

# • First Glances at New Books

## Zoology

INFANTS OF THE ZOO—E. G. Boulenger—*Dutton*, 144 p., plates, \$2.50. Babies are always interesting to most people; and that goes even when (or perhaps especially when) the infants are penguins or porcupines, tapirs or tigers. Animal photographs by Boulenger, of course, need no blurb.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Biology

BIOLOGY—Frederick L. Fitzpatrick and Ralph E. Horton—*Houghton Mifflin*, 611, xlv p., \$1.76. A text for high school use, which first introduces the student to the problems which living things must solve, and then proceeds to show some of the various methods of solution.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Science—Biography

A SCIENTIST IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC, SAMUEL LATHAM MITCHILL, 1764-1831—Courtney R. Hall—*Columbia Univ. Press*, 162 p., \$2.50. The life story of a many-sided man of learning, who saw the new Republic born and assisted in its early development.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Photography

ELEMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMISTRY—*Eastman Kodak Company*, 132 p., 50c. Compact text for the amateur which is companion book to several of the manuals on photography and taking pictures issued at various times by the same company. Worth having if one wishes to develop and print pictures.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Science

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS AND CONDITION OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1934—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 108 p., 15c.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Physics

EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS, A SELECTION OF EXPERIMENTS—G. F. C. Searle—*Macmillan*, 363 p., \$4.50. Dr. Searle has been demonstrator in physics at Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge, England, since 1888. This book, to which he refers as his "Odds and Ends" book, is a collection of laboratory experiments in mechanics, elasticity, surface tension, viscosity, heat and sound. Dr.

Searle ends his long career on Sept. 30 of this year. His present book offers his successors helpful hints on what must be done to take up his work at one of the most famous laboratories of the world.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Economics

SOCIAL INTEGRATION—Robert Frank—*Christopher Publishing House*, 199 p., \$1.75. The economic Utopia of the author presented in the form of "a brief fictional history of the United States during the period 1935-45."

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## Botany

THE GRAMINEAE—Agnes Arber—*Cambridge Univ. Press*, 480 p., \$8.50. A thorough-going treatise on practically all botanical aspects of the grasses, except the details of taxonomy: their history in botany and agriculture; morphology in great particular, by families; some aspects of ecology and genetics; 44 pages of bibliography. Not only specialists in agrostology but all botanists, especially teaching botanists, will want this book.

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## Zoology

A STUDY OF THE LIFE HISTORY AND FOOD HABITS OF MULE DEER IN CALIFORNIA—Joseph S. Dixon—*California Fish and Game*, 146 p., 25c. Throughout the whole western group of National Parks and National Forests the mule deer is the one ubiquitous element in the large-mammal population. It is especially valuable to naturalists, therefore, to have a study of this kind available.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Embryology

A HISTORY OF EMBRYOLOGY—Joseph Needham—*Cambridge Univ. Press*, 274 p., \$4. Of textbooks setting forth the present state of knowledge in the highly important field of embryology there is no end, but there has been a real need for a full and connected story of present knowledge developed: the ontogeny of embryology, one might say. This need is now excellently satisfied: a scholarly and well documented text, with numerous illustrations taken from the classics of the science.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Philosophy

I DO NOT KNOW—Samuel J. Blocker—*Meador Publishing Co.*, 164 p., \$2. An experienced teacher here undertakes to set forth, for a non-scientific audience, a compact but comprehensive statement of how much we know, and—of even more importance—how much lies beyond that we do not yet know, and may be a very long time finding out. This background his reflections on the significances of scientific knowledge, and its relations to thought, faith, and other phases of mental life.

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## Dairy Science

FUNDAMENTALS OF DAIRY SCIENCE—Associates of Lore A. Rogers—*Reinhold Publishing Corp.*, 616 p., \$6. American Chem. Soc. Monograph No. 41. The second edition of one of the most useful and successful, because one of the most thorough-going, books in the field of dairying.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Fiction

IN THE SEALED CAVE: A SCIENTIFIC FANTASY—Louis Herrman—*D. Appleton-Century*, 226 p., \$2. Gulliver visits the modern Mousterians, living in caves on a small island near the port of Smyrna, and thus provides the narrative vehicle for discussions of problems of living, society, arts, biology, religion and morals.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Medicine

THE BIOCHEMISTRY OF THE EYE—Arlington G. Krause—*Johns Hopkins Press*, 264 p., \$3.25. This monograph is a summary of what is now known of the biochemistry of the eye. It is of course far too technical for lay reading but will doubtless prove a valuable reference book for medical scientists.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

## Engineering

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 37TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING MATERIALS: Vol. 34, Part 1, Committee Reports, New and Revised Tentative Standards, Tentative Revisions of Standards; Part 2, Technical Papers—Pub. by *The Society*, Vol. 1, 1325 p., Vol. 2, 943 p. Each part \$5.50, paper cover; \$6, cloth; \$7, half leather.

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**Chemistry**

**MARVELS OF MODERN CHEMISTRY.** 2nd Ed.—Beverly L. Clarke—*Harper*, 374 p., \$2.50. In the publisher's announcement this book is "a general survey of all phases of chemistry, clearly and simply told for the lay reader." Fulfilling such broad claims is a difficult task for any man, but Dr. Clarke does a good job of it. Thirteen pages of index in small type make the book a possible reference source for non-technical readers.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

**Physics**

**ARISTOTLE, GALILEO, AND THE TOWER OF PISA**—Lane Cooper—*Cornell Univ. Press*, 102 p., \$1.50. The author, who is professor of English Literature at Cornell, has traced out the library sources on the oft-mentioned masterful experiment of Galileo at the Tower of Pisa. The truth of the historic test seems to be that Galileo performed not one single, startling experiment but worked on the research for many months, repeating it again and again.

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**Medicine**

**CLINICAL LABORATORY METHODS**—Pauline S. Dimmitt—*A. Davis*, 156 p., \$2. A handbook for medical students, internes and laboratory technicians.

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**Lapidary**

**GEMS, HOW TO KNOW AND CUT THEM**—H. L. Thomson—*Pub. by author, Los Angeles*, 26 p., 50c. Information for the layman on what makes gems valuable and other facts which everyone wants to know about precious stones.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

**Mathematics**

**PROGRESSIVE PLANE GEOMETRY**—Webster Wells and Walter W. Hart—*Heath*, 390 p., \$1.36. High school text designed to fit the varied needs of any class in geometry. There is a minimum, more advanced and a very advanced course all given in the same volume.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

**Chemistry**

**THE NITROGEN SYSTEM OF COMPOUNDS**—Edward Curtis Franklin—*Reinhold Publishing Corp.*, 339 p., \$7.50. An extensive summary of the nitrogen system of compounds and the way such compounds simulate in their properties and behavior the analogous compounds of oxygen. Thus, after water, ammonia is the one liquid which

has an outstanding place among the solvents. And potassium amide—derivative of ammonia in the same sense that potassium hydroxide is a derivative of water—shows all the properties of a base. Acetamide too, as a nitrogen analog of acetic acid, behaves like acetic acid. In the same way the book traces out other systems starting with the basic substances like methane. Volume 68 of the Monograph Series of the American Chemical Society.

*Science News Letter, February 16, 1935*

**Microscopy**

**POLARIZING MICROSCOPES**—*Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N. Y.*, 24 p., free.

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**Geography**

**OUR PLANET, THE BLUE BOOK OF MAPS**—*C. S. Hammond & Co.*, 239 p., \$5. A handy sized atlas plus a number of very attractive features, such as maps in historical perspective—France at different periods, Europe at different periods, ancient Athens, Rome, Jerusalem. Economic and population maps are another feature, and there are fact pages, such as a chronology of discovery voyages, which add to the interest and usefulness of the book.

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**Chemistry**

**HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY**—Comp. and ed. by Norbert A. Lange, Gordon M. Forker and Richard S. Burington—*Handbook Publishers*, 1265, 248, 29 p., \$6; special price to students and teachers, \$3. Entering the field now occupied by the widely used Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, Prof. Lange's volume concentrates on chemistry alone. The 1265 pages of information for chemists and those in other fields who want chemical facts are supplemented with 248 pages of mathematical appendix. Type style and size and the paper used in the printing make for easy reading.

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**General Science**

**MASTERY TESTS IN GENERAL SCIENCE, SETS X AND Y**—G. W. Hunter and R. A. Knapp—*American Book Co.*, Set X., 154 p., Set Y., 163 p., 40c. each.

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**Botany**

**THE BOTANICAL REVIEW**—Edited by H. A. Gleason and E. H. Fulling—*New York Botanical Garden*, Monthly, \$3 a year in U. S. and Canada; \$3.50 elsewhere. This new journal must be rated as one of the most significant of the additions to botanical literature within recent years. Its aim is not to present original contributions but rather to offer comprehensive summaries of recent progress in various fields of plant science. The papers presented in the first two numbers, by L. O. Kunkel, W. Seifriz, P. B. Sears and D. B. Anderson, set a standard that is at once an inducement to readers and a challenge to subsequent contributors.

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**Astronomy**

**MEN, MIRRORS, AND STARS**—G. Edward Pendray—*Funk and Wagnalls*, 339 p., \$3. Usefully inclusive and with a strong historical slant, this popular book by the science editor of the *Literary Digest* tells of the growth of astronomy from its early beginnings, describes the instruments used in observatories, and looks into the future. Amateur telescope-makers have a chapter of their own. There are lists of the world's largest telescopes and observatories in North America and the Southern Hemisphere.

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**Genetics**

**HEREDITY AND VARIATION**—L. C. Dunn—*University Society*, 120 p., cloth, \$1, paper, 65c. A brief text in the elements of genetics, suitable for college use or for the independent reader seeking general information.

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**Zoology**

**THE SKELETAL MUSCULATURE OF THE BLUE CRAB, CALLINECTES SAPIDUS RATHBUN**—Doris M. Cochran—*Smithsonian Institution*, 76 p., 35c.

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**Bibliography—Nature Study**

**NATURE EDUCATION, A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**—William Gould Vinal—*School of Education, Western Reserve Univ.*, 82 mimeographed leaves, 75c., plus postage.

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