

## FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

THE DEVIL, An Historical, Critical and Medical Study—Maurice Garcon and Jean Vinchon, translated by Stephen Haden Guest from the sixth French edition—*Dutton*, 288 pp., \$3.50. The Christian Devil, his origins and relation to other evil powers, and the remarkable activities credited to him in the Middle Ages, make up the first part of this book. Part two shows how these delusions were induced and intensified by the witch-hunters, and gives case reports of patients of the authors who reproduced many of the classical symptoms of "possession." How fortunate the patients born in an age which gives them psychiatric treatment instead of burning them at the stake, as the intelligent world would surely have done only three hundred years ago!

*Psychiatry—Religion*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY OF EUROPE: HUNGARY—L. G. Michael—*U. S. Government Printing Office*, 104 pp., 20c. An agronomic and economic birds-eye view of the Corn Belt of Europe.

*Agriculture*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

THE CONDUCTION OF ELECTRICITY THROUGH GASES—K. G. Emelús—*Dutton*, 94 pp., \$1.10. So important is the subject of electrical conduction through gases because of its modern applications in vacuum tubes, x-ray tubes, photo-electric cells, etc., that this comprehensive account of its latest theories assumes special interest. Though not a popular work, it is not beyond one ordinarily well trained in physics.

*Physics*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

PHYSIOLOGY AND HEALTH—C. E. Turner—*Heath*, 282 pp., \$1. A text for high school students. The material is clearly and interestingly presented and the book is well illustrated. The author is professor of biology and public health at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

*Physiology—Hygiene*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

VEGETABLE GROWING—James E. Knott—*Lea & Febiger*, 352 pp., \$3.25. A textbook for use in beginning courses in vegetable growing in agricultural colleges. For many students, who will have opportunity to take only one course in this subject, their text will afterwards become a most useful working reference book.

*Horticulture*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

EXPLORATIONS AND FIELD-WORK OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN 1929—*Smithsonian Institution*, 222 pp., Adventures and discoveries in 21 foreign countries and ten of our states, described by the explorers themselves. The subjects range from sun-rays to mollusks, from boron minerals of Death Valley to prehistoric Eskimos of Alaska, from "A Visit to European Zoos" to "Explorations in Haitian Caves." Following through these brief narratives of achievement, the reader does not need to be told that much of the advancement of science comes from the field work of carefully planned expeditions.

*General Science*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

THE WAYSIDE INN FOR BIRDS—J. L. Martin—*Heath*, 196 pp., 88c. What one man, sentenced to bed on a sanitarium porch, was able to learn about birds by establishing a cafeteria for them. He demonstrates most astonishingly well the fact that one need not travel in order to see the world; post yourself at a convenient place, keep your eyes open, and a deal of interesting world will come to you to be seen.

*Ornithology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

PROPERTIES AND USES OF DRUGS—Henry H. Rusby, A. Richard Bliss, and Charles W. Ballard—*Blakiston*, 823 p., \$6.50. A text book for the student of pharmacy which will be useful to the practising pharmacist as well. The book appears to be full and well arranged. The appendices deal with some of the things besides drugs often called for at drug stores, particularly in country and suburban stores. These are insecticides, parasitocides, fungicides, sick room supplies and utensils, and a table of doses of the drugs commonly used in veterinary practice for domestic animals.

*Pharmacology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

WHY BE AN EVOLUTIONIST?—H. F. Cleland—*Coward-McCann*, 73 p., \$1.50. The apologia of a modern scientist who is also a religious man. His efforts at the synthesis of an acceptable universe out of the not yet completely reconciled masses of evidence will doubtless help many other minds who find themselves at the same perplexing crossroads.

*Evolution*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

LOVE IN THE MACHINE AGE—Floyd Dell—*Farrar and Rinehart*, 428 p., \$3.50. A leading novelist infuses with warm human sympathy the fundamentals of human relations in this new civilization. With his viewpoint, too often lacking in research reports, he has made a thorough and scholarly survey of the sciences which deal with human behavior. His documented sources include the modern classics of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, the Russel Sage Foundation, and those pioneers who have dared, despite presidents of Missouri, to investigate sex. Following the signposts in many fields, he finds them all pointing to a goal of attainable happiness in work and love of one's own choosing. The new order is opposed to careers and marriages forced upon the young by the now obsolescent patriarchal system. And conversely, he finds that most of our social failures, anxieties and futilities result from the drag of the patriarch's dead hand on our modern world.

*Philosophy*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

UR OF THE CHALDEES—C. Leonard Woolley—*Scribners*, 208 p., \$2.50. Mr. Woolley has already given us a pocket history of the people of Ur in "The Sumerians." Here is a pocket record of the excavations at Ur during the past seven years, intended for popular consumption. Work at this exceptionally interesting city has been carried forward to such a point that Mr. Woolley can write with graphic detail of "The Beginnings of Ur, and the Flood," "The Graves of the Kings of Ur," and so on down to "Nebuchadnezzar and the Last Days of Ur."

*Archaeology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

MOSS FLORA OF SOUTHEASTERN WASHINGTON: PARTS 1 AND 2—G. N. Jones—*State Coll. of Washington* (50c each). These two pamphlets together make a brochure that will be very useful to bryologists.

*Botany*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

ANNUAL REPORT—*The Commonwealth Fund*, 99 p. An account of the activities in education, public health, mental hygiene, etc., undertaken by the Fund for the year ending in September, 1929. Of special interest to educators and public health and social workers.

*Sociology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

## First Glances at New Books—Continued

**MODERN SCIENCE: A GENERAL INTRODUCTION**—J. Arthur Thomson—*Putnam*, 365 p., \$3.50. The master of popular presentation of natural science in Britain here gives us a book that will be of immense value both to students in general survey courses in colleges and to the adult reader whose education did not stop with his graduation a few years back. It begins, like Genesis, with chaos, and shows in clear and diagrammatic fashion how order has arisen and wherein order consists. The latter point, often left unexamined by writers of popular cosmogonies and phylogenies, is the real salt of the book.

*General Science*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**GEOLOGY AND WATER RESOURCES OF THE MOKELUMNE AREA, CALIFORNIA**—H. T. Stearns, T. W. Robinson and G. H. Taylor—*U. S. Government Printing Office*, 402 p., \$1.25. Of interest to economic geologists, irrigation engineers, etc.

*Geology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**CONTRIBUTION TO THE TAXONOMY OF ASIATIC WASPS OF THE GENUS TIPHIA (SCOLIIDAE)**—H. W. Allen and H. A. Jaynes—*U. S. National Museum*. Of interest to systematic entomologists.

*Entomology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**DEATH VALLEY**—Bourke Lee—*Macmillan*, 210 p., \$4. All that a lot of us know about Death Valley is that it is an exceedingly dry and hot place, where a number of men "went west" in the old days because they undercalculated their water needs. Some of us have also seen pictures of a twenty-mule team hauling borax or something. But Death Valley is coming to life. Tourists are going in there in ever-increasing numbers, and one of these days we're going to see a movement to make the place a national park. This book will give the reader some hint of the fascination exercised by the Valley over those who have known it in the old days that do not return.

*Geography—Natural History*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**LANDSCAPING THE HOME GROUNDS**—L. W. Ramsey—*Macmillan*, 166 p., \$2. Whether you have a big house, a little house or a middle-sized house, this book will contain some hints and pictures that will help you to make your house a pleasanter place to live in.

*Landscape Architecture*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**DEAD TOWNS AND LIVING MEN**—C. Leonard Woolley—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 259 p., \$2. When Mr. Woolley visited America following his discoveries at Ur of the Chaldees, he found himself answering questions about how he works at digging up buried civilizations, whether it is exciting, how an archaeologist knows where to dig for his particular kind of treasure, and so on, endlessly. Mr. Woolley had some time ago written just this sort of informal account of himself in order to amuse his fellow war prisoners in a Turkish prison camp. So he has decided "to risk the success of an American edition," and here it is. The adventures are from his digging in Italy, Egypt, and the Hittite country.

*Archaeology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**REPORT, 1927-28, ROTHAMSTED EXPERIMENTAL STATION**—D. J. Jeffery, Harpenden, England (2s. 6d.). A summary of the activities for a year at the world's pioneer agricultural experiment station.

*Agriculture*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**THE AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM**—Albert Kuntz—*Lea and Febiger*, 569 p., \$7. An unusually fine book on an important subject. The treatment is concise but comprehensive. There is a valuable bibliography of 60 pages. The book is not intended for the lay reader.

*Neurology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**SAFETY EDUCATION IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS**—Herbert James Stack—*National Bureau of Casualty and Surety Underwriters*, 157 p., \$1.75. A review of the problem and methods, for teachers and administrators.

*Education—Safety*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**CIRCLING AFRICA**—Isabel Anderson—*Marshall Jones Co.*, 271 p., \$4. Mrs. Larz Anderson has written a chatty account of her travels in Africa as member of a special cruise party. The book is profusely illustrated.

*Travel*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**ORDOVICIAN TRILOBITES OF THE FAMILY TELEPHIDAE AND CONCERNED STRATIGRAPHIC CORRELATIONS**—E. O. Ulrich—*U. S. National Museum*. Of interest to geologists and paleontologists.

*Geology—Paleontology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**PAWNEE MUSIC**—Frances Densmore—*U. S. Government Printing Office*, 129 p., 90c. This Bulletin number 93 of the Bureau of American Ethnology is the seventh of a group of publications on the music of different tribes, by Miss Densmore. The previous studies, she explains, have included no tribe in which ceremonialism is so highly developed as among the Pawnee. Following the plan of the series, the music and words of the songs are given, with a musical analysis, and in addition an explanation of the circumstances in which each song was used, or any other interesting facts about it.

*Ethnology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN TREES AND SHRUBS**—J. E. Kirkwood—*Stanford Univ. Press*, 340 p., \$7.50. With all the writing on the systematic botany of the Rocky Mountain region—most of it competent and authoritative—there is still room for a well-done job of this kind. Without going into detailed examinations of special points, it can be said with confidence that this book will be found highly useful both in the field and in the herbarium and laboratory.

*Botany*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**INSOMNIA**—Joseph Collins—*Appleton*, 131 p., \$1.50. This small book of practical advice to the layman will be eagerly welcomed by those who suffer from that distressing condition, inability to sleep.

*Medicine*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**ASIA: AN ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY**—L. D. Stamp—*Dutton*, 616 p., \$8. An excellent presentation of the physical and economic aspects of the great continent that is due to play an increasingly important part in the world's history during the coming generation.

*Geography*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**EDUCATIONAL BIOLOGY**—John C. Johnson—*Macmillan*, 360 pp., \$3. A textbook in biology especially adapted for teachers' colleges and university schools and colleges of education.

*Biology*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930

**ALONG THE SHORE**—Eva L. Butler—*John Day*, 102 p., \$1.25. A simple little book illustrated with simple little outline drawings, that should be useful to elementary teachers and their pupils in regions accessible to the seashore.

*Nature Study*  
*Science News-Letter*, April 26, 1930