

• First Glances at New Books

Meteorology

SNOW CRYSTALS—Wilson A. Bentley and W. J. Humphreys—*McGraw-Hill*, 227 p., \$10. For over forty years Wilson Bentley has captured beauty out of the gray heavens of Vermont winters with a home-made microscope-camera setup and a technique that the cherubim might envy. Now, at long last, over two thousand of his marvelous snow-crystal pictures, together with a few fine frost, dew and ice photographs, have been assembled into a superb book. Scientists and artists who knew of Bentley's work breathe easier, for the fruits of his labor are safe against loss, are preserved for the admiration of the future, are available to a wider present audience. The jewelry of the skies which this book sets forth on page after incredible page will without question inspire designers in media all the way from platinum to linoleum, will interest and instruct in a score of sciences, and will bring sheer delight to lovers of beauty everywhere.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Nature Study

ALONG THE BROOK—R. T. Fuller—*John Day*, 81 p., \$1.50. Small enough to slip into a pocket without adding appreciable weight, this little book has a good deal of well-packed information in it about the animal and plant life to be found in and on the banks of those slender streamlets that most invite our feet when out on an autumn ramble. The line illustrations are simple and clear-cut.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Zoology

COMMON PESTS—R. W. Doane—*Thomas*, 397 p., \$4. This book is written from an original viewpoint: it discusses the commoner animal organisms of whatever group that cause man discomfort or loss. Hence it includes creatures as diverse as mosquitoes and mice, horseflies and hawks; with each it tells what to do about it. The book should therefore be useful to the average bespeckered householder, as well as to the teacher desiring a good but compact single volume for his laboratory reference shelf.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Psychology

FIELDS OF PSYCHOLOGY—Glenn Devere Higginson—*Holt*, 613 p., \$2.75. A textbook on psychology covering a

very broad field including evolution, heredity, animal psychology, group psychology, various applications of psychology in education, business, and the legal profession, and abnormal psychology. An introductory section discusses the different modern schools of psychology.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Archaeology

COLUMBUS CAME LATE—Gregory Mason—*Century*, 341 p., \$4. Describes with many vivid touches the civilization attained by American Indians before white men came and began to enlighten the New World. Tropical and subtropical groups occupy the foreground. These were the Indians who forged ahead most strongly in achievement, and it is the author's aim to show that America, though isolated, was keeping up with the march of world civilization in ancient times.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Psychology

PERSONALITY AND WILL—Francis Aveling—*Appleton*, 246 p., \$2. An English psychologist has here attempted to reach a definition of personality and to determine the relation between personality and will. "The intrinsic principle of personality," he says, "is simply intelligent will."

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Medical Economics

A SURVEY OF THE MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA: 1929—Nathan Sinai and Alden B. Mills—*University of Chicago Press*, 298 p., \$1.50. A publication of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care. Said to be the first complete survey of the medical facilities of a large American city. The report should be particularly interesting because Philadelphia is one of the large medical centers of the country, with numerous and good medical facilities. Part of this report is a digest of the Philadelphia Hospital and Health Survey, 1929, and part is the result of original investigation.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Economics

PETROLEUM FACTS AND FIGURES—*American Petroleum Institute*, 268 p., \$2. The fourth edition of the American Petroleum Institute's annual statistical summary of the industry.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Psychology-Business

FOUNDATIONS FOR HUMAN ENGINEERING—Charles R. Gow—*Macmillan*, 226 p., \$2. The contents of this volume represent approximately the first third of the course in humanics as offered at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The author who was formerly a successful construction engineer here offers in humorous style some practical wisdom regarding the human element with which the engineer and others in the business world must work.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Zoology

SPRECHEN SIE SCHIMPANSISCH?—Georg Schwidetzky—*Lübe u. Co., Leipzig*, 80 p., RM 3.40. "Do you speak Chimpanzee?" the author asks, and assures the reader that he does. He holds that there are many words in modern High German and other languages that are derived from the primitive "words" of simian languages, like the "ngak" and "nkak" of the chimpanzee. The present brochure is announced as the prodrome of an ambitious effort to show what the first human speech was like by a study of animal sounds.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Physics

THERMODYNAMICS—A. W. Porter—*Dutton*, 96 p., \$1.10. Another of the series of monographs on physical subjects edited by Dr. B. L. Worsnop, King's College, London. The text is closely condensed and carries references for additional reading.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Psychology

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE INVENTOR—Joseph Rossman—*Inventors Publishing Co.*, 252 p., \$3. Based on questionnaires on the inventive process filled out by over seven hundred leading inventors of the United States.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931

Parasitology

KEY-CATALOGUE OF THE PROTOZOA REPORTED FOR MAN, Second Edition—C. W. Stiles and Albert Hassall—*Government Printing Office*, 63 p., 15c. The conclusiveness of the taxonomic work performed by the senior author, and inspired by him in his associates, is attested here by the fact that this second edition is an almost unchanged reprinting of the first, which bears a 1925 publication date.

Science News Letter, December 5, 1931