

# • First Glances at New Books

## Biography

CRUCIBLES, THE LIVES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GREAT CHEMISTS—Bernard Jaffe—*Simon and Schuster*, 377 p., \$5. The Francis Bacon Prize of \$7,500 for the humanizing of knowledge has been awarded to this book. Mr. Jaffe has related in an attractive way the life story and work of sixteen famous chemists from Paracelsus on, and at the same time sketched the history of chemistry. Readers familiar with previous books in this field will be interested in the new biographies of Dr. Irving Langmuir and Sir J. J. Thomson, discoverer of the electron. "Crucibles" forms a stirring narrative, but those who wish to know the inner life of these men may be disappointed.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Hygiene

HEALTH FOR EVERY MAN—Maurice A. Bigelow and Jean Broadhurst—*Silver, Burdett and Co.*, 235 p., 72c. Another text for teaching health to school children. The style is pleasantly informal and will doubtless appeal to the children. It is surprising to find the advice on nose blowing is directly contradictory to that of otolaryngologists, who teach that both nostrils should be kept open while blowing, in order to avoid infection of and damage to the ear.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Psychology

CONFERENCE ON INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES—*National Research Council*, Distributed free. A stenographic report of the Conference, which was held under the auspices of the committee on National Intelligence Tests, and the committee on experimental psychology of the Division of Anthropology and Psychology.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Botany

THE RUBIACEAE OF ECUADOR—Paul C. Stanley—*Field Museum*, 72 p., 35c. Of interest to systematic botanists.

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## Horticulture

AMERICAN ALPINES IN THE GARDEN—Anderson McCully—*Macmillan*, 251 p., \$2.50. Rock gardens are still new enough, in their larger popularity at least, to give our native species the "fair break" they have never had in the development of the more usual types of

garden. This book therefore comes most opportunely. It is to be hoped that it will be the vade-mecum especially of those who are just at the beginning of their endeavor to make a small scrap of pet desert blossom like the rose.

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## Sociology

RACE MIXTURE — Edward Byron Reuter—*McGraw-Hill*, 224 p., \$2.50. The black man and the white each has his accepted place in a social group, but the person of mixed blood is an unadjusted person. Race mixture is here discussed as a sociological problem.

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## Evolution

EVOLUTION — E. W. MacBride — *Cape and Smith*, 122 p., 60c. A little book that you can stick into your pocket to read at odd moments. It sums up the doctrines of and the evidences for evolution with a decided Lamarckian slant.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Psychology

MENTAL MEASUREMENT OF PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN—Rachel Stutsman—*World Book Co.*, 368 p., \$2.20. Containing a description of, and a guide for using, the Merrill-Palmer mental tests for very young children, together with much general material on such topics as the resistance of children to tests, methods of studying personality, and special defects and difficulties. A number of interesting case studies are also included.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Fisheries

PROPAGATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD FISHES, 1930—Glen C. Leach—*Government Printing Office*, 68 p., 15c. A Bureau of Fisheries document (No. 1098) giving the record of many activities.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Biology—Education

BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION—O. W. Caldwell, C. E. Skinner and J. W. Tietz—*Ginn*, 534 p., \$2.72. A book for the teacher's own study rather than for the biology classroom. It makes a serious endeavor to get past the mass of fact and coordinating theory that makes biology itself, to find behind these their meaning in terms of human thought and conduct.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Conservation

THIRTY YEARS MORE FOR WILD LIFE — W. T. Hornaday — *Scribner's*, 292 p., \$2.50. A pioneer people in a land of apparently unlimited game has become, in less than two generations, an urban people in a largely gameless land. The time has been sufficient to wipe out some species and to reduce most of the remainder to the danger point, but the time has not been sufficient to effect much change in the hunting psychology of the people. Here one of the leaders in the fight to save the goose (and other birds and mammals) that make the golden shooting tells of a generation of checkered discouragements and progress in persuading gentlemen sportsmen to give the game a chance—and in finding means to compel those who are neither gentlemen nor sportsmen to do in like manner.

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## Archaeology

THE ANCIENT MIMBRENOS—Paul H. Nesbitt—*Logan Museum*, 105 p., \$1.50. That the Mimbres culture, which produced the finest of all Pueblo art, developed steadily and gradually is one important conclusion drawn in this report. The report is based on extensive excavations at the Mattocks Ruin in the Mimbres Valley of New Mexico, in 1929 and 1930.

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## Ornithology

THE ISLAND OF PENGUINS—Cherry Kearton—*McBride*, 246 p., \$3. Any mention of an island of penguins necessarily conjures up the shade of Anatol France. The author of the present work, however, actually had the curiosity and energy to go and live with the penguins on a little island for a long time, observing their ways with an eye less jaundiced toward the weaknesses of her own species. Therefore, though she does begin the book with an allusion to Lilliput, she contrives to be both informative and amusing without flavoring her dish with the bitter herbs used so freely by both France and Swift.

*Science News Letter, March 21, 1931*

## Psychology

STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY AND PSYCHOLOGY—G. F. Stout—*Macmillan*, 408 p., \$4.50. Essays discussing various theories and topics of psychology from the philosophical point of view.

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