

# • First Glances at New Books

## Astronomy

**HISTORY AND WORK OF THE HARVARD OBSERVATORY**—Solon I. Bailey—*McGraw-Hill*, 301 p., \$3.50. The part played by Harvard in the history of astronomy in America is effectively told in this volume. The succession of brilliant directors of Harvard College Observatory and their associates have made many major contributions to astronomy and Harvard with its unique collection of astronomical photographs will always remain one of America's major astronomical institutions. It is fortunate that its history has thus been made available in this book.

*Science News Letter, August 8, 1931*

## General Science

**HEAT AND HEALTH**—Morris Meister—*Scribner's*, 237 p., \$1.08. Second volume of *Living In A World of Science*, for junior high school pupils. The book is written in a simple, clear style. It covers rather fully such subjects as heat and heating methods, sources of fuels, ventilation, thermometers, and refrigeration, and more briefly sanitation and public health.

*Science News Letter, August 8, 1931*

## Geography

**POCKET GUIDE TO THE WEST INDIES**—Algernon Aspinall—*Brentano's*, 500 p., \$3.75. A revised edition of a standard source of information on the West Indies. It will prove valuable to those contemplating travel in the West Indies.

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## Aeronautics

**AIRCRAFT RADIO**—Myron F. Eddy—*Ronald Press*, 284 p., \$4.50. This handbook of the science of radio practice on aircraft has been prepared for students with little special mathematical preparation. Students and graduates of aviation schools and other technical institutions, radio operators, airplane mechanics and all those interested in aircraft radio from a strictly practical angle will find this work on a new field valuable.

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## History

**FOUR THOUSAND YEARS OF WORLD HISTORY**—*Histomap, Inc.*, Chicago, chart \$1. This is a chart about five feet long and 13 inches wide. Each empire or nation has its individually colored strip, the width indicating relative importance at a given period. Important political events, cultural developments, and

famous personalities are briefly noted at their proper time and place in world history. Considering the complexity of the subject, this is a remarkably clear and effective picture of civilization.

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## Physical Chemistry

**RADIOELEMENTS AND ISOTOPES: CHEMICAL FORCES AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF SUBSTANCES**—Kasimir Fajans—*McGraw-Hill*, 125 p., \$2.50. This book is an elaboration of the lectures delivered to advanced workers and students by Prof. Fajans as the George Fisher Baker non-resident lecturer at Cornell University. The fields dealt with are largely those of Prof. Fajans' own researches. One chapter deals with the origin of the actinium series and the rest with nature of chemical forces.

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## Industrial Chemistry

**ARTIFICIAL RESINS**—J. Scheiber and Kurt Sandig, trans. Ernest Fyleman—*Pitman*, 447 p., \$9.00. A technical description of the chemistry of the preparation of resin-like substances. Since the development of Bakelite the first hardening resin, in 1907, the manufacture of artificial resins has become an important industry.

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## Hygiene

**HERE'S HEALTH**—Morris M. Brill—*Lincoln MacVeagh*, 120 p., \$1.50. Dr. Brill's method of staying well is based on the theory that pressure is the cause of disease and ill health. Like so many theorists, he loses his sense of perspective and rides his theory too hard.

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## Highway-Engineering

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD**—Edited by Roy W. Crum, Director, Highway Research Board—*National Research Council*, 420 p., \$2.00. As the net of highways spreads in all portions of the country, it is increasingly necessary that fundamental research on highways be fostered and encouraged. The Highway Research Board of the National Research Council has done valuable work of coordination and inspiration during the decade of its existence. This report of its tenth annual meeting includes numerous papers on many phases of highway building.

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## Pharmacological History

**FIGHTING DISEASE WITH DRUGS**—Edited by John C. Krantz and James H. Beal—*Williams and Wilkins*, 230 p., \$2. The book, a publication of the National Conference of Pharmaceutical Research, is a symposium by various specialists in sciences related to drugs and is designed to tell the layman the story of pharmacy. The small book is packed full of information on subjects of very general interest, and is written simply and interestingly. The omission of an index is regrettable, since the book might easily win a place on the lay reader's reference shelf.

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## Ethnology

**CARVED AND PAINTED DESIGNS FROM NEW GUINEA**—Albert Buell Lewis—*Field Museum*, 52 p., \$1.25. Grotesque faces and maze-like designs are prominent in the art examples collected in this publication. The designs are mostly from articles used by natives of the Papuan Gulf. A concise explanatory statement prefaces the set of plates, telling how the art is produced and something about the materials.

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## Archaeology

**ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE DALLES-DESCHUTES REGION**—W. Duncan Strong, W. Egbert Schenck, and Julian H. Steward—*University of California Press*, 154 p., 28 pl., \$2. The Columbia River region is recognized as having been an important highway for native American trade and migration. In this archaeological study, twenty-two sites of the middle Columbia River culture are described, thus adding valuable data to the published material on the subject. The discoveries point toward clearer understanding of northwest coast culture.

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## Philology

**SOUTHERN PAIUTE, A SHOSHONEAN LANGUAGE; TEXTS OF THE KAIBAB PAIUTES AND UINTAH UTES; SOUTHERN PAIUTE DICTIONARY**—Edward Sapir—*American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, 730 p., \$7.50. Linguists and ethnologists will find much of interest in this volume by one of the best known specialists in Indian languages. A Paiute student at Carlisle, Tony Tillohash, aided Dr. Sapir in gathering data on the grammar, songs of the tribe.

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