

• First Glances at New Books

Marine Biology

NONSUCH: LAND OF WATER—William Beebe—*Brewer, Warren and Putnam*, 259 p., \$3.50. Will Beebe seems to be happiest when he is thoroughly wet, achieving as close an amphibious kinship with the creatures of the sea as is given to a land-living, air-breathing vertebrate. In this new book he captures the reader, as he usually succeeds in doing, and takes him into the tide-pools and lagoons with him, to see the interesting and charming creatures that are at home in Bermudan waters.

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Anthropology

PLAINS INDIAN PARFLECHE DESIGNS—Leslie Spier—*Univ. of Washington Press*, 25 p., 35c. Drawings of 167 Indian designs on parfleche—envelopes made of folded rawhide. The illustrations now published are a supplement to "An Analysis of Plains Indian Parfleche Decoration," which appeared in 1925, as one of the University of Washington Publications in Anthropology.

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Ornithology

HOW TO SEE BIRDS—E. F. Daglish—*Morrow*, 128 p., \$1.50. A conveniently pocket-sized book, with illustrations in black and white. It does not undertake to identify the birds, but rather gives suggestions on how to seek them and how to get them to come to you.

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Evolution

EVOLUTION AND THEOLOGY—Ernest C. Messenger—*Macmillan*. 313 p., \$2.50. The Catholic Church has never taken an "official" position on the subject of evolution as such, and there is no indication that it is likely to do so. Individual Catholic opinion ranges from the definitely evolutionary position of such men as Dordodot and Wassmann to the extreme anti-evolutionism of McCann. The present author, an evolutionist, examines the problem strictly from the theological point of view, and finds much support among the Fathers, notably St. Ephrem, St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Basil in the East, as well as St. Augustine in the West. Within the Church, the book, bearing as it does full permission of ecclesiastical authorities, is bound to have much effect through the use which may be anticipated for it as a text and reference volume in the seminaries. Among secular

scientists, it will be exceedingly useful for its full quotations and intelligent comment on early evolutionary speculations which are of necessity treated somewhat sketchily in such works as Osborn's "From the Greeks to Darwin".

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Biology—Philosophy

LIFE IN NATURE—James Hinton—*Dial Press*. 291 p., \$3. A vigorous nineteenth century thinker's essay on the nature and meaning of life, resurrected, edited and given a foreword by Havelock Ellis. Hinton's views were doubtless somewhat shocking in their day; now they appear rather conventional—the times have caught up with him.

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Astrophysics

ANNALS OF THE ASTROPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, VOL. V—C. G. Abbot, L. B. Aldrich and F. E. Fowle—*Smithsonian Institution*, 295 p., 11 pl. The present volume sums up the progress of a decade in the Smithsonian Institution's very important study of the physical behavior of the sun, describes new instruments and improvements in old ones, and gives extensive tables of data.

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Botany

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, FIFTH INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS—Edited by F. T. Brooks and T. F. Chipp—*Cambridge University Press*. 680 p., \$7. This book makes a permanent record of the proceedings of the Fifth International Botanical Congress held at Cambridge, England, in 1930. To American botanists who attended, and even more to those who stayed at home, its appearance will be most welcome. It is a monument to the two Secretaries of the Congress whose unstinted labor made it possible.

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Bibliography

BOOKLIST BOOKS, 1931—*American Library Association*. 58 p. 65c. A list of the best books of the past year, arranged conveniently by subject.

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Horticulture

PLANNING AND PLANTING THE HOME GARDEN—Pauline Murray—*Orange Judd*, 412 p., \$3.50. Anyone in search of a single book that will tell how to accomplish the successful marriage of a house to a lot to make a home will not need to look further than this volume. It lays the principal stress where the stress should be laid, on planning the garden; it gives good little sketches of lay-outs and garden accessories; it is lavish with its illustrations of successful home gardens.

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Archaeology

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PALESTINE AND THE BIBLE—William Foxwell Albright—*Revell*, 233 p., \$2. The Richards Foundation Lectures given by Dr. Albright at the University of Virginia are the basis of this volume. The book is, therefore, a "college course," not of the comprehensive, cramming type, but a general cultural course. Dr. Albright devotes considerable space to the unearthing of a single Biblical city, the old Kirjath Sepher, where he himself has worked for a number of seasons. This site with its many layers of occupation gives the reader a particularly good idea of how the archaeologist unearths Bible history and the sort of evidence he finds.

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Agriculture

BALLIÈRE'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE—Edited by Herbert Hunter—*Ballière, Tindall and Cox (London)*. 1362 p. (in 2 vols), \$13. Prepared by a large group of specialists under the editorship of one of the foremost of English agricultural scientists, this new encyclopedic treatment of agriculture as it is practised in the British Isles will be highly valuable in American libraries as a reference book for purposes of comparison with methods and problems on this side of the ocean. Furthermore, many of the articles are not subject to the limitations of geographic location, but are valid for any part of the world. It is a work that must certainly find its way to the library shelves of all agricultural colleges.

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