

• First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews
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ANTHROPOLOGY

RACE: SCIENCE AND POLITICS — Ruth Benedict—*Modern Age Books*, 274 p., \$2.50. An American anthropologist explains fallacies of the "racists," those who hold that any one race or nation is congenitally superior. "Confusion between the facts of race and the claims of racism is almost universal in the modern world," says Dr. Benedict, adding, "this volume is arranged to show that they are poles apart."

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

BIOGRAPHY—INVENTION

WHITTLING BOY, The Story of Eli Whitney—Roger Burlingame—*Harcourt, Brace*, 370 p., illus., \$3. See page 104.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ENGINEERING

THE WONDERS OF OIL—Ann Jackson and Delmar E. Jackson—*Dodd, Mead*, 146 p., illus., \$2. Intended for boys and girls from the age of 10 up, this book chronicles the visit of George Blake to the oil fields and refineries, with his Uncle Robert for a guide. He explains such things as how a burning oil well is extinguished, how artificial earthquakes show where to find oil, how gasoline storage tanks breathe. With its 53 excellent photographs and 11 charts, to supplement the clearly told story, adults who want to know about oil would probably enjoy it also.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ARCHAEOLOGY

BULLETIN OF THE TEXAS ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Vol. 12, September, 1940—*Texas Archaeological and Paleontological Society, Abilene, Texas*. 252 p., illus., \$3. Contains a variety of papers on archaeological research in Texas and nearby states, including a discussion of Caddo Indian house types; another on the knots and materials of cordage found in caves of the Greater Big Bend; a report on tubular pipes and other stone tubes found widely distributed in Texas.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

GEOGRAPHY

OUR SOUTHERN NEIGHBORS IN REVIEW — Ben F. Crowson, Jr., ed. — *Latin American News Record*, chart, \$1. First of a series of annual Pan-American charts, this sheet handy for wall display shows outstanding facts about each Latin American country. Points charted in-

clude chief seaports, leading exports to U. S., capital, population, and so on, 20 headings being covered.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ECONOMICS—GEOGRAPHY

VENEZUELA'S PLACE IN THE SUN, Modernizing a Pioneering Country—Nicholas Roosevelt—*Round Table Press*, 87 p., illus., \$1. A small book, but it packs in some vividly attractive photographs, a folding map, tourist information, and a good deal of basic economic and trade information.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

MATHEMATICS—AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL METHODS, Applied to Experiments in Agriculture and Biology (3d ed.)—George W. Snedecor—*Iowa State College Press*, 422 p., \$3.75. Now that the slide-rule has become almost as important an agricultural implement as the plow, this book will undoubtedly find its highly appropriate niche in agricultural colleges where young men are learning to think quantitatively in working out the country's farm problems.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

GEOLOGY

GEOLOGY OF COAL — Otto Stutzer; Trans. and Rev. by Adolph C. Noé — *Univ. of Chicago Press*, 461 p., illus., \$5. Geologists and mining men alike will find this book highly informative and very useful. It neglects nothing in the wide field of coal geology: origins, nature, age, size and extent, structural features of the beds, gases and other inclusions, mineralization. The original was a masterpiece of the true German scholarship; the translation has preserved the flavor of the original. The late Prof. Noé did well by his adopted land in Englishing this important work before he died.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ANTHROPOLOGY

OBSERVATIONS AND MEASUREMENTS ON THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES—Ales Hrdlicka—*Govt. Printing Off.*, 108 p., 30c. See p. 108.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

TECHNOLOGY

A. S. T. M. STANDARDS ON COAL AND COKE — Committee D-5 on Coal and Coke — *American Society for Testing Materials*, 126 p., \$1.25.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

AERONAUTICS

AIRCRAFT DIESELS—Paul H. Wilkinson—*Pitman*, 275 p., illus., \$6. Mr. Wilkinson was fortunate enough to visit some of the German aircraft factories in 1939, so he has been able to incorporate in this book some of the latest information available about what they are doing. Details of the Junkers Diesel engines are here first published. Much of the work of other countries with this type of engine, which is becoming increasingly important, is also revealed.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ASTRONOMY

WEBB'S ATLAS OF THE STARS—H. B. Webb—*Pub. by Author, 9251 173rd St., Jamaica, N. Y.*, 135 p. (charts), \$4. As a long-time member of the Chart Committee of the American Association of Variable Star Observers, Mr. Webb has had ample opportunity to find what sort of star maps the amateur astronomer needs, and this book provides them. On a scale of about one degree to the centimeter, 110 charts show all the stars down to the ninth magnitude north of 23 degrees south declination. Finder charts and tables of variable stars and interesting objects add to its usefulness.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

PHYSICS—MEDICINE

RADIOLOGIC PHYSICS — Charles Weyl, S. Reid Warren, Jr. and Dallett B. O'Neill—*Thomas*, 459 p., illus., \$5.50. This excellent work, based on a course given by the authors in the Graduate School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania since 1930, considers both the theory and practice of electrical engineering as applied to radiological apparatus as well as the theory and application of radiation physics with reference to X-ray diagnosis and therapy and gamma ray therapy. It should prove of value to many, however, whose interest is not primarily from the medical angle.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

NATURAL HISTORY

INAGUA — Gilbert C. Klingel — *Dodd, Mead*, 384 p., illus., \$3. Inagua is the tail-end island of the Bahamas, a bit to the northeast of the eastern end of Cuba. Here a naturalist Crusoe'd for a time, studying the strange life of the land and the even stranger life of the surrounding sea. The record of his findings makes fascinating reading, if you are even the least bit interested in natural history.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

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ASTRONOMY—PHYSICS

TIME AND ITS MYSTERIES, Series II — Daniel Webster Hering, William F. G. Swann, John Dewey and Arthur H. Compton—*New York University Press*, 137 p., \$2. In this new volume of lectures given at New York University under the James Arthur Foundation, Dr. Hering, curator of the James Arthur Collection of Clocks and Watches, discusses "The Time Concept and Time Sense Among Cultured and Uncultured Peoples"; Dr. Swann, the physicist, considers "What is Time?"; Dr. Dewey, famous philosopher, tells his views on "Time and Individuality", while Dr. Compton, another physicist, devotes his address to "Time and the Growth of Physics". All are of intense interest, since time affects us in so many ways.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

RADIO

NEW HORIZONS IN RADIO—Herman S. Hettinger, ed.—*American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 253 p., \$2 paper, \$2.50 cloth. (Annals, Vol. 213, January, 1941). Many different aspects of radio and its effects are discussed by 26 widely assorted authorities, including David Sarnoff, William S. Paley, Edwin H. Armstrong, Paul W. White. The three main sections are devoted to "Broadcasting As a Social Force Today," "Current Problems in Radio" and "Coming Developments in Radio." Television, frequency modulation and facsimile broadcasting are included in the latter.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ECONOMICS

OUR FUTURE IN ASIA—Robert Aura Smith—*Viking Press*, 306 p., 4 maps, \$3. An economic geography oriented to the present world dilemmas. The author is a newspaper correspondent whose special field has been the East. He describes conditions according to areas, with special chapters on such topics as American relations with China and Japan and our legal position in Asia.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

HISTORY

THE MONGOL EMPIRE, Its Rise and Legacy—Michael Prawdin; Translated by Eden and Cedar Paul — *Macmillan*, 581 p., \$5. The stirring history of conquest of a World Empire by Jenghiz Khan and his successors, told very fully. The author keeps in view significance of the era for later developments, closing with a discussion of the signal im-

portance of Mongolia today in the struggle for mastery over Asia.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

MEDICINE

AUTHORITY, OBSERVATION AND EXPERIMENT IN MEDICINE—W. W. C. Topley—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 45 p., 40c. Practising physicians and those who confine their labors to the laboratory will be interested in Dr. Topley's idea about abolishing "the false distinction between the medical scientist and the medical artist," as expressed in the Linacre Lecture for 1940.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

BIOLOGY

MAN AND THE LIVING WORLD—E. E. Stanford—*Macmillan*, 916 p., illus., \$3.50. A college text in general biology, presenting the facts customarily found in such courses, but keeping the human significances of those facts constantly before the student. Some particularly salty and thought-compelling passages can be found in the chapter on The Evolution of Man.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

NATURAL HISTORY

NATURE RECREATION, Group Guidance for the Out-of-Doors — William Gould Vinal—*McGraw-Hill*, 322 p., illus., \$3.00. This is the complete manual of outdoor recreation; it tells how to do everything, from cooking a camp meal to constructing and caring for a camp museum. Group leaders will find it indispensable. It should be highly useful, also, to parents who take their families on motor, boating or hiking trips for their vacations.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

METEOROLOGY

WEATHER PREDICTION—R. M. Lester—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 256 p., illus., \$4.25. Tells how forecasts are made for Britain and northwestern Europe. By a well-known English meteorologist.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

AGRONOMY

SOIL PHYSICS—L. D. Baver—*Wiley*, 370 p., illus., \$4. The soil as a physical system is so complex that as yet only the barest beginnings have been made toward obtaining an understanding of its workings. This book undertakes to bring together such knowledge as we have, in a form that will be useful as a college text and general reference work.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

RELIGION—SCIENCE

RELIGION IN SCIENCE AND CIVILIZATION—Sir Richard Gregory—*Macmillan*, 366 p., illus., \$3. Causes of hostility between religion and science disappear, explains the author of this thoughtful book, once it is realized that both science and religion must adjust to changing conditions created by expanding thought. Bringing together for publication material showing how science and religion intertwine in history of civilization, Sir Richard goes back to Mesopotamia and works forward into present day problems such as "cultural aspects of war."

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

TECHNOLOGY

INDEX TO A. S. T. M. STANDARDS Including Tentative Standards—*American Society for Testing Materials*—164 p. Obtainable free only from American Society for Testing Materials, 260 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

ANTHROPOLOGY

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGISTS — *National Research Council*, 442 mimeographed p., \$2. The second and enlarged edition of a very useful alphabetical reference work, which gives not only names and addresses of scientists in this field, but a short biography of each. The Western and Eastern Hemispheres are dealt with in separate sections.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

HISTORY

FIRST EXPEDITION OF VARGAS INTO NEW MEXICO, 1692 — J. Manuel Espinosa, trans.—*Univ. of New Mexico Press*, 319 p., \$4. For 228 years, Sante Fe has held an annual pageant celebrating the reconquest of New Mexico by Spain at the end of the seventeenth century. Here for the first time is the complete published account in English, of the first phase of that reconquest after the Pueblo revolt. Don Diego de Vargas is the Spanish hero, and his journal and correspondence are among the documents published here.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941

MEDICINE

HYDROCEPHALUS, Its Symptomatology, Pathology, Pathogenesis and Treatment — Otto Marburg—*Oskar Piest*, 217 p., illus., \$3. A technical book for physicians.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1941