

First Glances at New Books

ANIMAL BIOLOGY—J. B. S. Haldane and Julian Huxley — *Oxford Press* (\$2.50). The youth of Britain are privileged, in having a pair of authors like Haldane and Huxley to prepare their elementary biological text for them. A book by these men may be expected to be packed with worth-while matter, to present it from fresh and provocative points of view—in short, to be wholly redeemed from "averageness." On the other hand, the quantity of material contained herein is an argument for a very high assimilative capacity on the part of the British undergraduate.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

MAN AND THE EARTH—*University of Pittsburgh* (60 cents). This contains eight radio talks on "Rivers and Man," "Tides and Waves," "Men and the Ice Age," "Volcanoes," "Minerals in Industry," etc., with select bibliography.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS—Dache M. Reeves—*Ronald Press* (\$5). In this latest volume in the valuable Ronald Aeronautical Library, an expert on aerial photography describes the methods and their applications. Though especially written with regard to the military aspects of the subject, it will be of use to the civilian aviator as a guide to aerial photography for commercial purposes.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

SPHERICAL HARMONICS—T. M. MacRobert—*Dutton* (\$4.50). An elementary, though necessarily highly mathematical, account of the application of spherical harmonics to mathematical physics.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

HOME STUDY BLUE BOOK—Compiled by J. S. Noffsinger—*National Home Study Council*. Briefly discusses the legitimate field of the correspondence school and gives a list of institutions approved by the National Home Study Council.

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PROTECTIVE METALLIC COATINGS—Henry S. Rawdon—*Chemical Catalog* (\$5.50). A useful addition to the Chemical Catalog Company's monograph series, discussing briefly but adequately the principal methods of protecting the more corrodible metals. The 31-page bibliography is an especially valuable feature.

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THE STANDARDIZATION OF ERROR—Vilhjalmur Stefansson — *Norton* (\$1). Dr. Stefansson meditates delightfully on some of the many things that we know aren't so, such as that Eskimos commonly dwell in ice houses and that ostriches hasten to stick their heads in the sand when frightened. Truth, he decides, is sometimes good and sometimes bad. After discussing Santa Claus, baby talk, and other educational processes he reasonably concludes that "in the training of very young children truth should be rather carefully avoided as a general thing."

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ECONOMICS AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR—P. Sargant Florence—*Norton* (\$1). In setting down principles of supply and demand, economists must take some account of the factor of human behavior. But because psychologists do not agree on the subject of emotions, instincts, and motives, the author urges that economists go out to gather facts for themselves on which to base a solid science of what might be called cycle-analysis.

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THE ELEMENTS OF CRIME—Boris Brasol—*Oxford Press* (\$5). Judge Wigmore sums up the scope of this valuable contribution to criminology in the introduction, where he says that "what the times need is an exposition which . . . will reconcile for us the principles and experiences of psychology with the principles and experiences of criminal law." Mr. Brasol presents a wealth of fact and explanation on the much discussed question of the social and psychiatric aspects of crime.

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CHRISTMAS IN STORY AND MUSIC, Radio Publication No. 33—*University of Pittsburgh* (60 cents). Contains six radio talks, in which an entertaining selection of facts and anecdotes on the celebration of Christmas is presented.

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FIRST COURSE IN BOTANY — Raymond J. Pool and Arthur T. Evans—*Ginn*. A compact and well-arranged elementary text. The physiological-ecological approach is pedagogically sound, and the manner of presentation should capture the interest of most students.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

THE RISE OF MODERN PHYSICS—Henry Crew—*Williams and Wilkins* (\$5). From the physical ideas of the ancient Greeks, through the middle ages to Galileo, Huyghens and Newton, down to Planck, Rutherford and Bohr, is a long and fascinating story, covering, as it does, some of the greatest revolutions in human thought. But in this small volume of 360 pages, Professor Crew has told the story, leaving out none of the essentials, and in a manner that will make the book interesting reading not only to the physicist, but to anyone interested in the development of human knowledge.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

MAN RISES TO PARNASSUS—Henry Fairfield Osborn—*Princeton University Press* (\$2.50). In this sequel to his "Men of the Old Stone Age," Dr. Osborn fits the fragments of the broken records left by prehistoric men into a single connected mosaic depicting the cultural and spiritual evolution of the race.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

A POPULAR GUIDE TO RADIO—B. Francis Dashiell—*Williams and Wilkins* (\$3.50). Radio has advanced so fast in recent years that it is hard to keep abreast of it. Here is the latest work on the subject. The author, who knows what he is talking about, describes in detail all of the essentials, from the elementary basic electrical facts to the latest forms of apparatus, and the relation of radio to meteorological phenomena.

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MATHEMATICS FOR AGRICULTURE AND ELEMENTARY SCIENCE — Harry Burgess Roe and others — *Ginn* (\$2.80). One of the chief burdens in the lives of teachers of upper-classmen and beginning graduate students, in almost all fields of science, is their ill preparation in mathematics. This book is designed to remedy the lack, without wasting too much of the student's time on "pure" mathematics in which he is presumably not interested.

Science News-Letter, February 11, 1928

EDUCATIONAL YEARBOOK—Edited by I. L. Kandel—*Macmillan*. Detailed and valuable descriptions of the educational systems of thirty-seven different countries, issued by the International Institute of Teachers' College, Columbia University.

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