

# • First Glances at New Books

## General Science

SCIENCE AND HUMAN LIFE—J. B. S. Haldane—*Harper*, 287 p., \$2.50. The author of this collection of essays, delightfully readable and guaranteed to provide controversy with any reader, is one of the encouraging characters on the British scientific stage. Combining a rare writing ability with unorthodoxy of various sorts, gleefully watching the conventional scientists squirm as his literary darts hit tender flesh, J. B. S. Haldane is F. R. S. and a researcher of acknowledged eminence. He is a protagonist for the application of biology to human life in practical ways, yet he recognizes and cautions us against innumerable false prophets who are advertising their own pet theories in sociology as scientific.

*Science News Letter, April 1, 1933*

## Archaeology

THE MESOLITHIC AGE IN BRITAIN—J. G. D. Clark—*Cambridge Univ. Press*, 223 p., \$4. Between the types of culture sorted out into the Old Stone Age and the New, this writer makes a distinct place for a rather long period of Mesolithic cultures in Britain. Evidence is taken chiefly from sites in southeast Britain, where there is considerable material showing the stone, bone, and horn industries of that time.

*Science News Letter, April 1, 1933*

## Geology

A KEY TO MINERAL GROUPS, SPECIES AND VARIETIES—Edward S. Simpson—*Chapman & Hall*, 84 p., \$2.50. This is a dictionary of mineral names giving the chemical composition, crystalline structure, specific gravity and refractive index of all, and more particularly the newer mineral groups, species and varieties. The author, who is mineralogist and analyst to the Government of Western Australia, explains that this index will supplement Dana's System of Mineralogy.

*Science News Letter, April 1, 1933*

## Mechanical Engineering

DESIGNING FOR ARC WELDING—A. F. Davis—*Lincoln Electric Co.*, 413 p., \$2.50. Arc welding is being applied widely to the machine, ship, construction and other industries. This volume contains the papers of the Second Lincoln Arc Welding Prize Competition, which was instituted to increase the knowledge of the arc welding process

and call attention to the advantages, economies and possibilities that the newer processes of welding hold for industry.

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## Physics

HEAT AND ITS WORKINGS—Morton Mott-Smith—*Appleton*, 230 p., \$2. Dr. Mott-Smith the author of "This Mechanical World," a previous volume in the Appleton New World of Science Series, edited by the editor of the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, continues his authoritative but readable account of physics in this volume. If you have been confused about calories or heat energy and the role of fire in our civilization, this is the book you should read. "The gods did well to bind Prometheus to the rocks when he stole fire from heaven, for by this act he enabled men themselves to become like gods and to rule the elements," Dr. Mott-Smith writes in his introduction. "Control fire, and you control everything. The discovery of fire was indeed the greatest achievement of primitive men, the one thing that more than any other lifted him from the level of the beast, and gave him dominion over the earth. Heat is the most powerful and obedient servant. It cooks his food, warms his dwelling, moves his machinery, and performs a myriad of useful services for him."

*Science News Letter, April 1, 1933*

## Astronomy

ASTRONOMIE ELEMENTAIRE—Frère Robert, F. E. C.—*Frères des Ecoles Chrétiennes*, 397 p., \$2.50. An elementary astronomy written in French to serve the needs of a portion of our neighbor country to the north.

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WORLD ATLAS—*Albert & Charles Boni*, 352 p., \$1. Using Hammond maps and containing a gazetteer index of the world together with 1933 population figures of the cities and towns in the United States, this volume will serve well as a handy reference atlas.

*Science News Letter, April 1, 1933*

## Biography

E. W. SCRIPPS—N. D. Cochran—*Harcourt, Brace*, 315 p., \$3. The author of this biography of E. W. was for twenty-three years his constant coworker and confidant. He presents Scripps the editor, the publisher, the creator, the experimenter and the public servant. Much of the narrative is in Scripps' own words taken from letters, disquisitions and autobiographical notes. The name of E. W. Scripps is known throughout the world as that of a great journalist yet the public has had the opportunity of knowing but little of Scripps, the man, nor has the influence of E. W. Scripps upon economic, governmental and cultural life of America been widely appreciated. Not only was E. W. Scripps the founder of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers and the United Press but he fathered Science Service, a hybrid institution part scientific and part journalistic, as well as the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the Scripps Foundation for Population Research. Those who knew E. W. feel the force of his influence through Cochran's vigorous writing and they will read with interest the epigrammatic quotations from E. W.'s disquisitions and letters which are included in the book.

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## Zoology

LOVABLE BEASTS—Harper Cory—*Ivor Nicholson and Watson, London*, 119 p., \$4. A beautifully gotten up nature book, with animals' life stories in narrative form by a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. The 65 photographic illustrations, all of a very high order of excellence, are inserted as unpaginated plates.

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## Chemistry

AN OUTLINE OF FIRST YEAR COLLEGE CHEMISTRY—John R. Lewis—*Barnes & Noble*, 252 p., 75c. Three uses for this outline are suggested: as a teaching aid, as a companion book to standard texts and as a textbook.

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