

• First Glances at New Books

Industrial Chemistry

MEN, MONEY AND MOLECULES—William Haynes — *Doubleday, Doran*, 186 p., \$1.50. Subtitled "Three hundred years of industrial chemistry in the United States," it includes particularly a record of America's great molecule-rearranging industries since the World War. We make more chemicals, measured either in tons or dollars, than are produced in Germany, England, France, Italy, Japan and Russia all added together. Since firms are named and statistics are given, the volume is useful to those interested in serious information. But this does not mean that it is not readable, for it is. Dedicated quite appropriately to Francis P. Garvan, president of the Chemical Foundation.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Juvenile Literature

TALKING WIRES — Clara Lambert—*Macmillan*, 72 p., \$2. A picture-book about one great and now well-nigh universally used invention, calculated to impress the youthful reader with the wonders and romance of telephony.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Ciphers

THE A B C OF SECRET WRITING—Col. Parker Hitt—*Puck Products Co.*, 36 p., \$1. The rudiments of breaking cipher messages of the substitution and transposition types. How to use letter frequency tables and figure out multiple alphabet ciphers. Just enough information is given to whet one's interest in the fascinating business of solving cryptograms.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Photography

PHOTOGRAPHIC ENLARGING—Franklin I. Jordan—*Folmer Graflex Corp.*, 224 p., \$3.50. Good and useful advice upon making big ones out of little ones, attractively illustrated.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

History of Science

THE BEGINNINGS OF PLANT HYBRIDIZATION — Conway Zirkle — *Univ. of Penn. Press*, 231 p., \$2.50. All modern agriculture and horticulture is based on hybridization; there is scarcely a field or garden herb, or orchard tree or berry, that is not a hybrid. Yet plant breeders, outside the experiment stations, usually know little more about the science that

underlies their technique than did Assyrian date growers or Romans caprifigging figs. For this reason, this meatily written, well illustrated history of plant hybridization should be in the hands not only of plant scientists (who can be taken for granted as readers) but also of practical seed growers and nurserymen.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

General Science

MEN AND MOUNTAINS—M. Ilin—*Lippincott Co.*, 330 p., \$2.50. Maxim Gorky in his preface calls this "a prose poem about what is actually happening at the present time." This is a spine-prickling exposition of man's struggle with nature. You may not agree with its economics—although you may—for the scene is the U. S. S. R. Would that we in America had more books as effective as this one! Making over deserts, creating new plants, making the map live, bridling rivers, doing something about the weather—these are among the epics told.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Bacteriology

THE QUESTION OF LIVING BACTERIA IN STONY METEORITES—Sharat Kumar Roy—*Field Museum of Natural Hist.*, p. 179-198, 20c. The author has repeated the experiments of Lippman, using the same technique and materials from the same meteorites. The results are negative.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Engineering

STRENGTH AND RELATED PROPERTIES OF WOODS GROWN IN THE UNITED STATES—L. J. Markwardt and T. R. C. Wilson—*Gov. Print. Off.*, 99 p., 22 tables, 25c. A discussion of the engineering properties of wood, with many tables; it will be useful to any one who has to do with timber structures.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Ichthyology

A NEW GENUS OF OPISTHOGNATHID FISHES—George S. Myers—*Smithsonian Institution*, 5 p., 5c.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Botany

POLLEN GRAINS, THEIR STRUCTURE, IDENTIFICATION AND SIGNIFICANCE IN SCIENCE AND MEDICINE—R. P. Wodehouse—*McGraw-Hill*, 574 p., \$6. There has not hitherto been a special book on the subject of pollens; and this one covers the field so thoroughly that there need not be another for a long time to come. It will be welcomed by botanists, both paleobotanists and those concerned with living plants, and also by physicians and pathologists struggling with the ever-growing problem of pollen allergies.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Education

THE SCHOOL IN THE CAMPS—Frank Ernest Hill—*Amer. Assn. for Adult Education*, 84 p., Free. A readable history of a novel venture in adult education—the educational program of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Poetry

CIRRUS FROM THE WEST — Paul Southworth Bliss—*Lakeside Press*, Chicago, 51 p., \$1.50. A new volume of verse from a poet who is building an increasing reputation as an interpreter of nature; illustrated, as previous ones have been, with woodcuts by Harold J. Matthews. The sky is very much over this little book, and winds that smell of the Prairies and the Plains.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Nature Study

TREES, STARS AND BIRDS—Edwin L. Moseley—*World Book Co.*, 410 p., 16 colored plates, \$1.60. Revised edition of a successful text for elementary schools.

Science News Letter, February 1, 1936

Traffic Regulation

COLLISIONS IN STREET AND HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION — Barry Mulligan—*Dorrance & Co.*, 310 p., \$3. Correction of price given incorrectly in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER of January 18, 1936.

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