

• First Glances at New Books

Physics

THE RESTLESS UNIVERSE—Max Born—*Harper*, 278 p., \$2.50. An outstanding "modern" physicist tries his hand at writing for the layman, with success. The intricacies of atomic and nuclear physics are described simply and pleasingly by the aid of simple examples, analogies and clever illustrations. Although a layman's book, it may be read with profit by a first-year graduate student to obtain the broad uncluttered picture of what physics is driving at in its new wave and quantum mechanics. The title comes from kinetic theory, not astronomy.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Conservation

AMERICAN CONSERVATION — Ovid Butler, Ed.—*American Forestry Assn.*, 144 p., \$2.50. A pictorial history of the struggling inceptions and the now mighty movement to place our forests, soil, wildlife, and mineral resources on a basis of use-without-destruction, told by one who has been active in the campaign since early days. The book will be welcomed by those who are already of the faith; and it is so attractively gotten up that it will attract the interest of many who are now indifferent and make converts of them.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Bibliography

FIVE HUNDRED BOOKS FOR COLLEGE MEN AND WOMEN—C. D. Thorpe, Carlton F. Wella and T. Hornberger—*George Wahr*, 30 p., 25c. The whole field of science is dismissed with seventeen items; it might have been helpful to have listed at least one book on each science. Fiction classics are well covered.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Juvenile

THE STORY BOOK OF WHEELS, SHIPS, TRAINS, AIRCRAFT—Maud and Miska Petersham — *Winston*, 128 p., \$2.50. The romantic history of transportation, well told for children in simple but vivid style, with plenty of illustrations in color. In a time when children's books are steadily improving, this book still stands out.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Public Safety

IF YOU'RE GOING TO DRIVE FAST—Ray W. Sherman—*Crowell*, 149 p., \$1. Based on the thesis that current campaigns for safe driving are aimed at

slow driving rather than good driving, the author gives some pointers which may be new to the latest crop of motorists. Speed, says the author, in itself is not dangerous; nor is slowness, in itself, safe. Without recommending faster driving, Mr. Sherman gives some straight-from-the-shoulder hints on how to travel fast and yet safely.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Astronomy

CONSIDER THE HEAVENS—Forest R. Moulton—*Doubleday Doran*, 332 p., \$3.50. Dr. Moulton knows his astronomy, he knows many of the bright passages in literature that have been lighted by the stars, and he has a command of a simple, vivid, popular style. His illustrations are as vivid and clean-cut as his textual presentation.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Anatomy

THE MYOLOGY OF THE TRUNK REGION OF SNAKES AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE FOR OPHIDIAN TAXONOMY AND PHYLOGENY—Walter Mosauer—*Univ. of California Press*, 50c.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Zoology

ELEPHANTS—W. W. Robinson, Drawings by Irene B. Robinson—*Harper's*, 43 p., \$1.75. Mr. Robinson writes with vigor and discrimination on a topic that fascinates everybody; the drawings measure up to the text in every way. Prehistoric elephants, working elephants, war elephants, circus elephants—if you take up this book you will find it hard to put it down without finishing it.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Biography

RENÉ BACHE, GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRANDSON OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN—Violet Biddle—*Dorrance & Co.*, 104 p., \$1.50. Biography of the Washington popular science writer, son of the Coast and Geodetic Survey Bache.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Bacteriology

THE BACTERIOLOGY OF TYPHOID, SALMONELLA, AND DYSENTERY INFECTIONS AND CARRIER STATES—Leon C. Havens—*Commonwealth Fund*, 158 p., \$1.75. This book is chiefly of interest to bacteriologists and laboratory workers, but the chapter on chronic carriers may be of interest to epidemiologists as well.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Biography

BIOGRAPHY OF PERCIVAL LOWELL—A. Lawrence Lowell—*Macmillan*, 212 p., \$3. Probably no astronomer in modern times stirred up more vehement discussion than did Percival Lowell with his advocacy of the Martian "canal" theory. While astronomers are even farther from conversion now than they were in his time, they yet acknowledge their indebtedness to Lowell for his subsequent work on the planets, crowned posthumously by the discovery of the planet Pluto at the observatory he founded. These and many other facts in his active life are here told by his brother, former president of Harvard University.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Astronomy

RESEARCH SURVEYS OF THE ORBITS AND PERTURBATIONS OF MINOR PLANETS 1 TO 1091—A. O. Leuschner—*Univ. of Calif. Press*, 519 p., \$4. (Contributions of the Berkeley Astronomical Dept., II). Notes and position tables on 1091 asteroids, of interest principally to working astronomers.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Medicine

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT, 1934—*Rockefeller Foundation*, 408 p., Free.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Radiology

MANUAL OF RADIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUE—L. R. Sante—*Edwards Bros.*, 206 p., \$4.50. A liberally illustrated manual for radiologists, X-ray technicians and physicians.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Engineering

INDEX TO A. S. T. M. STANDARDS AND TENTATIVE STANDARDS—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 159 p., Free by direct request to the Society Headquarters, 260 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Astronomy

HIGHLIGHTS OF ASTRONOMY—Walter Bartky; Photographs by Yerkes Observatory, Drawings by Chichi Lasley—*Univ. of Chicago Press*, 280 p., \$2.50. **STELLARSCOPE**, for use with above book, \$2. Clever and attractively-presented text book in elementary astronomy, designed for use in the University of Chicago's new Introductory General Course in the Physical Sciences. The Earth, Time, The

Sky, The Moon, Celestial Mechanics, The Solar System and the Sidereal Universe are the chapter headings. Discussion on the concepts of time are seldom found so clearly explained. Ingenious pen and ink drawings and diagrams provide illustrations that should intrigue any college freshman.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Eugenics

TOMORROW'S CHILDREN, THE GOAL OF EUGENICS — Ellsworth Huntington — *Wiley*, 139 p., \$1.25. Eugenics, heredity, birth control, sterilization, immigration, and standards of living are some of the topics included in this volume, which is written largely in question-and-answer style. The aim is to present "in simple but accurate language the main principles of eugenics and their application to social problems."

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Psychology

WORKBOOK IN PSYCHOLOGY—Carl Havelock Wedell — *Wiley*, 129 p., \$1.25. A student's workbook to accompany "Psychology, a Factual Textbook" by Boring, Langfeld and Weld. Each lesson includes suggestions for study, notes and explanations, and exercises.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Ornithology

THE MIGRATION OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS — Frederick C. Lincoln — *Govt. Print. Off.*, 72 p., 10c. A condensed but highly informative booklet that will have a wide range of uses. U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Circular No. 363.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Medicine

HEALTHFUL LIVING—Harold S. Diehl — *Whittlesey House*, 354 p., \$2.50. In simple, non-technical language, the author gives a wealth of information on health and how to maintain it. The subjects range from diet and exercise to mental health, sex, choosing a doctor and care of the teeth and eyes. The book might be read straight through or it might be kept on a special shelf for consultation as various health problems arise.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Nature Study

FARM ANIMALS — James Gilchrist Lawson—*Rand McNally*, 64 p., 10c. WILD ANIMALS—James Gilchrist Lawson—*Rand McNally*, 64 p., 10c. A pair of small natural history books, illustrated with halftones.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Medicine

THE PATIENT AND THE WEATHER, Vol. 1, Part 1—William F. Petersen—*Edwards Bros.*, 127 p., \$3.75. The always interesting question of the effect of the weather on man's physical and mental health has long been propounded. Within recent years medical scientists have given renewed attention to it. The author of this book has approached the subject from a new point of view and presents the findings of his extensive studies in a series of volumes, of which this is the first. Medical and public health scientists will be interested in his findings and their implication of new methods of treating some of the still-baffling diseases, among them mental disorders, that cannot be pinned down to a "germ" and treated with a vaccine. Meteorologists, too, will find the studies interesting. The lay reader, although also interested, would probably find the volumes rather heavy going, as they were of course primarily written for scientists.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

General Science

UNSOLVED PROBLEMS OF SCIENCE—A. W. Haslett—*Macmillan*, 316 p., \$2. People not specifically trained in science, or given only a dab-taste of it in a hurry somewhere along their path through school, are exposed to the temptation of believing it to be omniscient and infallible. Scientists of course know that not all the questions are answered yet—in fact, that hardly any of them are really satisfactorily answered yet; but it is a healthy thing to have a book like this, sticking to a sober scientific basis and abjuring all cheap de-bunking tricks, that points out the unanswered questions and their present respective likelihoods and unlikelihoods of finding answers.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Soil Science

TRANSACTIONS OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE, OXFORD, ENG., 1935, VOL. I—*Thomas Murby & Co., London*. 428 p. This volume consists of papers presented under the auspices of six commissions of the Congress, covering physics, chemistry, microbiology and other aspects of soil science.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Paleontology

INVERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY — Wm. H. Twenhofel and Robert R. Shrock—*McGraw-Hill*, 511 p., \$5. Solid with fact and logical scientific inference, well thought out and well arranged, this book will be highly useful to geologists in both laboratory and field. While it does not pretend to be a popularization of its subject, at least on the easy-reading level, it will hold fast the attention of the more serious reader who undertakes it, assuming a background of elementary zoology. And although the vertebrate paleontologist, with his dinosaurs and mammoths, has the easier time catching his audience, it is the invertebrate paleontologist who usually scores when a vexed problem of historical geology cries out for a critical index fossil.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Astronomy

WORLDS WITHOUT END—H. Spencer Jones—*Macmillan*, 329 p., \$3. The author is Astronomer Royal in Great Britain, so it is to be presumed he knows what he is talking about. That he can talk about it well, concisely and intelligibly will be discovered by the reader immediately he reads a paragraph or two. In a field that might at first glimpse seem rather crowded, it may be prophesied with confidence that this book will make its own place.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Plant Physiology

AERIAL FERTILIZATION OF WHEAT PLANTS WITH CARBON-DIOXIDE GAS—Earl S. Johnston—*Smithsonian Institution*, 9 p., 6 plates, 15c. (See *SNL*, Jan. 25, p. 56.)

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Geology

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND INDEX OF GEOLOGY AND WATER SUPPLY OF THE ISLAND OF OAHU, HAWAII—Norah D. Stearns—*U. S. Geological Survey, Hawaii, Honolulu*, 74 p.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Chemistry

PROCEEDINGS, Tomo IV — IXth International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry — *IX Congreso Internacional de Química Pura y Aplicada, Madrid, Spain*, 613 p.

Science News Letter, February 15, 1936

Science News Letter will secure for its subscribers any book or magazine in print which was published in the United States. Send check or money order to cover regular retail price (\$5 if price is unknown, change to be remitted) and we will pay postage in the U. S. When publications are free, send 10c. for handling. Address Book Dept., Science News Letter, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C.
