

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

GESTALT PSYCHOLOGY—Wolfgang Köhler—*Liveright* (\$4). In psychological circles in the last few years, the *gestalt* psychology has attracted attention comparable with the relativity theory in physical science. Einstein, however, has had plenty of expositors in English, and his works have been translated into English—until the present work the American who wanted to learn of these new psychological concepts had to go back to the original. Dr. Köhler, who, as head of the Institute of Psychology of the University of Berlin, has been perhaps the chief proponent of “*gestalt*”, here sets forth its concepts clearly and concisely. The word is one of those foreign idioms which has no English equivalent in English, but this new psychology deals with the relation of sensations and their distortion due to the presence of sensations from other fields. In fact, it establishes a theory of psychological relativity on the sensuous fields and attacks former notions of habit. This characteristic of relationship between sensations is also true for other fields of psychology and the *Gestalt Psychology* embraces them all.

Psychology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

AVIATION AND ALL ABOUT IT—A. Frederick Collins—*Appleton* (\$2). Model making, aviation history, airplane building, the technique of flying, aeronautical instruments, and the flying exploits are all treated in this inclusive popular book.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

SIMPLE AERODYNAMICS AND THE AIRPLANE—Charles N. Monteith and C. C. Carter—*Ronald Press* (\$4.50). This is the text book used to give prospective army officers at West Point some knowledge of aviation. It should prove equally useful to the civilians who in increasing numbers desire to become acquainted with the airplane.

Aviation
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON—Division of Publications—The wide scope of the Carnegie Institution's work is summarized, its divisions described in this fourteenth issue of its informative handbook.

General Science
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

THE ROLE OF RESEARCH IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTRY IN NORTH AMERICA—I. W. Bailey and H. A. Spoehr—*Macmillan* (\$1.50). The National Academy of Sciences is by law established as the official adviser of the Government on scientific questions. This little volume is in part the reply of the Academy to the question put to it by Col. W. B. Greeley, chief of the United States Forest Service, on what is being done and what might be done to save our forests. The funds for the investigation here summarized were furnished by the General Education Board and the Carnegie Institution of Washington. In the course of this investigation over 200 experiment stations and other institutions for research in forestry were visited in the following countries: England, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Netherlands, France, Canada, and the United States. The Committee recommends the undertaking of a systematic plan of study of the fundamental principles of forest physiology under the guidance of some administrative agency working through local research centers. For the Committee concludes that: “These activities should not involve the creation of a single, large, isolated research institute, but rather the development ultimately of several smaller research units which should be located in university centers and affiliated more or less informally with existing scientific departments. Research thrives best and is most productive in compact semi-independent units of moderate size where the investigators are closely and informally associated, but where they are able to maintain contacts with general scientific and intellectual interests.”

Forestry
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

CRANIA FROM GREIFENBURG IN CARINTHIA—H. L. Shapiro—*American Museum of Natural History* (\$1.25). This monograph is a contribution to the studies which attempt to determine by examination of skulls the racial composition of Central Europe. The skulls in this case were from Greifenburg in Carinthia, Southern Austria.

Anthropology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

CYCLES OF TIME AND SEASONS—G. C. Savage, M.D., LL.D., F.A.C.S.—*Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention* (\$2.50). The system of chronology advanced in this religious tract will not be upheld by astronomers. The author claims to have reproduced the “ancient Hebrew calendar” and he argues for the defeat of the thirteen month calendar.

Chronology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AND THE REFORM OF THE CALENDAR—Information Section, Secretariat of the League of Nations—*Publications Department, League of Nations* (15c). Authoritatively and concisely the status of the international project for calendar reform is here presented.

Chronology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

FROM THE GREEKS TO DARWIN—Henry Fairfield Osborn—*Scribners* (\$2.50). This history of evolution is a classic. Dr. Osborn re-studied the twenty-four century period of evolutionary fraud that culminated in Darwin.

Evolution
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

EVOLUTION AND MAN—Hervey Woodburn Shimer—*Ginn* (\$2.60). The facts of evolution as applied to man are set forth in this authoritative text. May all fundamentalists read it.

Evolution
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

HOLIDAY POND—Edith M. Patch—*Macmillan* (\$2). The pond is real and so are photographs. Youngsters, imaginative realists that they are, will appreciate the interesting firm way in which Miss Patch, a professional scientist, tells the story of the pond she knows.

Biology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES—Whitney H. Shepardson—*Macmillan* (\$1.50). A business man at the instance of the General Education board looked at agricultural education and as a by-product this report reached the printer. Those responsible for policy in an administration in education and research will be interested.

Agriculture
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

First Glances at New Books—Continued

RECENT ECONOMIC CHANGES—2 volumes—The Committee On Recent Economic Changes of the President's Conference on Unemployment—*McGraw-Hill* (\$7.50). A little over a year ago under the leadership of Herbert Hoover, a committee began to look into the state of the American economy as a whole during the last seven years. The results of their survey is contained in these two fundamental volumes, which consider consumption and the standards of living, industry, construction, transportation, marketing, labor, management, agriculture, price movements and related industrial changes, money and credit, foreign markets and foreign credit, the national income. The basic investigations were made for the committee under the auspices of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Ordinary persons without pretension to special abilities or inclinations toward economics can read these volumes with profit.

Economics
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

COMMERCE YEARBOOK, 1928—Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce—*Department of Commerce* (\$1.25 ea.). Uncle Sam through his Department of Commerce provides the world's most extensive information service on American industry. In this annual publication there are brought together in convenient and usable form statistics collected by government bureaus, trade associations, and trade journals analyzed and interpreted by the specialists of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. The two volumes are encyclopedias of trade to business. Any manufacturer or business man can learn much from Volume 1, which covers the United States. All concerned with commerce abroad should use Volume 2.

Economics
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED STATES—Elizabeth F. Fisher—*Ginn* (96c). This text is intended to give Junior High school students brief, vivid, and accurate pictures of the more important industries of continental United States.

Economics
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

BIRDS AT THE NEST—Douglas De-war—*The Bodley Head* (7/6). Intimate details of the home life of parents and nestlings in the bird world. Examples are taken largely from British.

Ornithology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

QUARTERLY OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES, Vol. XXIV, No. 1—C. A. Heiland—*Colorado School of Mines* (\$1). Once the miner who claimed to be able to tell what lay beneath the surface of the ground without drilling or excavating was branded a charlatan and a faker. Now, thanks to gravity determination, magnetic observation, studies of radio activity, and earth's heat, the setting off of artificial earthquakes, and the passing of currents through the earth, the searchers for mineral riches can obtain some idea of the underground structure before they undertake the costly mining, or drilling. In this issue of the *Quarterly of the Colorado School of Mines*, the latest and most authentic information on geophysical methods is gathered together.

Mining
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM HANDBOOK 8—Harper & Fraleigh—*University of the State of New York* (50c). If you would encounter wild inhabitants while climbing in the Adirondacks this handbook will advise you.

Zoology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

GARDEN LILIES—Isabella Preston—*Orange Judd Publishing* (\$1.25). A guide to the habits, idiosyncracies of the multitude of lily varieties.

Horticulture
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

BIRDS OF PENNSYLVANIA—George Miksch Sutton—*J. Horace McFarland* (\$1). Ornithologists of the Keystone state and contiguous territory will welcome this handbook written by the state ornithologist.

Ornithology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

ROSES AND THEIR CULTURE—S. C. Hubbard—*Orange Judd Publishing* (\$1.25). Amateur gardening addicts are aided in making their rose dreams come true in this handbook.

Nature
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

FIELD BOOK OF MARINE FISHES OF THE ATLANTIC COAST—Charles M. Breder, Jr.—*G. P. Putnam's Sons* (\$5). Among the hooks, reels, and bait of Atlantic coast fishermen you may expect to find this handbook which will furnish interesting details to embellish and authenticate their stories.

Nature
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

VIBRATION PROBLEMS IN ENGINEERING—S. Timoshenko—*Van Nostrand* (\$5). The phenomenon of vibration comes to the attention of the layman most forcibly when he is on a bumpy road, but engineers have the problem of vibration thrust upon them in the design of every mechanical device. The fundamentals and the application of the theory of vibration are technically and authoritatively treated in this volume.

Engineering
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

SPECIFICATIONS AND TOLERANCES FOR COMMERCIAL WEIGHING AND MEASURING DEVICES—National Bureau of Standards—*Department of Commerce* (50c). Weighing and measuring enter into nearly every one of our every day commercial transactions and the rules under which governmental authority protects the consumer are given in this handbook.

Metrology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

INORGANIC CHEMISTRY FOR COLLEGES—William Foster—*Van Nostrand* (\$3.90). An excellent textbook; clear, comprehensive, attractively printed and up-to-date. Valuable features are the unusually full lists of exercises, reading references and problems. The author gives more than he promises to in his title, for he includes in his "Inorganic Chemistry" seventy pages on carbon compounds with useful information about the foods of animals and plants.

Chemistry
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

THE CORAL REEF PROBLEM—William Morris Davis—*American Geographical Society* (\$6). Darwin outlined his theory of coral reef formation many years ago and now one of America's leading geologists after extensive research and travel upholds and extends Darwin's theory. This is the authoritative monumental work upon coral reefs.

Marine Biology
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

THE POCKET GUIDE TO SCIENCE—E. E. Free—*Popular Science Monthly* (50c). A little book of popular science in catechism form.

Science
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY—Report of Director to Board of Trustees—*Field Museum*. A year's growth of one of our great museums is summarized in this report. The illustrations are striking.

General Science
Science News-Letter, June 8, 1929