

# •First Glances at New Books

## ANTHROPOLOGY

**THE MYTH OF THE NEGRO PAST**—Melville J. Herskovits—*Harper*, 374 p., \$4. Student after student, says this anthropologist, has been content to repeat propositions concerning Negro endowment and the Negro past without critical analysis. In this study, he sets forth five disparaging beliefs about the Negro which he pronounces myths, and marshals evidence to show that the African cultural heritage has value for understanding Negro problems today, and value also for the race to understand itself.

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1942*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

**ETHNOGRAPHIC BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NORTH AMERICA**—George Peter Murdock—*Yale Univ. Press*, 168 p., \$2. (Yale Anthropological Studies, Vol. 1). Anthropologists will appreciate this reference list of publications, old and new, dealing with Indian and Eskimo. The author has classified the material according to areas with subdivisions of 253 tribal groups.

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## BIOLOGY

**BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS, Section F, Animal Production and Veterinary Science** (Vol. 16, No. 1, Jan., 1942)—*Biological Abstracts*, \$5 per year (10 issues). A new section will henceforth be issued as part of *Biological Abstracts*, and may be obtained as integrally with the whole journal or subscribed for separately. Everyone interested in animal husbandry and veterinary medicine will take a special interest in this section; and it will be useful as well to zoologists in general.

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## EDUCATION

**THE NATURE AND USE OF READING TESTS**—Arthur E. Traxler—*Science Research Associates*, 64 p., 90 c.

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## ENTOMOLOGY

**A CLASSIFICATION OF THE SCALE INSECT GENUS ASTEROLECANIUM**—Louise M. Russell—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 322 p., 45c. (U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Misc. Pub. No. 424).

*Science News Letter, February 14, 1942*

## TECHNOLOGY

**WOODWORKING WORKBOOK FOR HIGH SCHOOLS**—Talmage Nichols and Harold L. Stiles—*Manual Arts Press*, 63 p., illus., 68c. A compact but surprisingly compre-

hensive workbook for classes in wood-working. Besides telling how to turn lumber into furniture and other useful articles, it manages to tuck in quite a bit of information about types of wood, history and care of tools, and a number of other related subjects.

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## MARINE BIOLOGY

**OYSTERS HAVE EYES, OR THE TRAVELS OF A PACIFIC OYSTER**—Eldon Griffin—*Wilberlilla Publishers, Seattle, Wash.*, 53 p., illus., \$1. A chattily written, amusing but informative booklet about oysters on the Pacific Coast of the United States.

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## ENTOMOLOGY

**INSECT PESTS**—William Clunie Harvey and Harry Hill—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 292 p., illus., \$4.25. A book about insect pests in Britain, of interest to American entomologists because we have a considerable number of species in common; also for purposes of comparing our respective regional conditions.

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## ORNITHOLOGY

**THE WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS (ZONOTRICHIA LEUCOPHRYS) OF THE PACIFIC SEABOARD: ENVIRONMENT AND ANNUAL CYCLE**—Barbara D. Blanchard—*Univ. of Calif. Press*, 166 p., illus., \$2.

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## AERONAUTICS

**AIR TRANSPORTATION IN THE UNITED STATES, ITS GROWTH AS A BUSINESS**—Hugh Knowlton—*Univ. of Chicago Press*, 72 p., \$1.25. The business aspects of aviation can also be romantic. The author is a director of Eastern Air Lines as well as member of an investment banking firm.

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## AERONAUTICS

**AIRCRAFT TORCH WELDING**—C. Von Borchers and A. Ciffrin—*Pitman*, 157 p., illus., \$1.50.

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## BOTANY

**ADDITIONS TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE AMERICAN AND HAWAIIAN FLORAS**—Earl Edward Sherff—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 33 p., 20c.

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## ZOOLOGY

**A MIOCENE SEA LION FROM LOMITA, CALIFORNIA**—Gretchen M. Lyon—*Univ. of Calif. Press*, 17 p., illus., 25c.

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## BIOLOGY

**ABOUT OURSELVES, A Survey of Human Nature from the Zoological Viewpoint**—James G. Needham—*Jaques Cattell Press*, 276 p., illus., \$2.50. It may be more than coincidence that this stimulating approach to the ever-challenging problems presented by what the late E. W. Scripps used to call "this damned human animal" is made by an eminent entomologist. Solomon probably gained much of the wisdom he needed for meeting the human problems of kingship by watching ants. At any rate, this book is a most interesting combination of biology, psychology and anthropology—all three of them really integral parts of what might be called the science of anthropobiology.

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## MEDICINE

**A WOMAN'S HEALTH**—William C. Danforth—*Farrar & Rinehart*, 398 p., \$2.50. A plainly written book which describes the more common ailments of women. The importance of pre-natal care, advantage of hospital delivery over the home, tests for pregnancy and selection of a physician are discussed. There is an excellent chapter on cancer in women. The author, who is professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Northwestern University Medical School, stresses the importance of early visits to the physician to avoid complications of later life.

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## ORNITHOLOGY—SPORT

**OUR AMERICAN GAME BIRDS**—Van Campen Heilner—*Doubleday, Doran*, 168 p., illus. and 19 color plates, \$5. A set of magnificent color plates, with informal, chatty text by a triply-qualified author—he is at once naturalist, sportsman and epicure. Whether you are interested in wild birds primarily as birds, or as lawful objects for shooting and for eating afterwards, this is a book worth having.

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## ARCHAEOLOGY

**SOUTHWESTERN ARCHAEOLOGY**—John C. McGregor—*Wiley*, 403 p., illus., \$5. An up-to-date text for the study of American archaeology in the important Southwestern field. Chapters include discussion of pottery, dendrochronology, archaeological aims and methods, and description of the Indian cultures which have thus far been differentiated.

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