First Glances at New Books

Electrical Engineering

MODERN COMMUNICATION—A. W. Page and others—*Houghton Mifflin,* 182 p., $2.75. Seven authorities from the great research organization that backs America's telephones and other electrical communication devices here tell of the latest developments in television, talking pictures, radio, telephone and other methods of electrical communication. The papers forming the chapters were delivered as lectures to the Lowell Institute, Boston.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Medical Economics

HOW TO BUDGET HEALTH: GUILDS FOR DOCTORS AND PATIENTS—Evans Clark—*Harper,* 328 p., $4. Mr. Clark presents a plan for medical guilds. He also describes briefly the various schemes for reducing medical care costs that have been tried in this country and abroad, and recounts facts about the present state and cost of medical care in this country which the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care presented in its various publications. Whatever may be said of the guild plan, the discussion in this book seems superficial and the index is not very helpful.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Engineering

BEHEMOTH: THE STORY OF POWER—Eric Hodgins and F. Alexander Magoun—*Doubleday, Doran,* 354 p., $3.50. A somewhat breezy story of the development of "the machine" from the first human treadmill to the latest and mightiest turbines. Informative and especially worth reading now during the trial of the civilization made by technology, though readers with even slight technical knowledge may be wearied by "overpopularization."

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Physics

ELEMENTS OF OPTICS—Joseph Valasek—*McGraw-Hill,* 254 p., $2.25. The second edition of a textbook suitable for use in a short beginning course of college grade.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Mineralogy

THE FORM AND PROPERTIES OF CRYSTALS—A. B. Dale—*Cambridge University Press,* 186 p., $1.60. Comprehensive, yet concise and relatively inexpensive, is this book written for first year students taking mineralogy and crystallography. It is an introduction to the study of minerals, and the use of the petrological microscope, written by the Fellow and Tutor of Newnham College, Cambridge, England.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Physics-Astronomy

ATOM AND COSMOS—Hans Reichenback, translated by Edward S. Allen—*Macmillan,* 300 p., $2. Space and time, light and radiation, matter, and the philosophical consequences of modern physics are discussed by the professor of natural philosophy at the University of Berlin, through translation by the associate professor of mathematics of the Iowa State College. The book contains the substance of a series of radio addresses delivered in Berlin, and it will interest the audience of such books as those recently issued by Eddington and Jeans.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Sociology

TRAFFIC IN OPIUM AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS—*U. S. Government Printing Office,* 94 p., 15c. Report by the Government of the United States of America for the year ended Dec. 31, 1931. Contains information valuable to those interested in this important subject from the social and legal angles.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Psychology

THE ART OF FEELING—Horace G. Wyatt—*Houghton Mifflin,* 293 p., $2.50. The author, a British psychologist now at Stanford University, stresses in this philosophical work the need for control of emotions and character building.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Radio

RADIO ENGINEERING—Frederick Emmons Terman—*McGraw-Hill,* 688 p., $5. A college text that presents a comprehensive engineering treatment of the more important vacuum tube and radio phenomena. It is written by the associate professor of electrical engineering at Stanford University.

Science News Letter, February 18, 1933

Mathematics

THE NEW APPLIED MATHEMATICS—Sidney J. Lasley and Myrtle F. Mudd—*Prentice-Hall,* 439 p., $1.60. Unlike most books on this subject, this one looks interesting. Although designed for use in junior and senior high schools, many adults and even business men and clerical workers would be greatly benefited if they read it and did the exercises. It is practical in that it meets personal needs that are encountered in one's everyday experience. The book treats such phases of arithmetic, business, geometry, and algebra as will be worth while for any student, regardless of his future occupation. The first part of the book covers everyday arithmetic and business transactions under the following chapter headings: Short Cuts and Proofs, Business Organizations—Problems of the Merchant, Business and Personal Records, Banks and Banking Procedure, Insurance, Means of Communication — Telephone and Telegraph, Postal Information, Means of Travel. The second and third portions of the book are devoted to geometry and algebra with many practical examples of the usefulness of these branches of mathematics.

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General Science

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, 1931—*Government Printing Office,* 592 p., $1.75. The general appendices to the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution are notable summaries of current science and the twenty-six accounts included in the appendix to this report maintain the standards of past years.

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Geology

SUMMARY INFORMATION ON THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY—Committee on State Geological Surveys—*National Research Council,* 136 p., $1. Since the State and Federal geological surveys are the principal research agencies in geology in this country, this publication is a key to this field.

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