

• First Glances at New Books

EXPLORATION

THE WANDERING LAKE—Sven Hedin, translated from the Swedish by F. H. Lyon—*Dutton*, 291 p., photographs and pen and ink sketches by author, \$3.75. Lop-nor, a lake of Central Asia which has many features of geological and biological interest, has long fascinated Dr. Hedin. Having long ago deduced that it shifts its location in the desert, he returned to it—as told in this book—to study further the conditions of its wanderings.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

PHYSICS—METEOROLOGY

PLAYING WITH LIGHTNING—K. B. McEachron and Kenneth G. Patrick—*Random House*, 231 p., illus., \$2.50. The General Electric Company's display of man-made lightning at the N. Y. World's Fair makes especially timely this interesting and authoritative book, written by the director of their lightning research, in collaboration with one of his associates. See page 339.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

ELECTRICITY

PRACTICAL ELECTRICITY AND HOUSE WIRING—Herbert P. Richter—*Drake*, 183 p., \$1.50. A technical and practical step-by-step treatise in planning house wiring.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

CHEMISTRY

ELECTROCHEMISTRY AND ELECTROCHEMICAL ANALYSIS; Vol. I, Electrochemical theory—Henry J. S. Sand—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 133 p., \$2. A British textbook outlining the modern methods of electrochemical analysis.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

CHEMISTRY

METHODS FOR THE DETECTION OF TOXIC GASES IN INDUSTRY, Leaflet no. 8, Phosgene, 7 p., 75c.; Leaflet no. 9, Arsine, 6 p., 75c.; Leaflet no. 10, Chlorine, 7 p., 10c.; Leaflet no. 11, Aniline Vapour, 9 p., 10c.—Gt. Brit., Dept. of Scientific and Industrial Research—*British Library of Information*.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

PSYCHOLOGY

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGY BEFORE WILLIAM JAMES—Jay Wharton Fay—*Rutgers Univ. Press*, 240 p., \$2.50. It was in 1715, that 19-year-old Samuel Johnson, Yale tutor, later to be first president of King's College, wrote: "The heavens, angels,

and human souls being above the sphere of matter and motion present themselves to be the subject of the science metaphysics or pneumatics, etc." The writings of such early American pioneers in psychology and philosophy, as described and quoted here, hold much of intense interest to students of the development of learning in this country.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

PSYCHIATRY

PSYCHOBIOLOGY AND PSYCHIATRY—Wendell Muncie—*Mosby*, 739 p., \$8. A medical textbook from the Henry Phipps Psychiatric Clinic of the Johns Hopkins Hospital which, Dr. Adolph Meyer tells us in a foreword, "was written out of concrete practice, a free upshot from actual diagnostic and treatment work and the teaching in our hospital . . . It offers a very human orientation to those who wish to enter the specialty and to those who consider a fair degree of familiarity with man as person a necessary part of all medical responsibility."

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

CHEMISTRY

PRINTING INKS, Their Chemistry and Technology—Carleton Ellis—*Reinhold Pub. Corp.*, 560 p., \$7. It is hard to conceive of any possible question concerning printing inks or their history which is not answered here. The references and the index are unusually complete. These, with a glossary, greatly enhance the value of the work.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

TECHNOLOGY

THE DICTIONARY OF PAPER—*American Paper and Pulp Assn.*, 365 p., \$5. For the paper expert this volume will be very useful for it gives a definition of the thousands of terms which apply in this industry.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

AERONAUTICS

THE AVIATION BUSINESS—Elsbeth E. Freudenthal—*Vanguard Press*, 342 p., \$3. Aviation today is big-business. Its history from the business viewpoint has long needed writing.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

ENGINEERING

DEFICIENCIES IN HYDROLOGIC RESEARCH—National Resources Planning Board—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 93 p., 25c.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

PHYSICS

WHY SMASH ATOMS?—Arthur K. Solomon—*Harvard Univ. Press*, 174 p., \$2.50. The story of the attack on the atomic nuclei is told simply, lucidly and with authority. The author is one of the group of research workers around the Harvard cyclotron.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

HORTICULTURE

THE BOOK OF GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS—Walter Brett—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 256 p., \$2.50. English gardens have long been the admiration, and within reason the model, of home owners this side of the Atlantic. This book by an English author, packed with practical suggestions about materials and methods, will be of great assistance to all who wish to develop their home grounds in the easy, livable English style.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

HORTICULTURE

THE HOME BOOK OF TREES AND SHRUBS—J. J. Levison—*Simon and Schuster*, 424 p., \$5. Proper plantings of trees and shrubs do more than any other one thing to make a house settle down on its grounds and turn itself into a home. This book brings to bear upon the planting question the fruits of the author's long and successful experience: it tells what to plant, where to plant, how to prune and protect your plantings. Excellently chosen illustrations add emphasis and clarity.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

FORESTRY

KINGDOM OF THE TREES—Erle Kauffman—*Reilly and Lee*, 122 p., \$2. Ben and Betty walk the woods with their forester Uncle John, while he talks about trees and they soak up information like the mental sponges bright youngsters are. The informal, chatty style makes it easy for other boys and girls to join the party and thereby get their first (and lasting) taste of the learning of the forests.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRICAL MACHINES—A. W. Hirst—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 122 p., \$2.25. A concise and up-to-date textbook suitable both for electrical engineers and for the students of the university and college. The book is written for the English educational system and so one can admire its thoroughness.

Science News Letter, June 1, 1940