

## • First Glances at New Books

### Botany

OLD AND NEW PLANT LORE—A Symposium—*Smithsonian Institution Series*. 390 p. Eight leading American botanists are authors of compact, yet understandable sections dealing with plant biology; plant systematics; plants of the sea, of the grasslands, of the desert; plants and radiant energy; maize; botanical exploration in South America. Like all its sister volumes in the Smithsonian series, the book is excellently illustrated.

*Science News Letter, June 4, 1932*

### Mathematics

THE MECHANICS OF THE CALCULUS—John Martin Barr—*The Integrator Co.* (Cleveland), 358 p., with integrator equipment (for educational institutions and students) \$25. The book is largely a text describing the use of the ruled, celluloid equipment. Together they constitute a "slide rule for calculus," to make calculus as ready a working tool for the engineer as numerical computation now is through the medium of the slide rule. The equipment interprets and visualizes calculus as analytical geometry explains algebra. With the spread of knowledge of its use, the practical engineer should have at his command for the solution of everyday problems mathematics which has heretofore been difficult for him to get at and make practical use of.

*Science News Letter, June 4, 1932*

### Forestry

TREES OF WASHINGTON—Erle Kauffman—*Outdoor Press, Washington, D. C.*, 90 p., \$1. George Washington loved trees, and was always planting new ones, so that Mount Vernon is dotted with fine specimens, some quite authentically his, others attributable to him with fair credibility. The great city which is his namesake is Washingtonian in its wealth of trees as in its architectural classicism. This little book brings into one place, in readable popular form, much information about Washington's trees and the Washington trees.

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### Radio-Education

RADIO AND EDUCATION 1931—Edited by Levering Tyson—*Univ. of Chicago*, 271 p., \$3. With the increasing place that radio is playing in education, both in and out of the schoolroom, more serious consideration is being

given to the problem of making it an effective agent. The National Advisory Council on Radio in Education is one of the principal agencies in this work and this volume gives the proceedings of its 1931 meetings.

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### Metallurgy

THE BOOK OF METALS—Donald Wilhelm—*Harper*, 341 p., \$4. Concise chapters of this book cover each of the principal common metals, iron, wrought iron, cast iron, steel, alloy steel, aluminum, copper, brass, bronze, nickel, zinc, lead, tin, gold, silver, platinum. The book is written in collaboration with corporations, associations and metallurgists representing the various industries producing the metal.

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### Nature Study

OUTDOOR VISITS—Edith M. Patch and Harrison E. Howe—*Macmillan*. 212 p., 84c. The second book in the new Macmillan series, Nature and Science Readers. These books are skilfully written for very young readers, and well illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings. There are also a few attractive color plates.

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### General Science

TURTOX SERVICE LEAFLETS—*General Biological Supply House*, free to teachers. Although issued by a commercial biological supply house, these leaflets are not primarily aimed at sales promotion. They give useful practical suggestions on such subjects as making insect collections, building herbaria, etc. To date, 45 of these leaflets have been published.

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### General Science

REPORT OF THE CENTENARY MEETING—*British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 630 p., 25s. The reports of annual meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science are notable summaries of science, and this volume of the Centenary Meeting at London, 1931, is no exception. In addition to the usual presidential addresses and the journal of the meeting, containing abstracts of various papers, there is printed in full the important symposium on the evolution of the universe.

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### Aeronautics

A GENERAL TEXT ON AERONAUTICS—Hilton F. Lusk—*Ronald Press*, 420 p., \$3.25. Written to provide a text for a general course of aeronautics in technical institutes, junior colleges, technical high schools, and aviation ground schools, there is included the kind of information that the Aeronautics Branch of the Department of Commerce expects airplane pilots to learn at ground schools.

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### Psychology

HISTORY OF PSYCHOLOGY IN AUTOBIOGRAPHY, Vol. II—Ed. by Carl Murchison—*Clark University Press*, 407 p., \$5. The influence of men on the progress of science is so important that a work like this has rare value. Several nations and many differing fields of interest are represented in this second volume of a series which is to comprise four with additions every three or four years.

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### Animal Biography

LIVES—Gustav Eckstein—*Harpers*, 216 p., \$2.50. Not much biology in these accounts of individual animal lives (including one Portuguese gardener so much of the soil he would never have resented the inclusion); but a great deal of sympathy and understanding, and a certain amount of honest sentiment. Surely this is a book that the Little Poor Man would have permitted his followers to own, thought he forbade them possession of so much as a breviary!

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### Aeronautics

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AERONAUTICS, 1930—Paul Brockett—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 261 p., 50c (paper cover). A continuation of references to aeronautical literature, arranged in alphabetic and dictionary form and issued by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics each year.

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### General Science

LISTS OF ESSENTIAL APPARATUS FOR USE IN HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCES—T. C. Holy and D. H. Sutton—*Ohio State University*, 32 p., 75c. As the result of this study, it is found that the approximate cost of essential apparatus used in the teaching of biology, chemistry, general science and physics amounts to nearly \$5,000 per high school. Teachers in thirty-five of the forty-eight states were consulted in making up the list.

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