

## FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

NEW VIEWS OF EVOLUTION—G. P. Conger—*Macmillan* (\$2.50). The author presents, in brief, non-technical summary not only an account of the evolution of organisms, but also sections on the evolution of matter from both the cosmogonic and physical angles and on the evolution of mind. The concluding chapters on Some Philosophies of Evolution and An Estimate of Evolutionism will be useful to those who want a history of the question in briefest possible form.

*Evolution*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

AMERICAN NATURISTS—Henry Chester Tracy—*Dutton* (\$3.90). This group of biographical appreciations treats of men and women widely separated in space, time and interests; some of them scientists of the keenest modern type, some naturalists of the old school, some persons of affairs who sought the out-of-doors for recreation or avocation. But they are all united by their compelling interest in, and unflagging enthusiasm for nature, and together they form an apostolate which America must follow if there is to be any health left in us at the end of another couple of generations.

*General History*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

SURGERY AT THE NEW YORK HOSPITAL ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO—Eugene H. Pool & Frank J. McGowan—*Hoeber* (\$1.50). The book is largely made up of excerpts from the newly discovered "Surgical Register" for the period from 1808 to 1833 of the New York Hospital. It will be amusing and interesting to modern surgeons and physicians.

*Surgery*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

DRESS AND ADORNMENT IN THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE OF LUZON, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—Morice Vanoverbergh—*Cath. Anthropol. Conf.* (\$1). A well-illustrated pamphlet treating of one uniting aspect of the life of a group of Philippine tribes.

*Anthropology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FISHERIES, 1928—*U. S. Government Printing Office* (\$1.65). A summary of the manifold and far-reaching activities of one of the most important of Government bureaus during the fiscal year 1928.

*Fisheries*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

SEVEN IRON MEN—Paul de Kruif—*Harcourt, Brace and Company* (\$3.20). The author of "Microbe Hunters" tells how the microscopic gallionella brought forth the mighty United States Steel Corporation and in so doing caused the rise and fall of the Merritt family of Minnesota, the seven iron men. It is more than a good story, well told; and, withal, a tragic one. It is an informative cross-section sawed from the growth of big business.

*Mining*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, 1929—*Field Museum*. In addition to the customary listings of accessions, receipts, expenditures and the thousand Martha-jobs a museum director has to tell about once a year, this volume offers much information in a score of varied scientific fields, lighted with a number of fine illustrations.

*General Science*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

THE SHAFT GRAVES AND BEE-HIVE TOMBS OF MYCENAE AND THEIR INTERRELATION—Sir Arthur Evans—*Macmillan* (\$6). These two types of ancient royal graves excavated in Mycenae have caused wondering and speculation, and it is of great interest to have the conclusions of so eminent an expert on this matter. Besides explaining his view that the royalties and their precious funeral relics were transferred from the beehive tombs to the safer shaft graves at some time of great emergency, Sir Arthur makes clear the significance of many objects found in the burials and shows relations with Crete.

*Archæology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

ANIMAL MICROLOGY—Michael F. Guyer—*University of Chicago Press* (\$3). A third edition of a widely used laboratory guide in the preparation, sectioning and staining of animal materials for use under the microscope.

*Biology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

CHANGING CIVILIZATIONS IN THE MODERN WORLD—Harold Rugg—*Ginn* (\$1.96). A textbook for junior high school which makes interesting reading to the grown-up. It dramatically tells a world story of geography, history and economics.

*Sociology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

HUMAN BIOLOGY AND RACIAL WELFARE—27 Contributors, edited by E. V. Cowdry and E. R. Embree—*Hoeber* (\$6). Too heavy for the average reader, but the student or layman of some education will welcome this volume as a pleasant relief from the usual popular accounts of science, especially biology. The book contrives to be readable, interesting and non-technical without becoming elementary or reaching the level of entertainment for the tired business man. Various aspects of the subject are presented by specialists in each field. The book is designed for students and a mature public. Incidentally the physical weight of the volume seems excessive for its size.

*Biology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

THE CHERRY AND ITS CULTURE—V. R. Gardner—*Orange Judd* (\$1.25). A good many cherry trees have been planted in this country since young George Washington first established a reputation for consistent veracity, and their owners usually want to know how to take care of them, how to fight their insect and fungus enemies and how to handle their crop. Whether you own two cherry trees or twenty thousand, this little book will be a useful addition to your gardening shelf.

*Horticulture*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

RELIABILITY OF FUSIBLE TIN BOILER PLUGS IN SERVICE—John R. Freeman, Jr., J. A. Scherrer and S. J. Rosenberg—*U. S. Government Printing Office* (10c). Ten per cent. of the accident-preventing fusible boiler plugs in marine service do not work, this Research Paper No. 129 of the U. S. Bureau of Standards shows. The tests described were made following a disastrous explosion. Safety measures are recommended.

*Mechanical Engineering*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*

THIS UGLY CIVILIZATION — Ralph Borsodi—*Simon and Schuster* (\$3). Blame for the ugliness of our modern world, with its noise, smoke, smells, and crowds, is laid on the factory. The author approves of machinery, however. It appears that he would like to see each home functioning as an independent economic unit, a small, socialized production plant.

*Sociology*

*Science News-Letter, April 5, 1930*