picture of life in France some 2,000 years ago and at the same time of narrating an exciting adventure.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

CAMELS!—Daniel W. Streeter—*Putnam's* (\$2.50). A breezy, good-natured account of a safari up one of the branches of the Blue Nile, with numerous notes on the fauna—particularly the *Hominidae*—of the region.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

THE TASK OF SOCIAL HYGIENE—Havelock Ellis—*Houghton, Mifflin* (\$2.25). Another edition of this well-known discussion of the relation of sex problems to society and the changing status of woman.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

MY LIFE AS AN EXPLORER—Roald Amundsen—*Doubleday, Page* (\$3.50). A saga of adventure by one of the world's foremost explorers.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

DICTIONARY OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EQUIVALENTS—William Partridge—*Williams and Wilkins*. A companion volume to the same publishers' Dictionary of Botanical Equivalents. These books are invaluable to the harrassed student struggling with the rapidly expanding technical vocabularies of the polyglot literature of modern science.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

THE PROBLEM OF LAY-ANALYSES Sigmund Freud—*Brentano's* (\$2.50). In this comparatively small book the "father of psychoanalysis" has explained the subject in unusually simple language. As Dr. Ferenczi comments in the introduction, Freud "has a striking gift to make himself easily understood to the laity." The chapters of autobiography which close the book are particularly interesting, since they show Freud's background of experience and education so that the reader can trace the development of his famous theory.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

ANT HILLS AND SOAP BUBBLES—Mary Geisler Phillips—*Macrae Smith*. An interesting mixture of fairy-tale and entomology, enlivened with Gilbertesque verse.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

ADMINISTRATION OF PRIVATE SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES—W. W. Burke—*University of Chicago Press* (75c). A topical bibliography compiled for the use of students in this field.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

SECRETS OF GOOD HEALTH—Sir William Arbuthnot Lane—*Doubleday, Page* (\$2). One of England's best known medical men gives simple instructions about how to keep well.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

THE NORMAL DIET—W. D. San-sum—*Mosby* (\$1.50). The fundamental principles of diet set forth for the use of both physician and patient. A sensible book that will interest all who plan meals.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

RESEARCH ADVENTURES IN UNIVERSITY TEACHING—By eight authors—*Public School Publishing Co.* To the general public just shop, but by the same token valuable and interesting to teachers.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

PSYCHIATRY

When Nerves Go Wrong

Quotation from TWO SOULS IN ONE BODY? A Case of Dual Personality—Henry Herbert Goddard—Dodd, Mead.

The dual experience was probably the most fortunate outcome of the very bad situation. Had it been otherwise her case would not have attracted the attention and received the treatment needed. Moreover, the duality itself was more favorable to a complete rest than any other outcome could have been. While Polly was holding the stage, Norma was asleep and that part of the brain was resting. It was a very genuine "escape from reality." While Polly's life was active, it was not intense. There were no serious worries and anxieties, such as Norma had to face. Thus if Norma's dual personality was the best outcome to be expected, what shall we say of what might have been? There is nothing much sadder than a life of chronic invalidism from neurasthenia—"nerves." . . .

Teachers and parents cannot be too strongly impressed with the significance of a frail nervous system. We should realize that, both at home and in the school, children are being forced into a state of ill health that differs from Polly's only in details. As we have stated, it was largely a matter of chance that the three factors that made inevitable a dual personality came together in Norma's case. Had they not happened to do so, Norma would simply have had a nervous breakdown without the spectacular dual personality. Under other circumstances, it might have been an ordinary case of insanity. The fundamental conditions are the same in all and the lesson to be learned is the same.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927

PSYCHOLOGY

Gorilla's Brain Good, But—

Quotation from THE MIND OF A GORILLA—Robert M. Yerkes—Clark University.

If, however, the gorilla is intellectually more highly developed than the orang-utan or chimpanzee, how can we account for the fact that it has lost relatively in the struggle for existence? We incline to believe that intelligence is a condition of success and survival. If in this we are correct, gorillas perhaps should be more abundant than chimpanzees or orang-utans; yet the opposite is true. I surmise that many other factors than those of intelligence have operated to extend or restrict the spread of the great apes and to determine their relative abundance. I am not convinced that superiority of intelligence assures human survival, type of man may from time to time have been swamped by inferior hordes.

Science News-Letter, November 26, 1927