

•First Glances at New Books

Science—Biography

FAMOUS AMERICAN MEN OF SCIENCE—J. G. Crowther—*Norton*, 414 p., \$3.50. Biographical studies of Benjamin Franklin, Joseph Henry, Josiah Willard Gibbs, and Thomas Alva Edison, by a British scientific journalist who assays, by the way, the role of science in modern life. A few statements: Franklin was a necessary part of the chain of causes which enabled James Watt's steam engine to be introduced in industry. The Smithsonian Institution is a monument to the Oedipus complex. Gibbs died within a few yards of where he was born.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Paleontology

PALAEONTOLOGY: INVERTEBRATE (7th ed.)—Henry Woods—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 475 p., illus., \$3.25. A new edition of a compact and useful British handbook.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Chemistry

A PRACTICAL COURSE IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY FOR SENIOR STUDENTS OF AGRICULTURE, DAIRYING, HORTICULTURE AND POULTRY HUSBANDRY—Frank Knowles and J. Elphin Watkin—*Macmillan*, 188 p., \$3.60. A new text that will undoubtedly be well received in agricultural colleges.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Engineering

PETROLEUM PRODUCTION—Wilbur F. Cloud—*Univ. of Oklahoma*, 613 p., illus., \$5. The fundamentals of production methods and petroleum technology are covered in this book designed for reference use by the student, the oil company executive or the practical production engineer.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Chemistry

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY—Frank C. Whitmore—*Van Nostrand*, 1080 p., \$7.50. Sources, methods of preparation, properties and reactions of thousands of known organic compounds written by the president-elect of the American Chemical Society. There are 121 pages of fine type in the index alone.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Biography

MATTHEW BOULTON—H. W. Dickinson—*Cambridge University Press (Macmillan)*, 218 p., illus., \$4.50. A biography of the little known business man who had the courage to aid James Watt

in those early days when steam engines were coming into being. A book to be valued by a collector of books on science in industry. A seven-page index helps in locating names, dates and places.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Entomology

TERMITE CITY—Alfred E. Emerson and Eleanor Fish—*Rand McNally*, 127 p., illus., \$1.50. Events in that most perfect of Soviet communes, the tropical termitarium, are here told accurately and in detail, yet with a dramatic skill in the telling that gives one the "feel" of real personality in these small and alien creatures.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Biology

THE LIVING WORLD—S. H. Williams—*Macmillan*, 704 p., illus., \$3.60. A textbook in general biology for colleges, by the professor of zoology in the University of Pittsburgh. Particular effort is made to maintain contact with the animals and plants as they occur in nature.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Chemistry

REAGENT CHEMICALS AND STANDARDS WITH METHODS OF ASSAYING AND TESTING THEM; ALSO THE PREPARATION AND STANDARDIZATION OF VOLUMETRIC SOLUTIONS AND EXTENSIVE TABLES OF EQUIVALENTS—Joseph Rosin—*Van Nostrand*, 530 p., \$6.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Science

DIRECTED STUDIES IN GENERAL SCIENCE, A COMBINED WORKBOOK AND EXPERIMENT MANUAL—Donald H. Painter and George J. Skewes—*Mentzer, Bush*, 242 p., 60c. For high school use with various textbooks.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Natural History

CLEVELAND'S NATURE TRAILS—Arthur B. Williams—*Cleveland Press*, 10 c; 6 c if called for at Cleveland Press office. Obtainable only direct from *Cleveland Press, Cleveland, Ohio*. Good local nature guides are common enough, but it is perhaps unique for one to be put out by a metropolitan newspaper as a venture in civic advancement. It is to be hoped that the example may be followed elsewhere.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Gardening

GARDENING ON NOTHING A YEAR—Mary S. Griffith—*Hale, Cushman and Flint*, 231 p., illus., \$1.75. Of the making of gardening books there is no end; but this one is different. Beginning with a couple of acres of hard-to-discipline soil (and rock) in Westchester County, and deprived by 1929 of hired help to keep it going, the author brought into action her own resources of industry, occasionally exasperated patience, gradually acquired knowledge of "dirt ecology," and (by no means least) imagination and humor. It made a success of her garden, and it makes a success of her book.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Mathematics

SECOND-YEAR ALGEBRA—Howard B. Kingsbury and R. R. Wallace—*Bruce*, 428 p., \$1.40. An advanced high school text, with an especially interesting chapter on the solution of simultaneous quadratic equations.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Zoology

THE TRAPPER, Vol I, No. 1—Arnold S. Johnson, Editor—*American Trappers Assn., Inc., Cedar City, Utah*. Monthly per number, 15c; to members, \$1 a year; to non-members, \$1.50 a year; in Canada \$1.25 to members, \$1.75 to non-members. This new associational organ sets forth a program which stresses wildlife conservation and restoration and the improvement and use of humane traps. The Association's director of conservation is Vernon Bailey.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Physics

ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM—A. W. Hirst—*Prentice-Hall*, 388 p., \$4.50. A British text serving as an introduction to electricity and magnetism. The extensive problems are a feature of merit. A full set of them have been worked out for the student and there is a large collection for him to tackle himself.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937

Chemistry

AN INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE CHEMISTRY—Herman T. Briscoe—*Houghton Mifflin*, 653 p., illus., \$3. Condensation of the author's well-known General Chemistry designed for shorter elementary courses. Emphasis is on understanding rather than memorizing the subject.

Science News Letter, May 8, 1937