

• First Glances at New Books

Additional Reviews
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Gardening

GROW THEM INDOORS, A MANUAL OF HOUSE PLANTS AND THEIR CULTURE—Allen H. Wood—*Hale, Cushman & Flint*, 221 p., illus., \$1.75. The revival of interest in house plants makes this manual particularly timely. The most promising species and varieties are described in some detail, with many good halftone plates. Materials and methods for cultivation are also given thorough treatment, with line illustrations that combine diagrammatic instructiveness with attractiveness in design.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Vegetable Gardening

THE VEGETABLE GARDENER'S HOW BOOK—Chesla C. Sherlock—*Macmillan*, 286 p., illus., \$3. Chapters are arranged in alphabetical order, from Asparagus and Beans to Tomatoes and Turnips; then Part II repeats, for the Salad Garden, from Celeriac to Wong Bok (guess what that is!); finally Part III, for Fruits, from Apples to Strawberries. Each chapter is complete, giving information on times to plant and harvest, methods of cultivation, etc.; a very practical method of treatment all round.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Evolution

MAN IN THE MAKING—Thomas Graves—*Putnam*, 189 p., \$2.50. A statement on the front of the cover jacket says: "The real purpose of this work is to try to prove that man did not descend from the ape nor from any other branch of the lower animal kingdom, but has been 'Man in the Making' from the beginning of time, because the proportion of chemical elements in his make-up has always been different from any other animal of his time." The author practiced (simultaneously) law, pharmacy, and telegraphy; his thinking has been much influenced by an early acceptance of phrenology.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Biology

OUR WORLD OF LIVING THINGS—Elwood D. Heiss, Ellsworth S. Obourn, J. Gordon Manzer—*Webster*, 274 p., illus., \$1.08. A textbook for high school use, which poses questions, suggests experiments and observation-methods for finding their answers, and makes things clear by means of larger numbers of illustrations than are ordinarily found in elementary biological texts. It can do all this within the compass of its 274 pages

by giving them more than twice the spread of ordinary book pages; the volume is set up like a big, old-fashioned, two-column geography book.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

STATISTICAL MECHANICS, THE THEORY OF THE PROPERTIES OF MATTER IN EQUILIBRIUM (2d ed., rev. and enl.)—R. H. Fowler—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 864 p., \$14. Since the first edition of Prof. Fowler's well-known book back in 1929 there has been a revolution in the world of physical science. In the present volume the author catches up with the swiftly shifting scene and produces a most comprehensive treatise which fits the needs of the most advanced physicists and chemists. A "must" book for any departmental library and for those scientists who can afford it personally.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Chemistry

A. S. T. M. STANDARDS ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND LUBRICANTS—*American Society for Testing Materials*, 372 p., \$2.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Public Health

DISTRICT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, A STUDY OF ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING—Ira V. Hiscock—*Science Press*, 115 p., illus., 65c.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

LES ONDES HERTZIENNES ET LA STRUCTURE MOLÉCULAIRE: PT. 1; METHODES D'ÉTUDE DU SPECTRE HERTZIEN, 39 p., 10fr.; **PT. 2; ABSORPTION ET DISPERSION DANS LE SPECTRE HERTZIEN APPLICATIONS**, 63 p., 15fr.—R. Freymann—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

SPECTRES DE VIBRATION ET STRUCTURE DES MOLÉCULES POLYATOMIQUES—M. Radu Titeica—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*, 68 p., 18fr.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Radio

RADIO FIELD SERVICE DATA (2nd rev. ed.)—Alfred A. Ghirardi—*Radio & Technical Pub. Co.*, 448 loose leaves, \$2.50. A looseleaf book on radio service practice designed for ready reference and future expansion.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Chemistry

THE TECHNOLOGY OF PLASTICS; AN INTRODUCTION TO THE COMPOSITION, PREPARATION AND PROPERTIES OF COMMERCIAL PLASTIC MATERIALS FOLLOWED BY A DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANT, PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUE USED IN MOULDING THEM—Herbert W. Rowell—*Chemical Pub. Co. of N. Y.*, 206 p., illus., \$4. The lengthy title and subtitle of this book leave little to add except that it is British in origin and lacks American references.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Testing Materials

BOOK OF A.S.T.M. STANDARDS, 1936: PART I: METALS, 898 p., illus., cloth \$7.50, half leather, \$8.50; **PART II: NON-METALLIC MATERIALS**, 1477 p., illus., cloth \$7.50, half leather \$8.50—*American Society for Testing Materials*, set, cloth \$14, half leather \$16. Every three years the A.S.T.M. collects its adopted standard specifications, methods of testing, definitions and recommended practices; and publishes them. To engineers and applied scientists the book needs no commendation here on its basic usefulness. As always the subject index is complete and provides a way to dive into the mass of material and come up with the answer.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

LE CHAMP MOLÉCULAIRE DANS LES DIÉLECTRIQUES (LE SEL DE SEIGNETTE)—I. V. Kourtschatov—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*, 47 p., 12fr.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Documentation

MICROPHOTOGRAPHY: An Annotated Bibliography—Ralph H. Carruthers—*Science Service Document* 1006, 28 p., 40c as microfilm, \$1.50 as photoprints. This bibliography is issued as a Science Service Document in cooperation with the American Library Association Bulletin. It is modern, historical and international, arranged alphabetically by subject with no author index. The author is connected with the New York Public Library.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Chemistry

COUCHE DOUBLE. ÉLECTROCAPILARITÉ. SURTENSION—A. Froumkine—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*, 36 p., illus., 10fr.

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Medicine

EUGENICAL STERILIZATION, A REORIENTATION OF THE PROBLEM—Committee of the American Neurological Assn.—*Macmillan*, 211 p., \$3. So much has been written both for and against eugenical sterilization that this unbiased, critical review of the subject should be heartily welcomed and widely read. On finishing the book the reader will probably find himself agreeing with the recommendations of the committee that there is more need at present for continued research than for legislative programs on eugenical sterilization.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Medicine

SNOW ON CHOLERA—John Snow—*Commonwealth Fund*, 191 p., maps, \$2.50. The two papers reprinted in this volume are among the classics of medicine and public health. The layman who eagerly reads contemporary accounts of the tracing of an epidemic of amebic dysentery in Chicago to sewage-polluted drinking water in two hotels cannot fail to be impressed with Dr. Snow's account of how, without the aid of modern bacteriology, he traced an epidemic of cholera to its source in polluted water. Included in the volume are a biographical memoir of Snow by one of his contemporaries, Dr. B. W. Richardson, and an introduction by Dr. Wade Hampton Frost, professor of epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

THERMIONIC EMISSION—T. J. Jones—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 108 p., \$1.25. A British radio engineer summarizes the history and applications of the emission of electrons in the vacuum tube art.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

VERY LOW TEMPERATURES, THEIR ATTAINMENT AND USES—T. C. Crawhall—*H. M. Stationery Office, London*, 30 p., 6 d.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Metaphysics

PROCEDURES AND METAPHYSICS, A STUDY IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF MATHEMATICAL-PHYSICAL SCIENCE IN THE SIXTEENTH AND SEVENTEENTH CENTURIES—Edward W. Strong—*University of California*, 301 p., \$2.50. A valuable summary of the history of

physics and mathematics in the period covered. Plentiful notes from original sources supplement each chapter and yet are rightly grouped in the appendix.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Chemistry

AN ELEMENTARY CHEMISTRY—A. H. B. Bishop and G. H. Lockett—*Oxford Univ. Press*, 400 p., \$1.75. A British preparatory school chemistry text with early emphasis on the chemical properties of metals.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Fiction, Juvenile

FOR SAFETY!—Ralph Henry Barbour—*Appleton-Century*, 146 p., \$1.50. A famous juvenile author (remember *Four Afloat* and *Four Afoot*) uses the method of fiction to emphasize the hazards of traffic, and how high school students start a safety movement that sweeps the town of Brentfield. It would be nice to have organized safety campaigns come off as well as this one did; but despite the literary optimism the book will bring new meaning for traffic safety to thousands of young people.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physiology

BEING BORN—Frances Bruse Strain—*Appleton-Century*, 144 p., illus., \$1.50. Parents who find it difficult or embarrassing to teach their children about sex or to answer the child's curious questions will be delighted with this really splendid book which does the job for them. It is written for the pre-adolescent child to read himself, and it is about the best of its type that has yet appeared. It is a matter-of-fact presentation, well and suitably illustrated, which will give the young reader all necessary information and also a correct attitude toward the whole subject. Mrs. Strain knows children and the questions they ask and she has the gift of writing simply without writing down to her readers. Parents and teachers may use the book as a guide in sex education but it would be much better to let each child read and, if possible, own it.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Physics

LES DONNÉES SPECTRALES—Guy Emschwiller—*Hermann & Cie, Paris*, 43 p., 12 fr.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Engineering

AUDELS DIESEL ENGINE MANUAL—A. B. Green and R. A. Zoeller—*Theo. Audel & Co.*, 292 p., \$2. A questions-and-answers type of manual which has a brief table of contents but no index.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Ethnology

INDIANS OF TODAY—edited and compiled by Marion E. Gridley—*Indian Council Fire*, 128 p., illus., \$2.50. More readable than most "Who's Who" volumes is this collection of 100 biographies, accompanied in most cases by portraits. With the exception of former Vice-President Charles Curtis all are living Indians with not less than one-quarter of Indian blood. The biographies show that Indians are making names for themselves in art, athletics, administration, and professional work.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Landscaping

ROADSIDES, THE FRONT YARD OF THE NATION—J. M. Bennett—*Stratford*, 233 p., 17 pl., \$3. With all America on wheels—in motorcars, buses, and increasingly in trailers—a road has ceased to be simply a means for getting from here to somewhere else, with monotony and boredom to be taken for granted, as dust and flies used to be. Since we live so much of the time on the highway, we are demanding more and more that the highway be also an "eyeway," esthetically pleasing, affording yet not obtruding modern conveniences, ameliorating climatic discomforts. In all these things highway landscaping and engineering play prime roles; Mr. Bennett here tells administrators how they may be carried out efficiently, and the public how they may be appreciated when present, promoted when not.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937

Gardening

SHAKESPEARE GARDENS, DESIGN, PLANTS, AND FLOWER LORE—Annie Burnham Carter—*Dorrance*, 85 p., \$1.25. Shakespeare's many mentions of flowers and other plants, both wild and gardenable, are taken up in order, described briefly, literary references given, backgrounded with the English plant lore that was most of Shakespeare's botany and horticulture. The author tells how to cultivate each kind of plant, and also devotes a special chapter to designing a Shakespeare garden.

Science News Letter, January 30, 1937