

# ● First Glances at New Books

## Agriculture

NATURAL LAND-USE AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES—C. P. Barnes and F. J. Marschner—*Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture*, 50c. A large (1:4,000,000) map of the United States, with areas shown in color on the basis of what might be called agricultural ecology. They range all the way from the rich corn lands of the great central valley, the proper use of which cannot be questioned, to lands of more problematical value in the arid, swampy, cut-over or rocky parts of the country, which in the new scheme of things may need to be withdrawn from annual cropping and devoted to other uses.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Agriculture

TYPE-OF-FARMING AREAS IN THE UNITED STATES, 1930—*Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture*, 25c. A colored map prepared by the Bureau of Census, Dept. of Commerce, in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, setting forth in considerable detail something over 500 types and sub-types of agricultural areas. This should be of great value to anyone who wishes to develop an understanding of the new national policy of agricultural re-settlement now being worked out in Washington.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Chronology

THE WORLD'S WORK AND THE CALENDAR—Meredith N. Stiles—*International Fixed Calendar League*, 181 p., \$1. An authoritative presentation of the world's need for a new and fixed calendar. The story of the evolution of the Julian-Gregorian calendar is told and along with the chapters explaining the thirteen months plan and the League of Nations activities toward its realization there are chapters summarizing the religious and other objections to this advocated plan. The author is the American Secretary of the International Fixed Calendar League.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Physics

THEORETICAL PHYSICS, VOL II—W. Wilson—*E. P. Dutton*, 315 p., \$5.75. This volume II continues the exposition of the theory of physics with the idea of presenting physical theory as a coherent, logical unity. This volume II covers electromagnetism and optics. Vol-

ume I, covering mechanics and heat, has already appeared, while Volume III covering relativity and quantum dynamics is scheduled for future publication. The author is professor of physics, University of London.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Economic Entomology

TERMITES AND TERMITE CONTROL—Charles A. Kofoid, editor-in-chief—*Univ. of California Press*, xxv+734 p., \$5. Although the general press has taken excited notice of termite damage only recently, these wood-voracious insects have been carrying on their campaign of destruction in all except the coldest parts of the United States all the time, and they seem to be extending their territory. The appearance of this book, a publication of a special committee, is most timely, in view of the renewed building activity which the expected return of better economic conditions will bring; yet economic considerations, though given the full treatment they deserve, are not the whole of the work by any means. The initial chapters, on the general biology and ecology of termites, could constitute a separate reference book in "pure" entomology.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Photography

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC DARKROOM, ITS ARRANGEMENT AND USE—E. J. Wall—*American Photographic Pub. Co.*, 107 p., \$1.50. A practical handbook which gives many suggestions and answers many questions.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Mathematics

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS—Nelson Bush Conkwright—*Macmillan*, 234 p., \$1.90. A text based upon the course given by the author who is associate in mathematics at the University of Iowa.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Standardization—Testing Materials

BOOK OF A. S. T. M. TENTATIVE STANDARDS, 1933—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 1136 p., \$8 cloth, \$7 paper.

*Science News Letter, February 3, 1934*

## Housing

THE REBUILDING OF BLIGHTED AREAS—Clarence Arthur Perry—*Regional Plan Assn.*, 59 p., \$2. The "blight" referred to is an insidious malady that attacks urban residential districts. It appears first as a barely noticeable deterioration and then progresses gradually through many stages toward a final condition known as the slum. The organization which has done such constructive work in making a plan for the New York region in this volume analyzes the problem of replanning these blighted areas of our cities.

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## Natural History

THE ANIMAL KINGDOM—*Orthovis Co. (Chicago)*, 33p., \$2.15. A book of striking animal pictures, printed by a two-color offset process with a two-color binocular viewing screen to give a startlingly stereoscopic effect. The publishers promise a number of other similar nature books in the near future.

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## Archaeology

ARCHEOLOGICAL MONUMENTS OF MEXICO—Department of Education, Republic of Mexico—*Appleton-Century*, 14 p., 150 pl., \$3. Except for a few pages of introduction, in Spanish and English, this is a picture book of Mexico's most famous ruins and relics. Scenes from Monte Alban are included, temples at Chichen Itza and other ruined cities, details of sculpture, the tunnels that now run through the great pyramid of Cholula, Tenayuca pyramid before and after excavation, and many other archaeological subject about which much has been written.

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## Mechanics

THE AMATEUR MACHINIST—A Frederick Collins—*Appleton-Century*, 300 p., \$2. An elementary book explaining how to use machinists' hand and bench tools, the common lathe and the back geared, screw cutting engine lathe, with chapters on mechanical drawings, fits and fitting and finishing metal work.

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