

# •First Glances at New Books

## EDUCATION

**THE AMERICAN CITIZENS HANDBOOK** (2d ed.)—Joy Elmer Morgan, ed.—*National Education Assn.*, 415 p., illus., \$1. Text of historic documents and selections of patriotic poetry and prose incorporating democratic ideals and published under the Hugh Birch-Horace Mann Fund for the Committee on New Voter Preparation and Recognition. In the book it is urged that "Citizenship Recognition Day", set aside by Congress to be observed on the third Sunday of May each year, be considered a great national event ranking with the Fourth of July. For, annually, some 2,000,000 young Americans reach the age of 21 and some 200,000 newly naturalized citizens are admitted to active participation in government as voters. See S. N. L. June 14, 1941.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## GENERAL SCIENCE—HISTORY

**A SHORT HISTORY OF SCIENCE TO THE NINETEENTH CENTURY**—Charles Singer—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 399 p., \$3.75. A great historian of science tells, in a word-age possible of reading, the background of our modern scientific world, up to the beginning of the present century.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## MEDICINE

**FOUR TREATISES OF THEOPHRASTUS VON HOHENHEIM CALLED PARACELSUS**—C. Lilian Temkin, George Rosen, Gregory Zilboorg and Henry E. Sigerist, trans.; Henry E. Sigerist, ed.—*Johns Hopkins Press*, 256 p., \$3. Here is an important addition to medical literature, which nevertheless is interesting reading for laymen or physicians. Like his contemporaries in Renaissance literature, Paracelsus was inclined to go to first sources, i.e., life itself, for his information, rather than rely on the writings and forms of the ancients. For this he was roundly damned, of course, but emerged in history as an honest physician. This book will tell you why.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## CHEMISTRY

**MICROMETHODS OF QUANTITATIVE ORGANIC ANALYSIS** (2d ed.)—Joseph B. Niederl—*Wiley*, 347 p., \$3.50. New edition of a laboratory manual in an increasingly important branch of chemistry. The literature has been brought up to 1941. In the Appendix are chapters pertaining to qualitative organic analy-

sis, to the teaching of quantitative organic elementary micromethods and to the installation of a laboratory for quantitative organic microanalysis.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## ENGINEERING

**TECHNICAL DRAWING** (2d ed.)—Fredrick E. Giesecke, Alva Mitchell and Henry Cecil Spencer—*Macmillan*, 687 p., illus., \$4. Enlarged and revised edition of an excellent text, likely to be widely used in these days when technical draftsmen are badly needed. It is notable that leading manufacturing concerns have co-operated with the authors in supplying some of the drawings for use as practical illustrations and problems.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## ECONOMICS

**CURTAILMENT OF NON-DEFENSE EXPENDITURES**—Henry P. Seidemann—*Brookings Institution*, 54 p., 25c.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## EDUCATION—RADIO

**A COURSE OF STUDY IN RADIO APPRECIATION**—Alice P. Sterner—*Educational and Recreation Guides*, 36 p., illus., \$1.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## GENERAL SCIENCE

**PHYSICAL SCIENCE**—Charles H. Nettels, Paul F. Devine, Walter L. Nourse and M. E. Herriott—*Heath*, 464 p., illus., \$2.24. One of those streamlined texts for high school use that you are tempted to sit down and read to get a background of science.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## PSYCHOLOGY

**STUDIES ON THE PROBLEM DRIVER**—Lowell S. Selling and Alan Canty—*City Clerk, City Hall, Detroit, Mich.*, 64 p., \$1. A collection of reports based on study of accident-causing or law-violating drivers in the Recorder's Court at Detroit.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

**A TREASURY OF DEMOCRACY**—Norman Cousins, ed.—*Coward-McCann*, 306 p., \$3. A collection of the sayings and writings of many men and women concerning those principles of government by and for the people, for which we fight—utterances wise or witty, poetically beautiful or bluntly direct and extending through time and space from Confucius in China to Wendell Willkie in New York.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## MEDICINE

**THE DOCTORS MAYO**—Helen Clape-sattle—*Univ. of Minnesota Press*, 712 p., \$3.75. An authorized history of The Old Doctor, William Worrall Mayo, his two sons, Drs. Will and Charlie, and the famous clinic and foundation they founded at Rochester, Minnesota. The book is lengthy, but enlivened with many anecdotes, and for the student of medical history this authorized version of events and developments at the world-renowned medical center will prove useful for distinguishing fact from the legends which are likely to develop around such an important institution.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## ARCHAEOLOGY

**WHEN EGYPT RULED THE EAST**—George Steindorff and Keith C. Seele—*Univ. of Chicago*, 284 p., illus., \$4. Life in the fertile Nile valley thirty-five hundred years ago is vividly described here by two leading Egyptologists. Telescoping the earlier periods, emphasis is placed on the glories of the Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth dynasties. It is interesting reading, and the illustrations are splendid.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

**MAYA INDIANS OF YUCATAN**—Morris Steggerda—*Carnegie Inst. of Washington*, 280 p., 35 figures, 32 plates, \$1.50 paper, \$2 cloth. A careful and well-annotated study of Maya Indians of today by a social anthropologist of the Carnegie Institution. The glory of the Maya civilization was declining even before the Spaniards came, and the old cities are overgrown ruins, but the Indian today lives, for the most part, just as his ancestors did centuries ago.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*

## PALEOBOTANY

**A MIDDLE EOCENE FLORA FROM THE CENTRAL SIERRA NEVADA**—Harry D. MacGinitie—*Carnegie Institution of Washington*, 178 p., 47 pl., \$2 paper; \$2.50 cloth. A region now occupied by cool-climate forests was, during the Mid-Eocene, the home of a very rich flora ordinarily thought of as belonging to moist, warm-temperate regions like the present Southeast: magnolia, laurel, sweetgum, blackgum, as well as more strictly temperate-zone genera like oak, chestnut, sycamore and witch-hazel.

*Science News Letter, March 7, 1942*