

• First Glances at New Books

Zoology

OUR FRIENDLY ANIMALS AND WHENCE THEY CAME—Karl Patterson Schmidt; illus. by Walter Alois Weber—*Donohue*, 64 p., illus., 12 colored plates, \$1.50. The author is a zoologist in the Field Museum of Natural History, so it may be taken as assured that his statements are in line with the best present scientific knowledge. At the same time the book is styled so that a bright nine- or ten-year-old can read and enjoy it. The twelve colored plates are superb. Many of the marginal illustrations that liven every page are taken from ancient monuments.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Entomology

THE BOOK OF INSECT ODDITIES, WHERE THE STRANGE INSECTS OF THE WORLD ARE FOUND—Raymond L. Ditmars—*Lippincott*, 63 p., illus., \$2. The strange appearances and even stranger habits of some of the citizens of the insect world make tales that are never told to the tiring point. Here are selections from all over the world, interestingly related and vividly pictured. Entertaining to leaf through as a picture book if you're not feeling energetic, fascinating to read closely if you've an appetite for an hour or two of nature study.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Science—Biography

THE NOBEL PRIZES AND THEIR FOUNDER ALFRED NOBEL—Fritz Henriksson—*Bonnier, Stockholm*, 59 p., illus., \$1. A useful and authoritative listing of Nobel prize winners is contained in this booklet, which tells just how the recipients are selected. Through biography and text, the qualities of the founder are illuminated.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Physics

SECOND REPORT ON VISCOSITY AND PLASTICITY—Prepared by the committee for the study of viscosity of the Academy of Science at Amsterdam—*Nordemann*, 287 p., illus., \$7.50. Technical and comprehensive treatment of structure of liquids, viscosity related to chemical and physical constitution, the yield value, plastometers, and viscometers.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Architecture

PAINTING AND DECORATING ESTIMATING—J. Ralph Dalzell and Alvah Horton Sabin—*Amer. Technical Soc.*, 152 p., \$1.50. Here is a manual of painting

either for those amateurs who wish to learn how to apply paint and varnish to their homes and other structures, or to every-day painters who wish to learn some of the better techniques and so improve their jobs.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Chemistry

BREATHE FREELY! THE TRUTH ABOUT POISON GAS—James Kendall—*Appleton-Century*, 179 p., \$1.50. This British writer seems not to "have the wind up" as much as many of his contemporaries. He sees the gas-raid danger to civilian populations as very considerably inflated by alarmists, and especially by scare-mongering journalists whose copy naturally sells better if they make it good and lurid.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Surgery

AS OTHERS SEE YOU: THE STORY OF PLASTIC SURGERY—Henry J. Schireson—*Macauley*, 322 p., plates, \$3. Thousands of persons walk the streets today, presenting normal countenances to a world from which they might otherwise shrink, thanks to what plastic surgery has done for them after disfiguring accidents or war injuries. This book tells how the scalpel is used to remove scars of both the flesh and the spirit.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Geology—Engineering

REGIONAL PLANNING. PART VI—UPPER RIO GRANDE—National Resources Committee—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 2 vols.: vol. 1, Text, 566 p., vol. 2, Maps, \$3.50. A detailed study of the water resources and development of one of the great U. S. river systems, lying in Colorado, New Mexico and Texas.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Mathematics

PLANE GEOMETRY—George T. Major—*Scribner's*, 280 p., \$1.20. It must be encouraging to the pupil to see photographs of snow crystals, bridges, starfishes, cathedrals and other common things used in this text as examples of applications of geometry.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Paleobotany

STARUNIA: NO. 15. RÉSULTATS DES RECHERCHES PÉTROGRAPHIQUES D'ESSAI SUR LES MORAINES DU CENTRE ET DU NORD DE LA POLOGNE—*Polish Academy of Sciences*, 64 p.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Sociology

BRASS TACKS—A. G. Keller—*Knopf*, 233 p., \$2. The professor of science in society at Yale specifies "certain ways of leading life in society which, together with certain virtues, have been indispensable to progress and even to persistence throughout history." He contends that we do not have to begin all over again every time we run into a troubled stretch of social life.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Physics—Philosophy

THE SERIAL UNIVERSE—J. W. Dunne—*Macmillan*, 240 p., \$2. The core of the argument put forth by the author, a British aeronautical engineer, is that time is an infinite regress, that this concept solves the chief puzzles of modern physics, and that among its inevitable consequences is the assurance of personal immortality.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Radio

HOW TO WRITE FOR RADIO—James Whipple—*Whittlesey House*, 425 p., \$3.50. For those who wish to know how the technique of radio writing differs from the stage, the movies, or the lecture platform, this is the book. It is recommended to those in the field of science who have the opportunity of going on the air.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Mathematics

ADVANCED ANALYTIC GEOMETRY—Alan D. Campbell—*Wiley*, 310 p., \$4. This book is designed to follow a first course in plain analytic geometry but it contains material for a more advanced course also. The aim is to introduce the students to the analytic side of projective geometry. Many illustrated problems worked out in the text are included.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Forestry

THE FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY—Forest Service, U. S. D. A.—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 33 p., 15 c. A brief account of the many activities of the great laboratory at Madison, Wis., ranging from 300-foot timber-built radio towers to microscopic studies of fibers in paper pulp. Well illustrated.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938

Medicine

RADIUM LOST AND FOUND—Robert Burbidge Taft—*published by author*, 77 p., \$2. See p. 142.

Science News Letter, August 27, 1938