

## FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

POSSIBLE WORLDS—J. B. S. Haldane—*Harper* (\$2.50). The aim of this volume of miscellaneous articles is expressed by the author as follows:

"Many scientific workers believe that they should confine their publications to learned journals. I think, however, that the public has a right to know what is going on inside the laboratories, for some of which it pays. And it seems to me vitally important that the scientific point of view should be applied, so far as is possible, to politics and religion. In such spheres the scientific man cannot, of course, speak with the same authority as when he is describing the results of research; and in so far as he is scientific he must try to suppress such of his own views as have no more scientific backing than those of the man in the street."

Haldane is the Huxley of our time. He differs from most men of science in having the ability to write interestingly on any subject and in his willingness to let loose his imagination a little on the possibilities of the future. Few of the new books will give the reader so many fresh ideas. In religion he is a skeptic but not a materialist. His antagonism to the church he ascribes largely to the conduct of the clergy in the late war.

*General Science*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

CHRISTIANITY IN SCIENCE—Friedrick D. Leete—*Abingdon* (\$3). A useful contribution to the current controversy, particularly because of the wide range of citations of the views of men of science on theological questions in and on the meaning of science. The author is unusually careful in his quotations and does not force their meaning to fit his own ideas or attempt to cover a fundamental divergence by a specious verbal agreement. Preachers who are skeptical of the value of science and fearful of its advance would profit by the perusal of the chapters on "The Spirit and Service of Science" and "Heroes and Martyrs of Science."

*General Science*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

KREBS UND SEINE WAHRE URSACHE—J. Winkelhagen—*Bruckmann*. The author sets forth his theory of the cause of cancer in a 75-page brochure. He is of the opinion that the fundamental cause of the disease is to be sought in changes in the blood.

*Pathology*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

THE KINGDOM OF THE MIND—June E. Downey—*Macmillan* (\$2). At last—psychology for the high school age, or even for the bright child of the seventh or eighth grade. The book is addressed pointedly to the boy reader, and the style is accordingly simple and lively. "How fast can you read to yourself?" demands the psychologist. "How fast can you write?" "Where is the blind spot in your eye?" Dr. Downey ingeniously contrives to drive home a good many fundamental points of psychological science, and her book deserves a place on the bookshelf of the modern boy and girl.

*Psychology*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

PICTURE VALUES IN EDUCATION—Joseph J. Weber—*Educational Screen*. The important part that pictures can play in education is recognized, but how pictures can best be used is not so well understood. This monograph reports an experimental investigation in which the merits of prints, textbook illustrations, lantern slides and stereographs were compared and analyzed.

*Pedagogy*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK; 1927 — Edited by Herbert Treadwell Wade—*Dodd, Mead*. In this, the twenty-sixth issue of the year-book, the plan of preceding years is followed to make a valuable work for anyone who desires a complete summary of the achievements of the world during the past year. Arranged alphabetically by subjects, it forms a veritable encyclopedia of 1927, while a well qualified staff of contributors, as well as the reputation of the work, lend it a considerable degree of authority.

*General Science*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

PATENT LAW FOR THE INVENTOR AND EXECUTIVE—H. A. Toulmin, Jr.—*Harper* (\$4). Do you have some gimcrack that you want to patent? Do you know what the law is? Do you know how the Sherman anti-trust law forbidding monopolies can be reconciled with the patent law which grants it? If you have ever invented, or are inventing, or expect to invent something, you will find this book extremely valuable.

*Invention*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

ARCHIMEDES—L. L. Whyte—*Dutton* (\$1). One man's idea of the future of physics. In the study of light, and its relation to life and consciousness, lies the way in which physics may in the future "create a new hope for man." The book is another of the stimulating "Today and Tomorrow Series."

*Physics*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

METEOROLOGY—David Brunt—*Oxford* (\$1). A concise introduction to the science of the weather. Though written by an Englishman, for British circulation, and therefore dealing particularly with conditions on the British Isles, the general facts are, of course, suitable for the entire world.

*Meteorology*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

OLD MOTHER EARTH—Kirtley F. Mather—*Harvard Univ. Pr.* (\$2.50). An excellently well-worked-out popular presentation of historical geology, with simple, clear illustrations. A veteran of the Battle of Dayton, Prof. Mather takes especial pains with the vexed questions of evolution and the interpretation of Genesis.

*Geology*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

THE ROAD TO PLENTY—William T. Foster and Waddill Catchings—*Houghton Mifflin*. A really readable discussion of the question of unemployment and over-production arriving at a plausible and practical plan for preventing business crises. In the form of Pullman car conversations between a Professor, a Business Man, a Congressman, a Lawyer, a Sure-Fire Salesman, a Red-Haired Orator and a Gray Man.

*Sociology*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

URBAN LAND ECONOMICS—H. B. Dorau and A. G. Hinman—*Macmillan*. A compactly written, searching inquiry into the increasingly complex problems presented by modern city growth.

*Economics*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*

THE ECONOMIC WORLD—A. R. Burns and Eveline M. Burns—*Oxford Press* (\$2). A condensed presentation of the main outlines of economics, suitable for use as an elementary textbook or for home study.

*Economics*

*Science News-Letter, June 9, 1928*