

# First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews  
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## ENTOMOLOGY

**THE SPIDER BOOK** (Rev. and Enl.)—John Henry Comstock; rev. and ed. by W. J. Gertsch—*Doubleday, Doran*, 729 p., \$6. Of popular books on insects there is (fortunately) almost no end; good popular works on spiders are much rarer. The Comstock book, which has been a classic for a generation and more, is here brought down to date, especially as regards classification, but without disturbing its basic form, already familiar and convenient to thousands of users.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## METEOROLOGY

**FAIR AND WARMER**—Joseph Gaer—*Harcourt, Brace*, 137 p., \$1.25. If you are interested in the weather (and who isn't?) but don't know how the weathermen work, this book will give a simple, clear, workable introduction to meteorology. Interest is enhanced by unusually good illustrations.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## ORNITHOLOGY

**CANADIAN WATER BIRDS**—P. A. Taverner—*David McKay Co.*, 291 p., \$2.50. A companion volume to *Canadian Land Birds* by the same author, reviewed in an earlier issue (See *SNL*, Feb. 3). It has the same compactness and accuracy of description, the same good quality of illustrations.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## MINERALOGY

**THE BOOK OF DIAMONDS**—J. Willard Hershey—*Hearst Press*, 142 p., \$2. Mineralogy, geographical distribution, history of mining and of important individual stones, some of the romance attached to diamonds, all combine to make this book most interesting reading. The author also tells of his efforts to produce diamonds artificially.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## RADIO

**BEST BROADCASTS OF 1938-39**—Max Wylie, ed.—*Whittlesey House*, 576 p., \$3.50. For those who wish to read the best of what they hear. An anthology of 32 outstanding broadcasts, of various types.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## BIOGRAPHY

**THEY DID SOMETHING ABOUT IT**—Robert M. Bartlett—*Association Press*, 146 p., \$1.25. Biographies of ten men and women, representing ten profes-

sions, five nations and four races: Kettering, Byrd, Benes, Nehru, Brandeis, Mary McLeod Bethune, Thomas Mann, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, Chevalier Jackson, and Margaret Sanger.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## SOCIOLOGY

**CIVIL SERVICE IN PUBLIC WELFARE**—Alice Campbell Klein—*Russell Sage Foundation*, 444 p., \$2.25. With competence and in detail the effective selection of public social work personnel through the merit system is discussed, both from the standpoint of the functions and procedures of civil service and the effective blending of the civil service system and activity in social work.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## GENERAL SCIENCE

**EXPERIMENTING AT HOME WITH THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE**—Eugene Hodgdon Lord—*Appleton-Century*, 242 p., \$2. Ninety-eight experiments and tricks in various fields of science that any boy or girl could perform in a corner of the basement or attic. The author is teacher of physics and general science at the Boston Latin School.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## GENERAL SCIENCE

**SCIENCE WITH SIMPLE THINGS**—Raymond F. Yates—*Appleton-Century*, 245 p., \$2.50. Experiments and demonstrations that can be performed in the home are explained and illustrated.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## ZOOLOGY

**A CONTRIBUTION TO THE HERPETOLOGY OF FLORIDA**—Archie Fairly Carr, Jr.—*Univ. of Florida*, 118 p., \$1.35 (Biological Series, January 1940, Vol. III, No. 1) A carefully prepared, well documented discussion of the reptile fauna of a state particularly rich in this respect. The work is intended primarily for zoologists; there are no illustrations.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## ANTHROPOLOGY—JUVENILE

**BLACKFELLOW BUNDI, A Native Australian Boy**—Leila and Kilroy Harris—*Albert Whitman*, 63 p., \$1.50. The story of a little orphaned black boy out of the Australian bush, how he adjusted his life to the ways of "whitefellow people" with whom his lot came to be cast. The authors show real and sympathetic understanding of the aboriginal child-mind.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## SOCIOLOGY

**AMERICANS IN THE MAKING**—William Carlson Smith—*Appleton-Century*, 454 p., \$3.75. This "natural history of the assimilation of immigrants" presents the more general aspects of the operation of the great American melting pot. The author is professor of sociology at Linfield College.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## BIOGRAPHY

**DR. EHRLICH'S MAGIC BULLET AND THE DISCOVERIES OF ELEVEN OTHER MICROBE HUNTERS**—Paul de Kruif—*Pocket Books, Inc.*, 401 p., 25c. The 47th printing of a classic in medical popularization, its title changed from *Microbe Hunters* in honor of the current motion picture.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

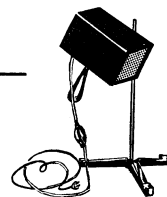
**THE MAYAWYAN RITUAL. 4, Property and Property Ritual**—Francis Lambrecht—*Catholic Anthropological Conference, Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.*, 216 p., \$2.75. A study of property laws and concepts among a tribe in the Mountain Province of Luzon in the Philippines.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*

## SEISMOLOGY

**THE VOLCANO-SEISMIC CRISIS AT MONT-SERRAT, 1933-1937**—Frank A. Perret—*Carnegie Inst.*, 76 p., paper, \$2.50, cloth, \$3. See page 233.

*Science News Letter, April 13, 1940*



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Additional Reviews

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## ANTHROPOLOGY

**MANKIND IN THE MAKING**—M. Cathcart Borer—*Warne*, 152 p., \$1.50. A really simple introduction to prehistory, for young or old. The author's experience on the staff of the Wellcome Museum plus a gift for clear explanation have produced a book that is interesting and yet does not dodge the fundamentals of anthropological science.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## ARCHAEOLOGY

**A PILLARED HALL FROM A TEMPLE AT MADURA, INDIA**, in the Philadelphia Museum of Art—W. Norman Brown—*Univ. of Penn. Press*, 88 p., \$2. A discussion of the date, the original site, and the significance of the largest grouping of architectural units from a temple of India preserved in America. Aspects of Indian architecture, sculpture and symbolism shown in the rare exhibit are explained.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## LANGUAGE

**THE WAQFIYAH OF 'AHMED PASA**—Muhammed Ahmed Simsar—*Univ. of Penn. Press*, 203 p., \$3. Translation and discussion of one of the rare copies of a Turkish trust deed, important in Islam. This long manuscript, dated to correspond to our year 1511, is in the Oriental collection of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Endowing two mosques and a soup kitchen as religious foundations, the donor outlines strictly how they are to be administered.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## EXPLORATION

**NEW GUINEA EXPEDITION, Fly River Area, 1936-1937**—Richard Archbold and A. L. Rand—*McBride*, 206 p., \$3. A swiftly moving narrative of the experiences of two museum naturalists, collecting rare bird, animal, and plant specimens in a fantastic land. Excellent photographs thron through the pages, showing New Guinea's varied native types and how they reacted to the white men's airplane and helped the visitors in many ways.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## CHEMISTRY

**CHEMICAL COMPUTATIONS AND ERRORS**—Thomas B. Crumpler and John H. Yoe—*Wiley*, 247 p., \$3. Every scientist needs to interpret properly the measurements which he may make in an experiment. While written for students of

chemistry, this book is useful to physicists and all other scientists who must deal with large masses of data.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## CHEMISTRY

**THE DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF WAR GASES**—Great Britain, Ministry of Home Security, Air Raid Precautions Dept.—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 53 p., \$1.50. From England's A.R.P. comes probably the best, condensed modern summary of poison gases and their detection which is now to be found in print.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## ENTOMOLOGY

**VOICES FROM THE GRASS**—Julie Clouston Kenly—*Appleton-Century*, 248 p., \$2. Stories of insects and other creeping things, in all their charm and terror, made vivid, even dramatic, in the telling, yet without sacrifice of essential accuracy. Particularly valuable, to the reader with eyes a-goggle over the marvels he has been told throughout the rest of the book, should be the coolly objective final chapter, "Can Insects Reason?"

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## LIBRARY SCIENCE

**BUSINESS AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY, Steps in Successful Cooperation**—Marian C. Manley, ed.—*Special Libraries Assoc.*, 83 p., \$2. Library service for the business man becomes increasingly important and, particularly in industrial cities, libraries have built up excellent departments to meet his many and varied needs. This manual describing needs and methods of business departments includes lists of business guides, periodicals and directories.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

**READER'S GUIDE TO PROSE FICTION**—Elbert Lenrow—*Appleton-Century*, 371 p., \$3. A topically classified, descriptive bibliography of 1500 novels including both classic and modern works.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## ANTHROPOLOGY—JUVENILE

**RED TASSELS FOR HUKI IN PERU**—Anna Andrews Barris—*Albert Whitman*, 62 p., \$1.50. Charmingly told and even more charmingly illustrated is this story of a young llama that ran away—and lived to be most heartily glad to get back to his master.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## PHYSICS

**COSMIC RAYS AND MESOTRONS**—H. J. J. Braddick—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 68 p., \$1.50. This little book summarizes the applications of quantum theory to cosmic rays and shows how many previously unrelated phenomena have fallen into their proper place in this complex field by the use of this theory. The first chapters review the experimental facts of cosmic rays and the later chapters the explanation of these facts in terms of properties predicted by quantum theory for moving charged particles.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## ENGINEERING

**CAN WE BUILD AUTOMOBILES TO KEEP DRIVERS OUT OF TROUBLE?** (2d. ed.)—Victor W. Killick—*Reeves Pub. Co.*, 92 p., \$1. Suggestions for changes in automobile design which the author claims would increase their safety.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## EDUCATION

**AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS TO SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, CHURCHES, AND ADULT STUDY GROUPS**—Educational Film Library and Lantern Slide Loan Service—*University Extension Division, Chapel Hill, N. C.*, 94 p., 50c. Available motion pictures, both sound and silent 16-mm. films, may be rented by schools, clubs or individuals, in North Carolina and vicinity. This conveniently-arranged listing will be valuable to others, too far away to utilize the University's loan service, however, for it gives the original source of the films.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## ENGINEERING

**THE ELECTRIC POWER ENGINEERS' HANDBOOK**—W. S. Ibbetson—*Chem. Pub. Co.*, 241 p., \$5. Collected information on power circuits and apparatus, and their operation.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## PHYSICS

**SOME PROBLEMS IN ADSORPTION**—J. K. Roberts—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 120 p., \$2. Quantum mechanical treatment of the problem of adsorption of gases on surfaces. Strictly for the research expert.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940

## PHYSICS—CHEMISTRY

**ELASTICITÉ ET PHOTOÉLASTICIMÉTRIE**—Henri Le Boiteux and Robert Boussard—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*, 361 p., 180 fr.

*Science News Letter*, April 13, 1940