

# • First Glances at New Books

See also  
Page 112

## Meteorology

**CLIMATE**—W. G. Kendrew—*Oxford Press*, 320 p., \$5. Those particularly interested in meteorology will wish to add this book to their libraries. Written from a British standpoint, it does not contain as many American examples as it might, but its consideration of insolation and temperature, pressure and winds, humidity, rainfall, evaporation, clouds, thunderstorms, sunshine and cloud, fog, etc., to quote a few chapter headings, is readable.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Zoology

(I) **BIG GAME PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE TIMES**; (II) **ELEPHANTS AND OTHER BIG GAME PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE TIMES**—Marcuswell Maxwell—*Times Publishing Co.*, 5s. These are two superb collections of animal photographs taken in Africa and published first in the *London Times*. One book goes in rather heavily for lions, the other for elephants; but both have good assortments of other pictures as well.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Aviation

**INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF AVIATION**—Kenneth W. Colegrove—*World Peace Foundation*, 234 p., \$2.50. As aviation spreads throughout the world, there arises the necessity of laws and regulations to govern the aerial contacts of the various nations. The status of today's rivalry for the control of the international air routes is given in this volume.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Physics

**HANDBOOK FOR PROJECTIONISTS**—Installation and Service Department—*RCA Photophone*, 214 p., \$2. Now that the projection of motion pictures is complicated with the addition of sound, the operators in the booths above the heads of the audience need such a handbook as this to allow them to understand the machines they are operating.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## History

**GIANTS OF THE OLD WEST**—Fredrick R. Bechdolt—*Century*, 245 p., \$2. Adventure tales of men who won the West.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Chemistry

**EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTACT CATALYSIS**—J. C. W. Frazer—*National Research Council*, 51 p., 50c. Of great industrial importance

is the chemical phenomenon described in this report. The making of wood alcohol from carbon monoxide, the synthesis of higher alcohols and the hydrogenation of coal and many other chemical processes are brought about by contact catalysis.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## General Science

**A HISTORY OF SCIENCE**—William Cecil Dampier Dampier-Whetham—*Macmillan*, 514 p., \$6. This is a present day classic in the humanizing of the history of science. Within the covers of a single volume, there is told with clarity and accuracy the growth of the structure of modern science that is, as the author says, "perhaps the greatest triumph of the human mind."

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Geography

**ASHWELL'S WORLD ROUTES 1930**—Edited by Kurt G. W. Luedecke—*Thomas Ashwell & Co.*, 848 p., \$7.50. Globetrotters will welcome this new annual international travel guide, which with a minimum of effort tells how to get from where you are to any other portion of the globe.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Horticulture

**AZALEAS AND CAMELLIAS**—H. H. Hume—*Macmillan*, 90 p., \$1.50. The romantic gardens of the Old South, beautiful beyond all telling in the warm days of spring, depend for much of their charm on these two genera. This little book tells how to select, plant and care for them.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Geography-Sociology

**CHINA**—Edited by Henry F. James—*American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 431 p., \$2. An admirable review of the country of the world's oldest civilization, with each chapter written by an expert.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Philosophy

**LIFE AFTER DEATH**—Arthur H. Compton, Shailer Mathews and Charles W. Gilkey—*American Institute of Sacred Literature*, 45 p., 2c each, \$1.50 for hundred. Scientist, theologian and minister express their opinions.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Zoology-Geography

**THE LONG TREK**—Richard L. Sutton—*Mosby Co.*, 347 p., \$5. The story of the hunting travels of an American physician and his son.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Geology-Geography

**WORLD MINERALS AND WORLD POLITICS**—C. K. Leith—*Whittlesey House*, 213 p., \$2. Minerals play such an important part in international affairs that such a study of the world's mineral resources as contained in this volume should interest industrialists and statesmen as well as geologists and the users of mineral products. The practical importance of the world distribution of minerals was emphasized by the World War. Prof. Leith discusses the past and present situation and also looks into the future.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Speech

**PRONUNCIATION**—Thorleif Larsen and Francis C. Walker—*Oxford Press*, 198 p., \$2.50. First aid to radio announcers and speakers. Despite its Oxford imprint, modern American usage is given in addition to the brand of pronunciation current in Great Britain. The authors had the collaboration of two contemporary investigators, one an American, the other an Englishman.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Astronomy

**OTHER WORLDS THAN THIS**—Elena Fontany—*Rockwell*, 112 p., \$1.25. Better than fairy tales is this book for junior reading, because it is true. May it cause youngsters of this generation to aspire to be astronomers of the next, whether or not they achieve their childhood ambition.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Physical Geography

**HOW THE WORLD IS CHANGING**—Edith Heal—*T. S. Rockwell*, 112 p., \$1.25. The main facts of earth science, very simply stated and printed in large type, so that children of the lower grades can read and understand them. Well illustrated with sketches by Terry Smith.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Power-Economics

**SOURCES OF COAL AND TYPES OF STOKERS AND BURNERS USED BY ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITY POWER PLANTS**—William Harvey Young—*Brookings Institute*, 79 p., 50c. To remedy an almost complete lack of information on coal distribution, the United States Geological Survey made a study of the sources of the coal used by public utility companies. This pamphlet gives the detailed statistics which will be of value in considerations of various phases of our fuel situation.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

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See also  
Page 111

## Exploration

**ANDREE'S STORY**—Translated by Edward Adams-Ray—*Viking Press*, 389 p., \$5.

**ANDREE**—George Palmer Putnam—*Brewer and Warren*, 239 p., \$2.50. The record of the daring pioneer flight into the Arctic is the subject of these two volumes. That published by the Viking Press contains the diaries of the explorers and other official material discovered at the last camp of Andrée, Strindberg, and Fraenkel on White Island. There are twelve photographs actually taken by the Andrée party which were successfully developed after the films had lain in the ice for thirty-three years. The book by George Palmer Putnam is the record of tragic adventure as it could be told before the deciphering of the diaries found with the expedition.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Sanitation

**A STUDY OF THE POLLUTION AND NATURAL PURIFICATION OF THE ILLINOIS RIVER. II: THE PLANKTON AND RELATED ORGANISMS**—W. C. Purdy—*Government Printing Office*, 212 p., 45c. The Illinois, which has been violated and forced to become Chicago's *cloaca maxima*, is probably the filthiest river in the world. It is therefore a classic stream for students of sanitation and drainage problems. The series of which the present study is a part will find a relatively limited but intensely interested audience.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Physics

**ELEMENTARY HEAT**—W. F. F. Shearcoft—*Oxford Press*, 222 p., \$1.25. A textbook of English origin interestingly covering one area in the usual physics course of secondary schools.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Astronomy-Photography

**A MANUAL OF ASTRONOMICAL PHOTOGRAPHY**—Edward S. King—*Eastern Science Supply Co.*, 177 p., \$3. With the exception of H. H. Waters' small and excellent, though expensive, "Astronomical Photography for Amateurs," there has been no recent book to give the amateur astronomer who is also an amateur photographer the information he needs to combine his hobbies. Prof. King, who has been with the Harvard College Observatory, chief center of astronomical photography, since 1887, is exceptionally well

equipped to supply this information, thus making his book doubly welcome. He shows how interesting pictures can be made of the heavenly objects with the simplest apparatus, so his book should introduce many to this fascinating branch of both astronomy and photography.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Physics

**APPLICATIONS OF INTERFEROMETRY**—W. Ewart Williams—*Dutton*, 104 p., 85c. The principles and application of the light phenomenon which has been used so successfully by Michelson and others in the measurement of star diameters and for other purposes is explained in this small book written by the lecturer in physics in the University of London. Advocates of the decimal system will be interested in the way the illustrations are numbered, for the figures to the left of the decimal point indicate chapters while those to the right of the decimal point indicate the number of the illustration within the chapter.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Evolution

**ANIMAL ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION**—Charles Elton—*Oxford Press*, 96 p., \$1.50. Although ecology holds a wealth of implication for evolution, the principles and data of this discipline have never been sufficiently applied, at least by ecologists themselves. This small book makes no pretense at being exhaustive, but contents itself with presenting, in three chapters, a number of very suggestive possibilities in the study of animal numbers, animal migration, and the "real life" of animals.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Philosophy

**GREAT PHILOSOPHIES OF THE WORLD**—C. E. M. Joad—*Jonathan Cape & Harrison Smith*, 128 p., 60c. Some famous systems of philosophy are briefly outlined for the reader seeking an introduction to the philosophers from Plato to modern times.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Aviation

**GLIDERS AND GLIDING**—Ralph Stanton Barnaby—*Ronald Press*, 170 p., \$3. America's first licensed glider pilot, who last January launched his glider from the airship *Los Angeles*, gives the history and technical details of this aerial sport.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Psychology

**THE WORLD OF THE BLIND**—Pierre Villey—*Macmillan*, 403 p., \$2.25. The author, who has been blind since earliest childhood, here gives a remarkable contribution to our scientific knowledge of the blind. Of particular interest are the chapters discussing how those who are blind image spatial objects and how they can appreciate works of art. The work was awarded a prize of 5,000 francs by the French Academy of Moral and Political Science.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Radio

**THIS THING CALLED BROADCASTING**—Alfred N. Goldsmith, Austin C. Lescarboursa—*Holt*, 362 p., \$3.50. The rise of radio to its present state is told by an R. C. A. engineer and a leading radio writer. As a chapter of the history of the past decade, it is a useful and readable book. No index!

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Natural History

**THE NEW NATURE STUDY**—F. J. Wright—*Thornton Butterworth*, 287 p., 5s. What might be termed an advanced book in nature study, though not written over the head of the amateur. Though applicable only to conditions in Britain, this book will be useful to nature study teachers elsewhere as an example in method.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Nature Study

**BIRDS OF TANGLEWOOD**—K. W. Baker—*Southwest Press*, 89 p., \$1.75. A little book about the little folk in feathers, who lived around a house that had plenty of trees. Illustrated with sketches by Charlotte Baker.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Biology

**AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY IN PRODUCTION AND COLLECTION OF SEED OYSTERS**—Paul S. Galtsoff, H. F. Prytheach and H. C. McMillin—*U. S. Government Printing Office*, 76 p., 30c. Students of biology as well as commercial fisheries men will be interested in this step toward the solution of the oyster production problem.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1931*

## Geology-Economics

**OIL—ITS CONSERVATION AND WASTE**—James H. Westcott—*Beacon*, 273 p., \$3. A technical and statistical consideration of the present state of the oil industry.

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