

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

HANDBOOK OF MICROSCOPICAL TECHNIQUE—C. E. McClung—*Hoerber* (\$8). Biological workers everywhere will welcome this book. True, they already have on their shelves old standbys on fixing, preserving, staining and mounting; but progress in technique has been rapid during the past few years, and much that is now counted as standard practice can be improved upon. In this new work, twenty-four of the leading anatomists and cytologists have collaborated under the editorship of Prof. McClung, each contributing a discussion of the fraction of the field that has been his own specialty. Such matters as micrurgy, microchemistry, flagella staining and the newer stains here receive their first adequate treatment, aside from the scattered original publications.

Botany—Zoology
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

PERSONALITY OF INSECTS; and PERSONALITY OF WATER ANIMALS—Royan Dixon and Brayton Eddy—*Holt* (2 vols., \$5). The insects that roam the land and fly the air, and the fishes, crustaceans and other animals that swim the sea are seen in these two interesting volumes as masons, spinners, parfumeurs, warriors, thieves—the whole gamut of human occupations, good and bad; yet the easy, whimsical style guards against the trap of anthropomorphy into which many an unwary popularizer slips.

Natural History
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

HANDBOOK OF REFRIGERATING ENGINEERING—W. R. Woolrich—*Van Nostrand* (\$4). A book intended, says the author, for two groups of engineers; the mature operating and constructional engineer who desires a complete course in refrigeration, and as a guide to engineering students who take refrigerating engineering as part of their training. On the whole, the book is well prepared, though the type used in a number of the tables is so small that any extensive use of them would be very hard on the reader's eyes.

Engineering
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

THE CONQUEST OF ILLUSION—J. J. Van der Leeuw—*Knopf* (\$3.50). A militant mystic charges against the windmills of materialism.

Philosophy
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

HEALTHY GROWTH—Alfred A. Mumford—*Oxford* (\$5). The book gives a study of the relation between the mental and physical development of adolescent boys in a public day school. Dr. Mumford is the medical officer to the Manchester Grammar School, an institution which is said to have found its chief success in the education it gives to the average boy. While the English public school differs in many ways from American schools, boys are pretty much the same all over the world. Sir Arthur Keith in a foreword commends the book to all who are concerned with education—parents, teachers, physicians and statesmen.

Education—Medicine
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

BIOLOGIC ASPECTS OF COLLOID AND PHYSIOLOGIC CHEMISTRY—*Saunders* (\$2.50). The volume presents a series of lectures given at the Mayo Foundation and the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa, Washington, and the Des Moines Academy of Medicine. The collection covers authoritatively many important questions of colloid chemistry interesting to chemist, physician and biologist. The contributors are Robert A. Millikan, Martin H. Fischer, Robert Chambers, Ross A. Gortner, E. Franklin Burton and William T. Bovie.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

THE BASIS OF SENSATION—E. D. Adrian—*Norton*—(\$2.50). The nerves are the basis of sensation discussed in this book. Dr. Adrian approaches his subject from the physiological rather than the psychological or metaphysical standpoint. How sensation is aroused and how messages, transmitted from the sense organs to the brain through the nerves, can be recorded electrically are explained. Included is an account of experimental work done by the author at Cambridge University.

Physiology
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

POPULAR KNOWLEDGE—*New York Educational Research League* (\$3 per year). The first appearance of a new "Magazine of Information for Everybody". Attractively printed and giving a variety of information in non-technical language about science, history, household affairs, art, literature and sports.

General Science
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

CLIMATIC CYCLES AND TREE-GROWTH. VOLUME II: A STUDY OF THE ANNUAL RINGS OF TREES IN RELATION TO CLIMATE AND SOLAR ACTIVITY—A. E. Douglass—*Carnegie Institution Publ.* 289, Vol. II (pa. \$2.75; cl. \$3.75). Dr. Douglass here continues his discussion of his classic studies on climatic cycles as evidenced by growth rings in trees.

Climatology
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

COLOR CHART FOR THE DESCRIPTION OF SEDIMENTARY ROCKS—M. I. Goldman and H. E. Merwin—*Natl. Res. Council* (75c). Color blocks, following Ridgeway's system, conveniently arranged on two sheets of convenient size for the geologist's field notebook, with an explanatory guide to their use.

Geology
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

UNITED STATES CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE: 1925—Prepared by the Bureau of the Census—*Government Printing Office*. This is a massive three-volume compilation of statistics on every imaginable phase of American agriculture. Crops, farm animals, products sold, supplies purchased, land ownership and tenure—everything on which figures can be gathered is set down here in figures. There is a supplementary 149-page pamphlet summarizing these compendious summaries.

Agriculture—Economics
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929

COAL IN OKLAHOMA; OIL AND GAS IN OKLAHOMA; MINERAL RESOURCES IN OKLAHOMA; INDEX TO THE STRATIGRAPHY OF OKLAHOMA; PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE GEOLOGY OF THE ARBUCKLE AND WICHITA MOUNTAINS IN INDIAN TERRITORY AND OKLAHOMA; THE ARBUCKLE MOUNTAINS, OKLAHOMA; PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ARBUCKLE LIMESTONE; FOSSILIFEROUS BOULDERS IN THE OUACHITA "CANNEY" SHALE AND THE AGE OF THE SHALE CONTAINING THEM; OKLAHOMA, THE GEOLOGISTS' LABORATORY—*Oklahoma Geological Survey*. The recent bulletins and circulars of the Oklahoma Geological Survey here listed will be of interest to geologists, especially those interested in the economic aspects of their science.

Geology
Science News-Letter, February 9, 1929