

• First Glances at New Books

Exploration

THE UNTOLD STORY OF EXPLORATION—Lowell Thomas—*Dodd, Mead & Co.*, 333 p., \$3. Deliberately choosing to talk about the explorers that other writers have somewhat neglected, Mr. Thomas brings the attractiveness of novelty to his book. He tells of Joan Fernandez—no kith or kin of Juan Fernandez of Crusoe fame—who is pronounced really the first Robinson Crusoe. There is a tale of a Victorian gentlewoman, one Mary Kingsley, who went exploring West Africa and found cannibals less terrorizing than hansom cabs in traffic. There is "the greatest living explorer," and "the mystery of Lapérouse." Lively illustrations by Kurt Wiese add to the text.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Physics

THE CATHODE-RAY TUBE AT WORK—John F. Rider—Pub. by author, 1440 Broadway, New York—326 p., \$2.50. Theory and applications of the cathode ray tube for use of technicians in the industry. For its specialized field it stands where the many radio service men's handbooks stand in the field of radio and radio set repairing.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Mythology

THE WORLD OF MYTHS—Frank Chapin Bray—*Crowell*, 323 p., \$2. This little dictionary is aptly described by its author as a "Who's who in mankind's mythology." Briefly he sums up the career and identity of each noted figure and symbol. The familiar Greek and Roman gods and legendary heroes are here, but also those of Chinese, Egyptian, Persian, Hindu and Celtic myths, to name only a few. Primitive mythologies are not overlooked, from the Pacific Isles to Africa.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Ethnography

WINTU ETHNOGRAPHY—Cora Du Bois—*Univ. of California Press*, 147 p., \$1.75. A study of the cultural status of Indians of the hill country in northern California.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Food Legislation

FOODS AND THE LAW—Alexander P. Blanck—*Peter Smith*, 246 p., \$2.50. A lawyer explains in this volume the various United States laws dealing with foods and food products. The book is

simple enough for the layman to understand and should be helpful to the housewife as well as to retail grocers, wholesale food dealers, restaurant and hotel proprietors, camp directors or others buying foods in large quantities. Even the reader who does not have any direct concern with food purchasing, distributing or preserving will be interested in this clear explanation of the reasons behind court actions that frequently are reported and discussed in newspapers and current magazines.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Psychology

FOR STUTTERERS—Smiley Blanton and Margaret G. Blanton—*Appleton-Century*, 191 p., \$2. The authors state that this book is "not primarily for parents or for teachers, although certain chapters have been addressed to them; nor for physicians, although if they find it suggestive we shall be grateful. But it is for those people with the symptom called stuttering, whom we feel to have been too long neglected." The senior author is assistant professor of clinical psychiatry at Cornell University Medical College, and the book is written from the point of view of medical psychology.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Engineering

UNDERGROUND RAILWAYS—Vernon Sommerfield—*Thomas Nelson*, 116 p., \$1. Readable account of the origins and operation of London's subway system. For American consumption one would like to have a similar book on New York and other cities but in general the principles of operation are not greatly different in England and the United States.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Medicine

RADIUM TREATMENT OF SKIN DISEASES, NEW GROWTHS, DISEASES OF THE EYES, AND TONSILS—Francis H. Williams—*Stratford*, 118 p., \$2. The author gives the results of his thirty years' experience with radium. The book is for physicians, radiologists and students of related sciences.

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Science

THE NEXT HUNDRED YEARS: THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF SCIENCE—C. C. Furnas—*Reynal & Hitchcock*, 434 p., \$3. Brilliantly written popular survey of science from ability and abrasion to zoology and Zworykin. Because of its broad scope it naturally misses some things and treats topics discussed in brief fashion but the provocative style keeps the reader turning pages to see what comes next. The following statement discussing science and religion will illustrate the point. The four aces of modern popular celestial physics, Compton, Eddington, Jeans and Millikan, are willing to mix one part deity and one part data to make their hypotheses; but that does not prove anything except that their boyhoods were spent in religious atmospheres, as their biographies readily show.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Photography

TOURING THE ANCIENT WORLD WITH A CAMERA—C. G. Holme and W. Gaunt—*Studio*, 120 p., 73 illustrations, \$3.50 paper, \$4.50 cloth. Lovely and unusual camera studies and word pictures of Old World places—Genoa, for example, Istanbul, Rhodes, Damascus, Athens, and Giza. Following the book and its impressionistic accounts in order provides a tour of the main things that a tourist sees on a journey around the Eastern Mediterranean.

Science News Letter, January 11, 1936

Physiology

THE GROWTH OF THE SURFACE AREA OF THE HUMAN BODY—Edith Boyd—*Univ. of Minn. Press*, 145 p., \$5. A contribution to the study of anatomy and development, of value to scientists but too technical for lay reading.

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Photography

PHOTOGRAPHIC HANDBOOK—Sigmund Blumann—*Photo Art Publisher*, 183 p., cloth, \$1.50, paper, \$1. Compact volume giving information on the developing and printing of pictures, arranged for easy reference.

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