

• First Glances at New Books

ECONOMICS—AGRICULTURE

COMPETITION AMONG GRAINS — N. Jasny—*Food Research Inst., Stanford Univ.*, 606 p., \$4. If you eat black bread you don't eat white. If you feed your horse on cracked corn you give him less oats. What these homely, everyday experiences mean when magnified into terms of world economics is systematically attacked in this, the first comprehensive study of inter-commodity competition among maize, wheat, rye, barley and oats.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

HORTICULTURE

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO SOILLESS GARDENING—William F. Gericke—*Prentice-Hall*, 285 p., illus., \$2.75. See page 190.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

PHYSIOLOGY

MINERAL METABOLISM—Alfred T. Shohl—*Reinhold*, 384 p., \$5. Present knowledge of mineral requirements and utilization in the body is given for the general scientist who may not have been able to keep abreast of the rapid developments in this special field. Too technical for the lay reader unless he has a good knowledge of chemistry, physical chemistry and biology.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ANTHROPOLOGY

CULTURAL AND NATURAL AREAS OF NATIVE NORTH AMERICA—A. L. Kroeber—*Univ. of Calif. Press*, 242 p., cloth, \$3.50; paper, \$3.00. Investigators no longer seek to explain culture as the product of an environment, but Dr. Kroeber finds that the pendulum has swung so far that environment is too much neglected. Hence this study, which deals in "culture wholes," rather than details, and inquires into the historic relations of the geographic units of cultures.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

AERONAUTICS

AIRCRAFT DESIGN: Vol. I, Aerodynamics, 215 p., \$6; Vol. II, Aerostructures, 308 p., \$6.50.—C. H. Latimer Needham—*Chemical Pub. Co.* Here is a two-volume British text which is complete and authoritative and as up-to-date as any book could be in a field moving so rapidly as that of aircraft design, which changes—as the jokes and cartoons would have it—so swiftly that new military models are obsolete before they

are flight tested. Much of the material is, however, standard textbook background, invaluable for anyone approaching aviation in a serious way.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ORNITHOLOGY

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE BIRDS OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL NORTH AMERICA—Edward Howe Forbush; John Bichard May, rev.—*Houghton Mifflin*, 553 p., 97 pl., \$4.95. Forbush's notable three-volume work has long been out of print, much to the regret of ornithologists. This one-volume condensation and revision, with the number of color plates actually augmented, will therefore fill a long-felt need, and will doubtless appeal to an even wider bird-loving public than the bulkier original.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

TECHNOLOGY

EVALUATION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, A Résumé of Present Information—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 52 p., 75c.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ECONOMICS

AMERICAN PLANNING AND CIVIC ANNUAL—Harlean James, ed.—*American Planning and Civic Assoc.*, 288 p., \$3. Making available papers delivered at conferences during 1939, there are covered such subjects as: housing, recreation, man-made obstacles to planning, rural problems, national income, planning in business and social activities, public works, state parks, national parks.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

GENERAL SCIENCE

THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, No. 2, January 1940—*British Association for the Advancement of Science, London*, 236 p., 5 s. Many papers and addresses intended for delivery at the Dundee meeting, interrupted by the coming of war, are included in this volume.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ALMANACS

THE 1940 NATIONAL CATHOLIC ALMANAC—Franciscan Clerics of Holy Name College—*St. Anthony's Guild, Franciscan Monastery, Paterson, N. J.*, 759 p., paper, 75c.; cloth, \$1.50. Containing as it does information not readily available elsewhere, this annual is worth having on any reference shelf. There is a short section on science.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

PHOTOGRAPHY

GRAPHIC GRAFLEX PHOTOGRAPHY—Willard D. Morgan, Henry M. Lester and others—*Morgan & Lester*, 403 p., \$4. The many owners of Graphic or Graflex cameras will welcome this encyclopedic work from the pens and lenses of some 20 experts in varying fields of photography. The lavish illustrations demonstrate clearly what very beautiful work can be done by these cameras, favorites of the news photographer.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOPEDIA, Official Master Equipment and Materials Guide of the Photographic Industry—*United Catalog Publishers*, \$1.95. An important book for photographic dealers or others who do much buying or selling in this field; it is also a delight to the camera fan who loves to eye longingly a display of all the new gadgets and paraphernalia of his hobby.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

CHEMISTRY

VEGETABLE DYES—Ethel M. Mairet—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 68 p., \$2. A book of recipes and other information for the dyer who works with nature's own materials that have been used, in many cases, from prehistoric times.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERS AND ENGINEERING IN THE RENAISSANCE—William Barclay Parsons—*Williams & Wilkins*, 661 p., \$8. A distinguished engineer erects a new and lasting monument to the renaissance period in this splendid book discussing the amazing engineering achievements of that era. Here is a classic in its field.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940

ORNITHOLOGY—BIBLIOGRAPHY

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BIRDS: Author Catalogue—Reuben Myron Strong—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 937 p., Part 1, A to J, \$6; Part 2, K to Z, \$6. Ornithologists everywhere will be grateful to the author for undertaking this herculean labor, which will spare uncountable hours of library-grubbing to thousands of his colleagues. Primary attention is paid to non-taxonomic literature, and comprehensive search was stopped as of 1926, partly because *Biological Abstracts* began in that year.

Science News Letter, March 23, 1940