• First Glances at New Books

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ORNITHOLOGY

THE PIGEON—Wendell Mitchell Levi -R. L. Bryan Co., 512 p., illus., \$10. This is a work that cannot be called anything less than encyclopedic. The author, one-time officer in charge of carrier pigeons with the A.E.F., has made the domestic pigeon his life study, and he makes available here the concentrated fruits of his work. He sketches briefly the history of the pigeon (which is as old as the history of civilization), describes and illustrates in detail all the standard breeds and varieties, provides highly informative chapters on pigeon anatomy, physiology, genetics and behavior, gives directions for care and housing of the birds in health and sickness, and finally tells of pigeon fanciers' organizations and their work. There is also a bibliography of several hundred titles.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ENTOMOLOGY

The Tribe Monochamini in the Western Hemisphere (Coleoptera; Cerambycidae) — Lawrence S. Dillon and Elizabeth S. Dillon—Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery, 135 p., 5 pl., \$2.25 (Scientific Publication, No. 1). This first number in a new series of scientific publications is devoted to a monograph on a group of beetles that have long awaited adequate treatment.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ARCHAEOLOGY

EVIDENCES OF EARLY OCCUPATION IN SANDIA CAVE, NEW MEXICO, AND OTHER SITES IN THE SANDIA-MANZANO REGION—Frank G. Hibben and Kirk Bryan—Smithsonian Institution, 64 p., pls., 45c. (Smithsonian Misc. Coll. Vol. 99, No. 23.)

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

AERONAUTICS

FLIGHT, AIRCRAFT ENGINES, A General Survey of Fundamentals of Aviation—Ray F. Kuns—American Technical Society, 303 p., illus., \$3.25. All types of modern aircraft engines are dealt with in a simple practical manner.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

AERONAUTICS

FLIGHT, METEOROLOGY AND AIRCRAFT INSTRUMENTS, A General Survey of Fundamentals of Aviation—Bailey Wright, W. E. Dyer and Rex Martin—American Technical Society, 348 p., illus., \$3.25.

Everything that the airman should know about weather, aerial photography, maps and map making, aviation radio, air markers, aircraft instruments, etc., is here told with the help of excellent illustrations.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Color Handbook of Citrus Diseases—L. J. Klotz and H. S. Fawcett—*Univ.* of *California*, 90 p., 40 color plates, \$3.50. A handy reference book for the citrus grower and plant pathologist. Accurately colored plates and terse text pages are ring-punched for ready changes or additions, and the whole is conveniently pocket-sized and buckram-bound for outdoor use. "A book in the field is worth ten on the shelf."

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

BIOLOGY

Alphabet of the Sea; A Handbook for Children—Nelle Caesar — Christopher Pub. House, 114 p., illus., \$1.25. An unusual ABC book, from A for Abalone to Z for Zoophytes. Quiz sections at the end of each short chapter give parents or group leaders opportunity to instruct while entertaining. Quality of some of the halftones could be improved.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

DENDROLOGY

Trees of the Eastern United States and Canada, Their Woodcraft and Wildlife Uses—William M. Harlow—Whittlesey House, 288 p., illus., \$2.75. A pocket-sized manual, with good popular descriptions, many halftones and several photocolor plates. Good for either schools, woodcraft groups or for the individual interested in trees.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

PLANT PATHOLOGY

ADVENTURES IN THE PLANT-DISEASE WORLD—Howard S. Fawcett—Univ. of California, 34 p., illus., 50c. A reminiscent essay, in which one of the best-known of American plant pathologists tells of some of his own efforts and successes.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

MATHEMATICS-EDUCATION

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MATHEMATICAL EDUCATION—William L. Schaaf—Stevinus Press, 144 p., \$1.50. A classified index of the periodical literature since 1920, containing over 4000 references.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ORNITHOLOGY

AMERICAN BIRD SONGS—Recorded by the Albert R. Brand Bird Song Foundation, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University—Comstock Pub. Co., 6 records, \$5 per album. There are six of these albums, each containing six double-sided records, each side giving the songs of six birds. A complete set should be invaluable for institutions offering courses in ornithology, as well as for museums that endeavor to make their subjects as "alive" as possible.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

EDUCATION—ECONOMICS

AMERICAN YOUTH, An Enforced Reconnaissance—Thacher Winslow and Frank P. Davidson, eds.—Harvard Univ. Press, 216 p., \$2.50. In the foreword, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt says: "Totalitarianism holds out no real solution for youth's problems, though we can learn much from the analysis of its appeal to youth as presented in this volume. Any final solution of American youth's problems must be firmly based upon the principles of democracy—the most civilized form of government. This is, admittedly, a tremendous task, calling for a highly educated citizenry that can govern themselves with wisdom and justice"

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

GEOGRAPHY

INTRODUCING AUSTRALIA—C. Hartley Grattan—John Day, 331 p., illus., \$3. After 14 years of travels over that continent, which included every state, most of the cities, and scores of by-paths, Mr. Grattan introduces Americans to their fellow-partners in this war. See also page 189.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

AGRICULTURE

Soils and Fertilizers (3d ed.)—Firman E. Bear—Wiley, 374 p., illus., \$3.50. A new edition of a well-planned and successful book, useful alike for classroom and general reference purposes.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

SOCIOLOGY

AN INTRODUCTORY TO SOCIOLOGY—John Lewis Gillin and John Philip Gillin—Macmillan, 806 p., illus., \$3.75. This textbook is the joint work of a professor of sociology at the University of Wisconsin and an associate professor of anthropology at Duke University.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

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METEOROLOGY

ATLAS OF CLIMATIC TYPES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1900-1939 — C. W. Thornthwaite in cooperation with Div. of Climate and Crop Bureau, U. S. Weather Bur.—Govt. Print. Off., 95 pl., \$1.25. A series of climatic maps of this country, showing conditions annually for 40 years (1900-39 inclusive). Maps are presented in pairs, one showing climate for the entire year, the other for the March-August crop season. In addition, there are "smoothed" maps showing frequencies of climatic conditions from arid to superhumid. The compilation was made with WPA assistance.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

A ERON AUTICS

AIRCRAFT SHEET METALWORK—J. W. Giachino—Manual Arts Press. Part I, The Textbook, 123 p., illus., \$1.96; Part II, Workbook in Blueprint Form, 58 p., blueprints, 96c. For the instruction of workmen who will produce our "125,000 airplanes."

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

PSYCHOLOGY

Contributions to a Psychology of Blindness—Samuel Perkins Hayes—American Foundation for the Blind, 296 p., \$2.50. Deprivation of one of the most important of the senses creates special problems and results in special compensations for the blind. This book may lead to better understanding of them.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ECCNOMICS

NATIONAL INCOME AND ITS COMPOSITION, 1919-1938—Simon Kuznets, Lillian Epstein and Elizabeth Jenks—National Bureau of Economic Research, 929 p., 2 vols., \$5. Of interest to economists and others concerned with the nation's financial structure.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

AERONAUTICS

THE WONDER BOOK OF THE AIR (Rev. ed.)—C. B. Allen and Lauren D. Lyman—Winston, 340 p., illus., \$2.50. A new and revised edition of a boy's book on aviation.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

WAR PSYCHOLOGY

WE PRISONERS OF WAR—Tracy Strong, ed.—Association Press, 90 p., \$1. Sixteen soldiers speak from a prison camp,

and interestingly many of them mention the need for mental recreation and the opportunities they hope to have to study science and other things that will be of use to them after the war. This emphasizes the usefulness of getting scientific literature to men of science who are prisoners of war.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

TECHNOLOGY

WOODWORKING WORKBOOK FOR HIGH SCHOOLS—Talmage Nichols and Harold L. Stiles—Manual Arts Press, 63 p., illus., 56c (price revision).

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

LANGUAGE

Pan-American Spanish Self-Taught —Francisco Ibarra—Random House, 337 p., \$2.50. "By following the method of this book, the student will acquire the ability to speak a simple, comprehensible and accurate Spanish in any of the South American countries within a period of less than three months," states the author; and so he will, if he will study it. Helpful features are a list of the local idioms of specific countries, which differ considerably from Castilian Spanish, and eleven pages devoted to the Portuguese language.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

BIOGRAPHY

LIBERATORS AND HEROES OF MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA—Marion Lansing —Page, 299 p., illus., \$3. Vivid and readable biographical sketches of a number of leaders in the national development of our Spanish-speaking neighbors to the south. Most of them are men largely unknown in this country; yet their past deeds will inevitably influence our own present and future.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

TECHNOLOGY

PLASTIC MOLDING, A Comprehensive Study—D. A. Dearle — *Chemical Pub. Co.*, 131 p., \$4. A detailed technical description of this craft suitable for use as a text.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ANTHROPOLOGY

PHYSICAL MEASUREMENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN: A Study of Anthropometric Reliabilities for Children Three to Six Years of Age—Virginia Bergstresser Knott—*Univ. of Iowa Press*, 99 p., illus., \$1.35 cloth; \$1 paper.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

ICTION-METEOROLOGY

STORM—George R. Stewart—Random House, 349 p., \$2.50. This book is one of the most remarkable works of fiction that has appeared in several years. Its principal character is not a person but a great atmospheric disturbance, the life history of which is traced from its birth in the western Pacific to its final passing over the plains of North America. So skilfully does the author weave its influences through the lives of the numerous human protagonists that one feels it quite appropriate for the storm to have a personal name. Only, the "Maria" tossed at it by a somewhat flippant young Weather Bureau worker seems a bit light; it might have been called Lachesis, or even Atropos.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

PHYSICS

PSYCHROMETRIC NOTES AND TABLES (rev. ed.)—Elmer Torok—North American Rayon Corporation, 125 p., \$2. The purpose of this handbook is to gather in one small volume all essential information concerning air conditioning. In this revised edition, the material has been brought up to date and made more convenient to use.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

GEOGRAPHY

JEAN DOMENIQUE CASSINI AND HIS WORLD MAP OF 1696—Lloyd A. Brown—Univ. of Mich. Press, 79 p., illus., \$5. The Curator of Maps of the William L. Clements Library presents a brief and interesting history of early map-making, including Cassini's own instructions as to the making of geographical and astronomical observations. Only four copies of the original Planisphere Terrestre are known to exist, but recently a collotype facsimile was printed, hand-colored after the original in the Clements Library.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942

AERONAUTICS

AIR PILOT TRAINING—Bert A. Shields—Whittlesey House, 602 p., illus., \$4. A textbook for civilian pilot training containing within a single volume material on all the subjects required for the license examination. No previous technical education is assumed, and elementary principles are covered in the fields of theory of flight, aircraft engines, meteorology, and air navigation.

Science News Letter, March 21, 1942