

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

THE BIOCHEMISTRY OF THE AMINO ACIDS—H. H. Mitchell and T. S. Hamilton—*The Chemical Catalog Co.* (\$9.50). The monographs of the American Chemical Society are invaluable in summing up all recent researches in a given field and presenting a view of the present status of the subject, a service that is continually becoming more essential as chemical literature becomes more voluminous and unwieldy. The amino acids is a particularly difficult subject to master and yet particularly important because of its practical bearing an medicine, on dietetics and on plant and animal physiology. The authors handle their mass of material with competency and discuss the hotly contended questions with fairness and firmness.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

EXPLORATIONS AND FIELD WORK OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN 1928—*Smithsonian Inst.* A report compiled from the notes of various members of the Institution staff. There is much of the romantic, as well as much of the laborious, recorded in volumes such as this.

General Science
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

THE WITCHERY OF WASPS—E. G. Reinhard—*Century* (\$2.50). Our interest in the ways of wasps seems to be without end; any number of books on the subject can find a market. This one is a very good one indeed: interestingly written in an easy, colloquial style and well illustrated.

Entomology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

PRINCIPLES OF FOREST ENTOMOLOGY—S. A. Graham—*McGraw-Hill* (\$3.50). Trees are being taken more and more seriously as a crop, consequently their insect enemies must be taken more and more seriously. There are endless text and reference books on agricultural entomology but the forester has not yet been at all adequately supplied. The present compact volume goes far toward remedying this defect.

Entomology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

BLUE BLOOD IN ANIMALS—H. M. Fox—*Brentano's* (\$2.50). A series of interestingly written, occasionally discursive essays in biology by a well-known English zoologist.

Biology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

FARM RELIEF—Edited by Clyde L. King—*The Annals of the Am. Acad. Pol. and Soc. Sci.* (\$2 pa., \$2.50 cl.). With Congress in session for the pledged and avowed purpose of considering the agrarian problem the uproar over farm relief, loud enough hitherto, is bound to become deafening. For those who want something besides shouts to go on, this volume of *The Annals* will serve as a convenient and authoritative source-book. It consists of a collection of essays on various phases of present-day rural economics, each by a leader in his field.

Economics
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

THE FLIGHT OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS—C. E. Kingsford-Smith and C. T. P. Ulm—*McBride* (\$2.50). The first flight across the Pacific well deserves this account of its achievement. Nearly as interesting and thrilling as the actual story of the flight, is the description of the financing and the preparation that preceded the undertaking.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

INDUSTRIAL GEOGRAPHY — Ray Hughes Whitbeck—*American Book Company* (\$1.72). Where the various groups of the human race obtain their food, clothing and other necessities and luxuries is the subject of this text book. Chart and map help the reader to discover "why" the various countries have developed economically and industrially as they have.

Geography—Economics
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

THE RIM OF MYSTERY—John B. Burnham—*G. P. Putnam's Sons* (\$3.50). In search of a rare species of mountain sheep, the author of this epic of unknown Siberian Asia, accompanied by only one companion, traveled 2200 miles. The photographs and text give a vivid picture of the unconquered land where the Soviet and the United States come into territorial contact. Across the Bering Strait, the author visualizes for the future a tunnel carrying fast express trains into a new Siberia rich in herds and mining.

Geography—Biology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ORNITHOLOGY OF NORTHEASTERN BRAZIL—C. E. Hellmayr—*Field Museum*—(\$2.50). Of interest to students of the taxonomy and distribution of birds.

Ornithology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

A B C OF ADLER'S PSYCHOLOGY—Phillipe Mariet—*Greenburg* (\$1.50). Alfred Adler is one of the great leaders in the revolution in modern psychology which is called psycho-analysis. His particular brand of new psychology is called "individual psychology" and has received an exposition in this volume.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

HOWS AND WHYS OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR—G. A. Dorsey—*Harper's* (\$3.50). Why do we do so and so? Why do we get this way or that way? What should we do to be thus and so? Such are the "eternal riddles of human behavior" listed by Dr. Dorsey in his preface, and whether they are answered in the text the reader must guess. This book is an extension of Dr. Dorsey's drive to make human beings think about themselves.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

LEONARD AND SOULE EXPERIMENTS—Lydia W. Allison—*Boston Society for Psychic Research* (\$4). Most scientists, accustomed to more material phenomena, will not agree with the conclusions from the researches reported in the book. And most of them will feel that even the observations may have benefited from wishful thinking.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

NATURAL CONDUCT—Edwin Bingham Copeland—*Stanford University Press* (\$3.50). Practical ethics, the science of conduct, is here treated as an application of biological science. The book was written in the hope that the readers would be led to lead happier and more satisfactory lives.

Sociology—Biology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929

PRINCIPLES OF SOCIOLOGY — Rudolph M. Binder—*Prentice-Hall* (\$5). A sociology that brings skillfully into line present knowledge of psychology, anthropology, eugenics and other allied sciences. The breadth and depth of Dr. Binder's interests make for a book that is exceptionally comprehensive. His thesis is that an individual has certain physical and psychic needs; the general trend of these needs is toward making the most of the individual's capacities; and this he accomplishes through interaction with his social environment.

Sociology
Science News-Letter, April 13, 1929