

• First Glances at New Books

Geography

PERU FROM THE AIR—George R. Johnson, with text and notes by Raye R. Platt—*Amer. Geographical Society*, 159 p., \$5, to libraries \$4. Geography from the air can be an instructive and fascinating subject with many angles that the old-fashion geographies missed, as this book demonstrates. It goes without saying that the airplane photographs taken by Lieutenant Johnson are very good indeed. The mighty barriers that the Andes present, the relationship of seaports and other cities to their surroundings, the present state of some of the ancient ruined cities, problems of transportation and other engineering problems, are all more clearly understood when viewed broadly from above. There are 152 illustrations, mostly air photographs. The text, by Mr. Platt, stresses economic significance of the land.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Zoology

ANIMAL AGGREGATIONS—W. C. Allee—*University of Chicago Press*, 431 p., \$5. Prof. Allee's researches have lately been opening up a most interesting and hitherto neglected field in ecological physiology—the ability of masses of animals to resist toxic elements in their environment, to which they would succumb much more quickly if exposed as single individuals. In this book he sums up and extends his results to date, and discusses their implications as they touch upon the work of other physiologists.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Meteorology-Aeronautics

AEROLOGY—Charles Joseph Maguire—*McGraw-Hill*, 136 p., \$2.50. An elementary but technical book on the weather as seen by the aviator. It is a manual to be used by ground schools for the training of aviators.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Psychiatry

THE PSYCHIATRIC STUDY OF PROBLEM CHILDREN—Sanger Brown II and Howard W. Potter—*N. Y. State Dept. of Mental Hygiene*, 152 pp. A manual for workers in child guidance clinics and other institutions which must solve the problems of problem children. Procedures and principles are set forth very clearly and in detail, with reasons frequently given to show why

the course of action is advised. The authors advocate a comprehensive study of the child: psychological, social, and medical.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Astronomy

THE UNIVERSE AROUND US—Sir James Jeans—*Macmillan*, 351 p., \$4.50. A new and revised edition of a current classic of science popularization. Sir James has added discussions of the new planet Pluto, the rotation of the galaxy, and the apparent expansion of the universe which have become important since the first edition of his book.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Industry

ROCKEFELLER: GIANT, DWARF AND SYMBOL—William H. Allen—*Institute for Public Service*, 619 p., \$5. A highly critical biography of one of the leading figures in American business and philanthropy. The author challenges the administration of the many Rockefeller benefactions, questioning whether they have done more good than harm. The Rockefeller industrial activities are also subjected to strenuous inquiry.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Physical Chemistry

A TEXTBOOK OF PRACTICAL PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY—K. Fajans and J. Wust, trans. by Bryan Topley—*Dutton*, 233 p., \$4.95. Based on the accumulated experience of instructors at Munich, Wurzburg and Erlangen. For university and college students and research workers. It is clear without being too detailed in its descriptions and it leaves something to the self-reliance of the student. It is a good translation.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Engineering—Government

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FEDERAL PROGRAM OF FLOOD CONTROL ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER—Arthur DeWitt Frank—*Columbia University Press*, 269 p., \$4.25. The legislative, administrative and legal aspects of the fight against America's greatest river.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Mathematics

FIVE-PLACE LOGARITHMIC AND TRIGONOMETRIC TABLES—William W. Burton—*Crowell*, 93 p., \$1.25. For college students. It has been checked against Vega's tables.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

History—General Science

THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND THE NEW HUMANISM—George Sarton—*Holt*, 178 p., \$2. No one can read these three Colver lectures by the most fruitful of today's historians without acquiring some of his enthusiasm and his insight into the essential nature of the history of civilization. Dr. Sarton is building a bridge between humanists of the old school and scientists who have no knowledge of the past and no appreciation of beauty. He visualizes the dawn of a new age, the age of a New Humanism (not the philosophic variety of recent exposition, but a "new culture, the first to be deliberately based upon humanized science.") In the illuminating chapter, "East and West," Dr. Sarton tells concisely the true story of the so-called Dark Ages when Islam carried the torch of science lit by the Greeks and their intellectual ancestors of the East, added fuel to its flames and then handed it on to the western civilization of which we are a part.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Child Health

CHILD HEALTH—Mrs. Norma Selbert—*Saunders*, 261 p., \$1.60. Designed for classes in adult education and child care. This small volume is a concise, non-technical presentation of the latest theories and methods in care of children of all ages.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Mechanical Engineering

MACHINE SHOP WORK—Frederick W. Turner, Oscar E. Perrigo, Howard P. Fairfield—*American Technical Society*, 400 p., \$2.50. A treatise on approved shop methods now in a revised edition.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Mechanics

APPLIED MECHANICS—Norman C. Riggs—*Macmillan*, 328 p., \$3.75. A textbook by the professor of mechanics at the Carnegie Institute of Technology.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931

Sociology

COMMONWEALTH FUND ANNUAL REPORT 1930—85 p., Free. Reviews the valuable activities carried on under the Commonwealth Fund in the fields of education, public health, mental hygiene, child guidance, and legal research.

Science News Letter, April 4, 1931