

## FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

**THE NEW WORLD OF PHYSICAL DISCOVERY**—Floyd L. Darrow—*Bobbs-Merrill*, 371 pp., \$3.50. In this book, Mr. Darrow has produced an excellent popular summary of modern physical science. No mathematical knowledge is needed to read it, for he has managed to avoid mathematics and technical terms completely. Obviously, with such a limitation, anything like an exhaustive treatise is impossible, but to one who lacks either the knowledge or inclination to plow through the vast amount of technical literature in which they were originally developed, this book affords a means of making the casual acquaintance of modern physical theories. Bohr's ideas of the atom, Planck's quantum theory, the relativity theory of Einstein, the wave mechanics of de Broglie and Schrödinger, the work of Aston and others on isotopes; these are among the important physical developments that Mr. Darrow describes.

*Physics*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**METEOROLOGY FOR AVIATOR AND LAYMAN**—Richard Whatham—*Stokes*, 179 pp., \$3. With the increasing popularity of aviation, knowledge of weather science is becoming more important than ever. This book summarizes the main points in such a way that it will also be of interest to the man on the ground who wants to know more about what is happening above him.

*Meteorology*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**CHILDREN IN THE NURSERY SCHOOL**—Harriet M. Johnson—*John Day*, 325 pp., \$3. For readers who want to know what an experimental nursery school does with its children, and why, and how. Miss Johnson is director of an experimental school for children fourteen to thirty-six months old, which is associated with the Bureau of Educational Experiments. Besides explaining methods of handling the children, she gives considerable space to the planning of the child's environment, and to the keeping of records.

*Psychology—Education*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**ALGEBRAIC EQUATIONS**—Edgar Dehn—*Columbia Univ.*, 208 pp., \$4.25. An introduction to the theories of Lagrange and Galois.

*Mathematics*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**THE NORTH POLE OF THE WINDS**—William Herbert Hobbs—*Putnam*, 376 pp., \$5. According to Prof. Hobbs, who is professor of geology at the University of Michigan, the north pole of the winds is the interior ice cap of Greenland, and there, he believes, the weather of a large part of the northern hemisphere originates, especially of the North Atlantic Ocean. In order to study the conditions there he made several expeditions to Greenland, which are described in this book. He tells many interesting facts about the lives of the members of the party, including the rescue of Hassell and Cramer when their ill-fated trans-Atlantic flight in the "Greater Rockford" came to grief in Greenland.

*Meteorology*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**SLEEP**—Donald A. Laird and Charles G. Muller—*John Day*, 214 pp., \$2.50. Results of the scientific experiments on sleep carried out by the head of the psychological laboratory at Colgate University. The book is written in popular style and will be interesting to a large number of people. A small reading lamp which may be attached to a book, presumably of the type suggested by Dr. Laird, is included in the purchase price and is boxed with the book when bought.

*Psychology*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**GEORGE EASTMAN**—Carl W. Ackerman—*Houghton, Mifflin*, 522 pp., \$5. An interesting biography of the man who brought photography into our daily lives. Had the work been read in advance by an experienced photographer, some technical errors might have been avoided, such as "it was vital to both the developing and fixing of a negative that all traces of 'hypo' be thoroughly washed away before the film was immersed in fixing fluids."

*Photography—Biography*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**SHATTERING HEALTH SUPERSTITIONS**—Morris Fishbein—*Horace Liveright*, 245 pp., \$2. Dr. Fishbein, editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and of *Hygeia*, debunks a number of old notions about health and disease in this medical Believe It or Not. Entertaining and informative.

*Hygiene*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**THE MAGIC OF THE STARS**—Maurice Maeterlinck—*Dodd, Mead*, 146 pp., \$2.50. Some facts and much speculation by this eminent writer, who is not hampered by a too-extensive knowledge of the subject. He suggests, for instance, that strange happenings in history might be caused by the earth passing through "zones of ether charged with electrons from constellations perhaps with a nobler civilization than our own; sailing round worlds wherein forces may have assembled that are more active and purer, perhaps even more human, than on any other orb in the sky."

*Romance*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**PHYSIOGRAPHY LABORATORY SHEETS**—Willard B. Nelson—*Globe*, 46 pp., 68c. Loose leaf sheets for laboratory work in physical geography, in which the necessary coordinate paper, outline maps, etc., are provided.

*Physiography*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*

**NEW FRONTIERS OF PHYSICS**—Paul R. Heyl—*Appleton*, 184 pp., \$2. So rapidly is modern physics advancing that it is difficult to keep abreast of its latest developments, but here is a small book that describes the main frontiers along which these advances are being made. Dr. Heyl, who is a physicist at the U. S. Bureau of Standards, is eminently well qualified to write about them. After tracing the history of physics during the nineteenth century, before the revolution that came at its end, he brings the reader to the modern era, with its correlation of electricity and matter. Here he outlines the concepts of de Broglie, Schrödinger and others, and then the theories of Einstein. Though admitting the difficulty that these present "even to the physicist with more than average mathematical equipment," he gives a very lucid account of some of their more simple aspects. In the concluding parts, he anticipates a further correlation of phenomena that the older physics regarded as entirely independent, approaching nearer and nearer the goal of an all-inclusive law completely covering the entire field. The book, one of the "Appleton New World of Science Series," edited by Watson Davis on behalf of Science Service, has been "highly recommended" by the Scientific Book Club.

*Physics*  
*Science News-Letter, April 12, 1930*