

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

EMOTIONS AS THE BASIS OF CIVILIZATION—J. H. Denison—*Scribner's* (\$5). Here is a change from the styles of history which have recently been the fashion, the economic theory, the geographic theory, the race theory, the great man theory. For to the author the most important motive in the history of the world is the emotional nature which finds expression in religion, family life, fraternal organizations, etc. He thinks that the patriarchal cultures of the past are breaking down in modern democracy but finds hope in the development of what he calls the "aneptsiarchal" (cousinship) system of friendly groups and cooperatives.

Ethnology
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

CONVERSION IN SCIENCE—G. Elliott Smith—*Macmillan* (50c). The emotional and rational processes that lead to conversion in religion have often been examined by psychologists and philosophers, but the analogous processes by which a man "gets science" have been little looked into. In this interesting pamphlet the 1928 Huxley Memorial Lecturer undertakes this task, using Huxley himself as a type specimen.

Philosophy of Science
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE BEGINNING OF MAN—E. O. James—*Doubleday Doran* (\$2.50). A well-known English anthropologist sets forth in clear and simple language the story of human evolution as illuminated by the discoveries of recent years. He credits even *Eoanthropus* with a good enough brain to entertain religious feelings.

Anthropology—Evolution
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

MAN'S PLACE IN NATURE—T. H. Huxley—*Appleton* (\$1). A reprint, as a volume in the Appleton Dollar Library, of one of the classics of nineteenth-century science.

Evolution
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

ROMAN SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS—Edward Noble Stone—*University of Washington Press* (\$.75). Present day surveyors and engineers will be interested in this pamphlet which should inspire engineering students to attempt a duplication of some of the accurate work of Roman surveyors and engineers using facsimiles of the instruments they used.

Engineering
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

A HISTORY OF PHYSICS—Florian Cajori—*Macmillan* (\$3.50). It was in 1899 that the first edition of this work appeared, and it soon became a standard authority on the subject. The additional matter that is now included, thirty years later, is a striking illustration of the recent progress of physics. In 1899 the then recent discovery of X-rays and radioactivity had just begun to bring about the development that is now at its height and exemplified by the works of Einstein, Schrödinger, Heisenberg, Pauli, Dirac, Eddington, Bohr, Rutherford, the Braggs, and others. The basis of this work is just as important to the student of physics as the work of Galileo or Newton, and Professor Cajori describes it in his usual able manner. Without doubt this new edition will even surpass the popularity of its predecessor.

Physics
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

GEOLOGICAL MAP OF CENTRAL ASIA (EAST FERGHANA)—D. J. Mushketov—*Geological Committee, Leningrad*. The small quarto volume in hand is apparently a summary of a more detailed geological survey of a quadrat in Asia hitherto unexplored by science. The text is in English, slightly "foreign" in idiom but vigorously written and very readable; there are a number of excellent half-tone plates and three maps (route, geological and tectonic) on a 1:420,000 scale. The keys to the conventions on the latter are bilingual—Russian-English. Geologists of other lands have reason to thank their Russian colleagues for making this summary of the outstanding facts about a little-known region thus easily available.

Geology
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE CLIMATE OF FLORIDA—A. J. Mitchell and M. R. Ensign—*Agr. Exp. Sta., Gainesville, Fla.* (Gratis). Here is solid shot for use in those interminable arguments about how good (or bad) the climate of that famous state is. Of the 200-odd pages, 185 are filled wholly with charts and tables giving actual meteorological records from cities and towns all the way from the Panhandle to the Keys, dating back, in some instances, as far as 1851.

Climatology
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE UNIVERSE OF STARS—Edited by Harlow Shapley and Cecilia H. Payne—*Harvard College Observatory* (\$2). A few years ago the Harvard Observatory presented a series of radio talks on astronomy by members of its staff over Station WEEL. These were published in book form and achieved a well-deserved popularity. Now that a new edition has become necessary, the editors have taken the opportunity to add two new chapters; on the gaseous nebulae, by H. H. Plaskett, and the interior of a star, by B. P. Gerasimovic, and to bring the rest of the book up to date in all respects. The result is a popular summary of modern astronomy, told in the words of leading authorities and enhanced by a number of splendid illustrations of observatories and astronomical objects.

Astronomy
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

PROMETHEUS U. S. A.—Ernest Greenwood—*Harper's* (\$2.50). A popular consideration of heat and fire in American life written by the author of "Aladdin, U. S. A."

Power
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

BELIEVE IT OR NOT!—Robert L. Ripley—*Simon and Schuster* (\$2). A collection of several hundred curious facts (or at least the author claims that they are) from all parts of the world, all times, and all fields of knowledge.

General Science
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE YOUNG FOLKS' BOOK OF POLAR EXPLORATION—E. L. Elias—*Little, Brown* (\$2). Long and interesting is the history of arctic and antarctic exploration. Within one volume the popular story of the great searchings to the two ends of the earth is told.

Geography
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY—G. R. de Beer—*Macmillan* (\$5.50). A well-written, adequately illustrated textbook of zoology, approached from the comparative anatomy side.

Zoology
Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

In a review of "The Bishop Murder Case" in this column last week, the name of Professor Harlow Shapley, of the Harvard College Observatory, was misspelled "Shapely." This was due to an error of the printer after the final page proofs had been returned.

First Glances at New Books—Continued

THE BIOLOGY OF SPIDERS—T. H. Savory—*Macmillan* (\$5.50). Much has been written about the taxonomy of spiders, and more about their natural history. A good modern discussion of their bodily development and physiology has, however, been sadly lacking. This volume fits into the gap most exactly, and will be welcome to thousands of teachers and research workers in zoology.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE PRINCIPLES OF SYSTEMATIC ENTOMOLOGY—G. F. Ferris—*Stanford University Press* (\$2 pa., \$2.75 cl.). Nowhere, perhaps, do systematists encounter greater difficulties than in the study of insects. Although the fundamental legislation in entomological systematics is clear enough, there are hundreds of matters of policy and procedure that have long lacked adequate discussion. This the present volume supplies.

Entomology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

A RECLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERA OF NORTH AMERICAN MELOIDAE (COLEOPTERA) and A REVISION OF THE GENERA AND SPECIES FORMERLY PLACED IN THE TRIBE MELOINI, FOUND IN AMERICA NORTH OF MEXICO, TOGETHER WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES.—E. C. Van Dyke—*University of California Press*. Of interest to systematic entomologists.

Entomology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

PARASITES AND THE AID THEY GIVE IN PROBLEMS OF TAXONOMY, GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION, AND PALEO GEOGRAPHY—Maynard M. Metcalf—*Smithsonian Institution*. A brief paper on a neglected but important subject by a man who has devoted many years of careful labor on a seemingly ungrateful task that has turned fruitful under his hands.

Parasitology—Zoogeography

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

TREES AND SHRUBS OF MINNESOTA—C. O. Rosendahl and F. K. Butters—*University of Minnesota Press* (\$4). This book is a scholarly, well-edited addition to the gratifyingly increasing list of state and regional floras. It is especially to be desired that this literature be pushed to cover the Northwest, where Gray's Manual and the western floras do not always adequately overlap.

Botany

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S HANDBOOK—Francis Edward Handy and Rose A. Hull—*American Radio Relay League* (\$1). The fourth edition of a little book that gives complete information about the construction and operation of short wave radio stations that have contributed so much to the advancement of radio in their use by amateurs. Full details are also given of the important work of the American Radio Relay League, which coördinates the activities of these amateurs, and has often proven invaluable when ordinary communications to stricken areas have been temporarily disabled.

Radio

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

WALK, LOOK AND LISTEN—R. T. Fuller—*John Day* (\$2.50). This book is a collection of informal, non-technical descriptions of a miscellany of natural history objects likely to be encountered on a day's cross-country hike. No special systematic or logical order is observed, but things are taken, as they would be in nature, just as you come to them.

Natural History

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE PUBLIC AQUARIUM: ITS CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT AND MANAGEMENT—C. H. Townsend—*Government Printing Office* (25c). A brief pamphlet, but packed with facts and suggestions that will be useful to educators and public administrators.

Biology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE HUNTING OF THE BUFFALO—E. D. Branch—*Appleton* (\$3). A dramatic presentation of the tremendous influence exerted by the mountains of meat that were the American bison upon the fortunes of the various inhabitants of this continent—Indians, Spaniards, Americans.

Zoology—History

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

A MANUAL OF THE RECENT WILD MAMMALS OF MICHIGAN—L. R. Dice—*University of Michigan* (75c). A brief synoptic key to the mammalian fauna of Michigan.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE HERPETOLOGY OF MICHIGAN—A. G. Ruthven, Crystal Thompson and Helen T. Gaige—*University of Michigan* (\$1.50). A compact but complete account of the amphibians and reptiles of Michigan, well illustrated with photographs, analytic sketches and distribution maps.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES OF PLANT PROTECTION—Hubert Martin—*Arnold* (\$8.40). This book is a closely written exposition of the fundamental scientific aspects of the two great sub-sciences of economic entomology and phytopathology. It is not written with any eye on undergraduates or short-course students in agricultural colleges, but is adapted rather to the needs of the graduate, the research worker and the fighter in the field.

Economic Entomology—Phytopathology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE STORY OF CANE SUGAR—*University of Hawaii* (\$1.25; in lots of 20 or more, \$1). A brief elementary discussion of sugar cane and cane sugar, from the biological, agronomic and economic points of view.

Agriculture—Economics

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE COOPERATIVE PATTERN IN COTTON—R. H. Montgomery—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). A Texas professor of economics (who surely ought to know something about it!) looks at one of the toughest of American agrarian problems and tells of the steps that have been taken to find a way out.

Economics

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

PLANT PATHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY IN RELATION TO MAN—A Symposium—Saunders (\$2.50). A series of lectures delivered before a number of medical and scientific audiences in the Middle West during the autumn and winter of 1926 and 1927.

Botany

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

THE MAMMALS OF PENNSYLVANIA—S. H. Williams—*Author* (\$2). Pennsylvania runs from eastern coastal plain, across a backbone of high mountains, to the gates of the Middle West. A state so fortunately situated offers to the naturalist a most unusual faunal wealth, and it is a matter for congratulation that Prof. Williams has here supplied a compact key.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929

GENERAL ZOOLOGY—H. R. Linville, H. A. Kelly and H. J. Van Cleave—*Ginn* (\$1.80). A well-gotten-up textbook for beginning students. Illegal in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, March 23, 1929