

FIRST GLANCES AT NEW BOOKS

A CENTURY OF EXPLORATION AT NINEVEH—R. Campbell Thompson and R. W. Hutchinson—*Luzac and Co., London*, 146 p., 7s 6d. This might be called the modern history of Nineveh. It is the record, not of a sequence of kings, but of archaeologists. Each during his "reign" at the mounds that represent the ruins of the city has restored some of the ancient life of Assyria's civilization. The record abounds in detail, which increases its value to the archaeologist. The non-specialist reader who has sufficient patience and interest in the subject to follow through so complete a story of a single site will be rewarded by feeling better acquainted with archaeological aims and procedures.

Archaeology

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

ANIMAL HABITS—C. E. Brown—*Philadelphia Zoological Garden*, 64 p., 25c. A most interesting booklet about the reptiles, birds and mammals of the Philadelphia Zoo, well illustrated with halftones of some of the more striking specimens.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

EVOLUTION—E. W. MacBride—*Cape and Smith*, 122 p., 60c. In this little book, Prof. MacBride most praiseworthy avoids the scientific dogmatism into which many other writers fall when they try to set forth the doctrine of evolution in brief compass for the layman. He presents such positive knowledge as we have in clear and understandable form, and frankly faces the lacunae. And at the end he tactfully bows the vexed question of the evolution of mind over to the philosopher and the psychologist—an example which might profitably be followed by other zoologists, unless they happen to be philosophers themselves.

Evolution

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

STUDIES OF COMMON FISHES OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER AT KEOKUK—R. E. Coker—*U. S. Bureau of Fisheries*, 225 p., 50c. The erection of the great Mississippi dam at Keokuk raised a number of problems for fisheries men, and in the course of the study of these a good deal of valuable information about the fishes of the great river was accumulated. This is incorporated into the present document and is now offered to the public.

Ichthyology

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

FOUNDATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH—Leonardo Bianchi, translated by G. A. Barricelli—*Appleton*, 277 p., \$2.50. One of Italy's best known psychiatrists, who died in 1927, put into this book his views on alcoholism, the penal system, sex education, religious education, and various mental hygiene subjects. In his vigorous, direct style he sets forth his aim: "I write . . . to dislodge indifference to the momentous subject of eugenics, to lay open to the public conscience the dangers of bad habits and of certain defects of our present school system, to call attention to the responsibility of the Government, to fan the fires of the inexhaustible energies of our race which now lie sleeping under the ashes of inertness, of ignorance, and of old customs. I write for the invigoration of our spirits and for the discipline of our lives in health, in strength, in new religion, in beneficent liberty."

Mental Hygiene

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

BIG TREES—Walter Fry and J. R. White—*Stanford*, 114 p., \$2. This is the story of the trees that, having marched around the world in the course of the ages, finally have made their last stand on the western slope of California's Sierra Nevada Range. The life history of the trees, based on many years' actual study on the ground, facts regarding their tremendous size, and what may be called their human history—the facts of their discovery, the long fight for their preservation from the lumber interests, etc.—all are presented in this volume. An interesting compilation contained in Big Trees is a list of the various groves of sequoias in California. Seventy-one groves in all are listed.

Dendrology

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

ELEMENTS OF ELECTRICITY—Anthony Zeleny—*McGraw-Hill*, 438 p., \$3. Students who use Prof. Zeleny's text will be fortunate, since he has combined with the necessary textbook presentation much history, background and handbook data. One useful feature of the book is "A Note to The Student," which tells what the student must know before he can undertake the study of the textbook and how he may best expend his energy during his course.

Electricity

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

A TEXTBOOK OF ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY—Z. P. Metcalf—*Lea and Febiger*, 392 p., \$4. A book for college students, giving the main facts from every angle about animals that materially affect our lives, whether as sources of food, clothing or industrial materials; as parasites within or upon ourselves or our domestic animals and plants; as predators, poisoners, or pests. In addition to its direct use in courses on economic zoology, this book should be valuable as a side reference work in putting more juice into general biology courses.

Zoology

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

ELECTROPLATING WITH CHROMIUM, COPPER AND NICKEL—Benjamin Freeman and Frederick G. Hoppe—*Prentice-Hall*, 202 p., \$5. A manual meeting an insistent demand for information concerning the process of chromium plating, which has become increasingly popular since its commercial introduction about four years ago for furnishing a surface of extreme hardness and brilliant luster. Copper and nickel plating are also described because one must form a basis for chromium.

Chemistry

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY DISEASES—W. A. Billings—*Macmillan*, 504 p., \$3.50. Prof. Billings has done a very serviceable job in getting such a substantial mass of information and practical suggestion about the diseases of animals and their treatment into one solid volume. It will be useful as a text for the student of animal husbandry and veterinary medicine, and as a reference book for his shelves after he has graduated and gone to work.

Veterinary Medicine

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930

THE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CONTROL OF MALARIA IN PALESTINE—Israel J. Kligler—*University of Chicago Press*, 231 p., \$5. This monograph by the director of the department of hygiene of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem, will be extremely interesting and valuable to epidemiologists. The book includes social, economic and historic aspects of malaria in a complete account of the situation in the Holy Land.

Public Health

Science News-Letter, May 31, 1930