

# •First Glances at New Books

## MEDICINE—BIOGRAPHY

A SURGEON'S LIFE, The Autobiography of J. M. T. Finney—*Putnam*, 395 p., \$3.50. One of America's most eminent and beloved surgeons tells the story of his life with a modesty characteristic of himself but most unusual in an autobiography. The book is crammed with interesting stories of Dr. Finney's experiences in war and peacetime surgery and of his encounters with men and women in all walks of life, from hospital orderlies to U. S. Presidents.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## BOTANY—JUVENILE

AMERICAN WILD FLOWERS—Cecile Hulse Matschat—*Random*, 28 p., col. pl., 50c. Big pictures, in colors, of 19 common Eastern wildflowers with simple descriptions in large type for children who have just become able to read fluently.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## ORNITHOLOGY

AMERICAN SONGBIRDS—Maitland A. Edey—*Random House*, 70 p., \$1. A score and a half of Fuertes bird illustrations in color, with brief popular descriptions, and all for a dollar. Just the thing for the beginner in bird study, who needs pictures to aid in identifications but can't afford to spend much money.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## GEOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHY IN HUMAN DESTINY—Roderick Peattie—*Stewart*, 323 p., illus., \$3. A geographer "talks" in easy, informal fashion about the geography of war and peace, and various ways in which the earth itself spurs on human struggles and desires. Hopeful for an economic solution of world problems, he says: "What is fundamentally wrong with the world, except for the persistent inhumanity of humans, is distribution and man's inability to redistribute."

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## ANTHROPOLOGY

CALIFORNIAN BONE ARTIFACTS—E. W. Gifford—*Univ. of Calif. Press*, 84 p., illus., \$1.25.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## MEDICINE—HISTORY

A HISTORY OF MEDICINE—Arturo Castiglioni; trans. by E. B. Krumbhaar—*Knopf*, 1058 p., illus., \$8.50. This is the first general history of medicine in English which has appeared during the past decade. It has thus the double value

of being up-to-date and of giving to English-speaking readers a new view of the part taken by Italy in the history of medicine.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## MALACOLOGY

WORLD-WIDE SEA SHELLS—Maxwell Smith and Joshua L. Baily—*Pub. by Author, Tropical Photographic Laboratory, Lantana, Fla.*, 139 p. illus., \$4.50. An illustrated list of shells most likely to be found in amateurs' collections. The pictures are mostly line drawings and the book is produced by offset process. In addition, there is an interesting short essay by Dr. Baily, on the origin of scientific names.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## BOTANY

STUDIES OF AMERICAN PLANTS, XI—Paul C. Standley—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 85 p., 50 c.

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## MEDICINE

SEX IN DEVELOPMENT—Carney Landis and others—*Hoerber*, 329 p., \$3.75. From a study of the "growth and development of the emotional and sexual aspect of personality together with physiological, anatomical and medical information on a group of 153 normal women and 142 female psychiatric patients," Dr. Landis and co-workers have drawn a number of conclusions that will be of interest to psychiatrists, other medical scientists, and educators. The authors believe their studies show the way "to a new approach to the problems of feeling and emotion as they are related to personality development and formation."

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## MEDICINE

CLINICAL PELLAGRA—Seale Harris and Seale Harris Jr.—*Mosby*, 494 p., illus., \$7. Physicians and public health workers will be interested in this book in which a number of authorities besides the authors have collaborated to give as complete as possible a picture of past and present knowledge of and views on pellagra.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## HOME ECONOMICS

INTRODUCTORY FOODS—Osee Hughes—*Macmillan*, 522 p., illus., \$3. Designed as a text introductory to further study in dietetics and nutrition.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## SOCIOLOGY

BORROWED CHILDREN: A Popular Account of Some Evacuation Problems and Their Remedies—Mrs. St. Loe Strachey—*Commonwealth Fund.*, 149 p., 75 c. Little children leaving home and going among strangers who do not understand, at least at first, all the individualities of their make-up and the problems of adjustment—this situation, all too familiar in our present-day world, gives rise to this volume originally published in England but with poignant interest for American readers.

*Science News Letter, February 1, 1941*

## HORTICULTURE

GREEN ENCHANTMENT, The Magic Spell of Gardens—Rosetta E. Clarkson—*Macmillan*, 329 p., illus., \$3. The story of medieval and early modern gardens and gardening, charmingly told and as charmingly illustrated. Decidedly, a book for garden lovers who want to know more about the origins and background of their gentle art.

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## BOTANY

BOTANY OF THE MAYA AREA—Cyrus Longworth Lundell and others—*Carnegie Institution of Washington*, 474 p., illus., cloth, \$2.75; paper, \$2.25. (Miscellaneous Papers XIV-XXI). The story of the rise and decay of Maya states in the Middle Americas is written in the trees and lesser plants that have taken possession of the silent temples and deserted marketplaces no less than in the stones of the ruins themselves. These technical descriptions, written by a thoroughly competent taxonomist, will benefit later-coming botanists, particularly the ecologists whose labors supplement those of archaeologists in spelling out the history of what happened as men departed and the jungle took over.

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## BOTANY—ENTOMOLOGY

PLANT GALLS AND GALL MAKERS—Ephraim Porter Feit—*Comstock*, 364 p., illus., \$4. A relatively neglected field, though of interest to both botanists and entomologists, is that of plant galls. Here, a well-known entomologist undertakes to fill in the gap, with a dichotomous key arranged by classification of host plants. Illustrations are both photographic and black-and-white, and both kinds give good support to the descriptions.

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