

# ● First Glances at New Books

## Biology

**THE ANCESTRY OF THE LONG-LIVED**—Raymond Pearl and Ruth DeWitt Pearl—*Johns Hopkins Press*, 168 p., \$3. The book is a careful statistical study of the factors bearing upon longevity or extreme longevity, that is to say, those cases in which life has continued for 90 years or more. The results are presented in the technical phraseology of the statistician and only the trained worker in this science will be able to follow critically the evidence and arguments set down, but anyone with biological training may gather an intelligent conception of the methods used and of the conclusions reached by the authors. Briefly stated, they find that there is no doubt of the existence of an hereditary factor in cases of extreme long life, but the evidence is not sufficient to indicate that transmission of this characteristic takes place in accordance with Mendelian formulas. In fact the authors seem to lean rather to the view that longevity is one of those deeper attributes of the organism which are bound up with the biological constitution of the individual and whose mechanism of transmission is still unknown.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Mathematics

**ESSENTIALS OF PLANE TRIGONOMETRY AND ANALYTICAL GEOMETRY**—Atherton H. Sprague—*Prentice-Hall*, 228 p., \$1.80. This is a textbook which packs into one volume the "meat" of that initial bugaboo of college-freshman math. The author, associate professor of mathematics at Amherst College, in his treatment of the material, aims at an adequate preparation for calculus. The book divides itself readily into two sections, one on each of its subjects. Copious doses of problems at the end of each chapter and the pre-calculus motive adapt it for engineering schools.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Mathematics

**ESSENTIALS OF PLANE TRIGONOMETRY**—Atherton H. Sprague—*Prentice-Hall*, 119 p., 80c. Reprint of the first 119 pages of the previous textbook bound in heavy paper. Same clear, pleasing make-up and typography.

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## Zoology

**VANISHING WILDERNESS**—F. R. Lamonte and M. H. Welch—*Liveright*, 340 p., \$2.50. Facing, sadly but

frankly, the fact that the Veldt is disappearing just as the Plains disappeared, so far as game herds are concerned, these two American Museum workers undertake to make some of the more interesting of the still-surviving animal species live on between the covers of their book. They succeed, too, because they have a vivid and vital literary style, and have judiciously interspersed their pages with good line and color illustrations. Simply written but not "written down," the book makes an ideal one to place in the hands of children.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Zoology

**SCULPTURES BY HERBERT HASELTINE OF CHAMPION DOMESTIC ANIMALS OF GREAT BRITAIN**—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 45 p., 25c. A number of really inspired portrait statues of noted prize winning domestic animals of Great Britain were recently acquired by the Field Museum. In this pamphlet they are described and excellently illustrated.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## General Science

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE INDIANA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, VOL. 43**—Stanley A. Cain, Editor—*Available from State Librarian, Indianapolis*, 226 p., \$3. A publication containing scientific papers presented at meeting of the Academy held at Indiana University, October, 1933.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Physics

**EXPOSÉS DE PHYSIQUE ATOMIQUE EXPÉRIMENTALE: Pt. II, LES PREUVES EXPÉRIMENTALES DE LA MÉCANIQUE ONDULATOIRE**—Jean-J. Trillat, 36 p., 12 fr.; Pt. III, **RAYONS COSMIQUES**—M. Maurice de Broglie, 48 p., 15 fr.—*Hermann et Cie., Paris*. Part III contains a bibliography of 105 items, on cosmic rays.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Marine Zoology

**NEW MOLLUSKS OF THE FAMILY TURRITIDAE**—Paul Bartsch—*Smithsonian Inst.*, 29 p., 8 pl. 15c.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Psychology

**CIVILIZED LIFE**—Knight Dunlap—*Williams and Wilkins*, 374 p., \$4. A revision and enlargement of the author's previous work on Social Psychology. New chapters are included on "Desire," "Race and Civilization," and "The Child as a Member of the Group." Instincts are not fundamental data of psychology, Dr. Dunlap holds, and he adds: "It is true, that when we discard instincts, we find that we have to deal with desires, which seem at first to be the instincts under new names . . . but desires are actual data of psychology, not arbitrary classifications." These desires he classifies tentatively under nine headings as follows: 1. Alimentary desire. The desire for food and drink. 2. Excretory desire. Riddance. The desire to be rid of annoying or inconvenient materials or processes. 3. Protection desire. Desire for shelter from adverse external forces. 4. Activity desire. The desire for motor performance and occupation. 5. Desire for rest and relaxation. 6. Amorous or erotic desire. Desire for stimulation by, and association with, an individual of the opposite sex. 7. Parental or philopedic desire. Desire for the possession of children. 8. Desire of preeminence. Desire to be a leader, or a focus of attention and interest. 9. Desire of conformity. Desire to belong to a group, and to participate in the group characteristics.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Sociology

**SOCIAL CHANGE AND THE NEW DEAL (SOCIAL CHANGES IN 1933)**—Edited by William F. Ogburn—*University of Chicago Press*, 120 p., \$1. A symposium containing such provocative essays as: Economic Recovery, Unemployment and Relief, Agriculture and Rural Life, The Tennessee Basin, The Future of the New Deal.

*Science News Letter, July 14, 1934*

## Geology

**BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NORTH AMERICAN GEOLOGY, 1931 AND 1932**—John M. Nickles—*Government Printing Office*, 300 p., 25c.

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