# First Glances at New Books

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## Physics

RAMBLING THROUGH SCIENCE—A. L. De Leeuw—McGraw-Hill, 320 p., \$2.50. An engineer looks at the new physics, and tells what he sees in language comprehensible and vivid, though not "written-down." There are also brief excursions into physiology, astronomy and a few other fields. The book is not planless, but the plan is very pleasantly informal.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## General Science

THE EARTH AND LIVING THINGS—Gerald S. Craig and Beatrice Davis Hurley –Ginn, 308 p., 76c. An exceptionally well planned and well written textbook for young beginners in science. The illustrations, especially important in a book designed for a junior audience, are well chosen and pertinent. Especially to be commended is the addition of an index, and a section telling the pupil how to use it.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Comparative Anatomy

STRUCTURE OF THE VERTEBRATES—M. E. Little—Long and Smith, 392 p., \$3. An excellently arranged, cleanly illustrated textbook in comparative vertebrate anatomy.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Medical Economics

MIDWIVES, CHIROPODISTS AND OPTO-METRISTS: THEIR PLACE IN MEDICAL CARE—Louis S. Reed—University of Chicago Press, 70 p., \$1. Publication of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care. The Committee has included a study of these secondary practitioners because of the increasingly large part they are taking in furnishing medical care to the general public. Midwifery is a very old type of service, while the other two are comparatively new. All three are striving to improve their standards and to attain the status of recognized practitioners of medical specialties. Efforts and attainments in these directions are described in the report.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Physiology

A TEXTBOOK OF HUMAN PHYSIOL-OGY FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS—August Krogh—Lea and Febiger, 233 p., \$2.75. Revised and edited by Katherine R. Drinker. This concise text was designed for Danish boys and girls of 16 to 18 years who were preparing for the University. The American edition has been rearranged for use by slightly older, college-age students. The book is completed by nearly a hundred laboratory experiments. It should be a useful text for introductory courses in the subject.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Biochemistry

ANNUAL REVIEW OF BIOCHEMISTRY—Edited by J. M. Luck—Stanford Univ. Press, 724 p., \$5. This is the initial volume of a series which will undertake to "present from year to year reviews of the current developments in from twenty-five to thirty of the major fields of interest".in a field that has been growing so rapidly that keeping up with its journal literature has become a simply hopeless task. For an opportunity to get the meat of a year's progress, even in a fairly thick volume, hundreds of biochemists, physiologists, and workers in allied fields will surely rise up and call the editor blessed.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Hygiene

HEALTH AND ITS MAINTENANCE—Bertha Stuart Dyment—Stanford University Press, 472 p., \$3.50. An interesting and valuable feature of this comprehensive text for college women is the chapter on mental hygiene, written by Catherine Cox Miles of the psychology department of Stanford University The text should be successful—the author seems to understand her readers and to know how to appeal to them. For instance, she takes time to give a brief discussion of wrinkles and facial massage.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Ethnology

Sorcerers of Dobu—R. F. Fortune -Dutton, 318 p., \$5. Writing the introduction to this volume, Prof. Bronislaw Malinowski hails it as "a triumph for anthropology," pointing out that the study was made in the relatively short time of six months by a specialist, unaided by any white resident, and untrammeled by hearsay information. Dr. Fortune states that his aim was to add to the knowledge of the people of this New Guinea region, where a number of specialized studies of certain groups have already been made. The important role of magic and sorcery in the life of the Dobuans is the most striking feature of the book.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Archaeology

THE LURE AND LORE OF ARCHAEOLOGY—Ralph Van Deman Magoffin—Williams and Wilkins, 107 p., \$1. In a series of vivid little essays, Prof. Magoffin describes the aims and fascination of archaeology, its technique and its obligations. The middle section of the book deals briefly with some of the notable discoveries that have been made in Egypt, Greece, Palestine, and other countries.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Neurology

THE PRINCIPAL NERVOUS PATHWAYS—Andrew Theodore Rasmussen—Macmillan, 73 p., \$2.50. The charts and diagrams in this book are based on many years' experience in teaching neurological anatomy to second-year medical students at the University of Minnesota. The book is designed to present the subject in as simple and efficient a manner as possible, bearing in mind the crowded curriculum of modern medical schools. Each chart is accompanied by explanatory text.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Ornithology

LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN GALLINACEOUS BIRDS—A. C. Bent—Govt. Print. Off., 490 p., 93 pl., \$1. Accounts of birds of the orders Galliformes and Columbiformes, of interest to conservationists, game administrators and game farmers as well as to specialists in bird biology.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Ethnology

Notes on the Fox Wapanowiweni — Truman Michelson — Government Printing Office, 195 p., 35c. After describing some of the Fox Indian ceremonials, Dr. Michelson gives four Indian texts and English translations dealing with the Wapanowiweni rites. Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Medical Economics

A SURVEY OF THE MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE STATE OF VERMONT—Allon Peebles—University of Chicago Press, 321 p., \$1.50. A publication of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care. This report gives a complete, accurate picture of the medical situation in Vermont as regards the general public, physicians, dentists, public health officials, pharmacists and hospital superintendents.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## • First Glances at New Books

History

THE PEOPLE OF ANCIENT ISRAEL—Dorothy Mills—Scribner's, 192 p., \$1.75. A book for young people by a teacher of ancient history. One worthwhile achievement of this little informal history is that it makes clear the place of the Bible characters in the history and geography of Palestine. Miss Mills draws vivid pictures of the life and customs of the Bible world. Maps, historic charts, and reference lists are provided.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Ethnology

MENOMINEE MUSIC—Frances Densmore—Govt. Print. Off., 230 p., 27 pl., 80c. Another of Miss Densmore's careful studies of the music of Indian tribes. Enlisting the coöperation of singers on the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, Miss Densmore has recorded 140 songs which are published and analyzed in this volume. The publication also contains a description of a number of the games, dances, legends, and rites which are associated with music in this tribe.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Geography

LIVING GEOGRAPHY, Book I Part I -Ellsworth Huntington, C. Beverley Benson, Frank M. McMurry-Macmillan, 346 p., 28 colored maps, 92c. "How Countries Differ" is the subtitle of this very modern text, which aims to give the child as broad a knowledge of the world as he can grasp. This aim is achieved these days, not by encyclopedic lessons on the countries in orderly succession, but by building a geography text around a central theme. Forms of village life and fundamental occupations are the hub idea of this text. The child compares ancient methods of living and ancient ideas of the world with the modern. A large portion of the book is devoted to the exploration of America.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Geography

LIVING GEOGRAPHY, Book II Part I—Ellsworth Huntington, C. Beverley Benson, Frank M. McMurry—Macmillan, 506 p., 38 colored maps, \$1.12. "Why Countries Differ" is the subtitle of this text, which follows the book described in the previous review. The countries considered are all in North America. Importance of climate and other features of physical geography are stressed. From his study of villages and

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simple occupations in the preceding book, the child advances in this one to the study of cities, manufacturing, transportation and commerce.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Nature Study

NATURE RAMBLES: SUMMER—O. P. Medsger—Warne, 160 p., \$2. A companion volume to the author's Nature Rambles: Spring reviewed in the Science News Letter some time ago. Its appearance now, just on the threshold of summer, is most timely: without question it will become the guide of many a vacationer and many summer-camp lads and their leaders.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Bacteriology

BACTERIA, YEASTS AND MOLDS IN THE HOME—H. W. Conn—Ginn, 320 p., \$1.60. This third edition has been revised by Harold J. Conn. The book is intended for students of home economics and also for the practicing housewife. The sections on refrigeration, canning and disease spread have been extensively revised. An appendix gives laboratory experiments.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Ethnology-Art

Introduction to American In-DIAN ART, 2 Vols.—Part I by John Sloan and Oliver LaFarge; Part II by Herbert J. Spinden and others—Exposition of Indian Tribal Arts, \$2.25. It is not necessary to see the Exposition of Indian Tribal Arts to enjoy and profit by these essays. In the first part, two authors tell what the Indian is trying to do when he, or she, makes a silver chain, a blanket or a bowl. They point out what is good so clearly that the reader cannot help seeing the difference between the real Indian art and the cheap Indian-made gimcracks demanded by certain elements of tourist Fine illustrations, many in trade. color, point the morals and adorn the pages. Part II by a number of scientists, artists, and other specialists takes up Indian arts, in more detail. A carping critic might lament the absence of an index or table of contents.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

Psychology

FOUNDATIONS OF ABNORMAL PSY-CHOLOGY-Fred A. Moss and Thelma Hunt-Prentice-Hall, 548 p., \$4.50. The authors believe that previous textbooks on this subject have, as a rule, "ignored the contributions that the sciences of chemistry, bacteriology, and neurology have made to an understanding of mental diseases." They have attempted, in this volume, to fill this lack. Mental disorders are divided by them into two classes—those which are caused by known pathological conditions resulting from certain bodily disturbances, and those for which the cause is unknown. Psychoanalysis and the theories of Freud are dismissed briefly as unscientific and "untrammeled imagination," and are likened to the advertising of certain popular cigarettes.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

#### Ethnology

DESIGN AREAS IN OCEANIA—Herbert W. Krieger—Smithsonian Inst. 53 p., 33 pl. To explain the art of primitive men it is necessary to tell a good deal about the men themselves, their customs and artifacts. Hence, this study, with its wealth of ethnological detail, is considerably more than a discourse on primitive art designs. The illustrations that follow the text provide a striking exhibit of the varied arts of the "island world."

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Medical Economics

THE COSTS OF MEDICINES — C. Rufus Rorem and Robert P. Fischelis—University of Chicago Press, 250 p., \$2.50. Publication of the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care which gives the national bill for medicines and the factors that enter into it. This book contains more of interest to the general public than most of the Committee's publications.

Science News Letter, July 16, 1932

## Ornithology

THE BIRD BOOK—C. P. Shoffner—Stokes, 363 p., \$2. A non-technical book on birds, designed especially for Bird Club and similar junior work. A feature is a list of questions with each of the not-too-large chapters, each list followed by its set of answers.

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