

•First Glances at New Books

Medicine

HEALTH AT FIFTY—William H. Robey, ed.—*Harvard Univ.*, 299 p., \$3. Members of the faculty of Harvard Medical School prepared the lectures which make up this book of information and advice for the layman. The book is nontechnical and easy to read. The subjects covered include heart disease, blood pressure, cancer and rheumatism, and the several authors have described and explained latest developments in each of the fields. As the title indicates, the subjects are of especial concern to persons of middle age, but since sound health at age 50 has its foundations laid much earlier, the title should not discourage younger persons from reading the book.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Sociology

WHO ARE THESE AMERICANS?—Paul B. Sears—*Macmillan*, 116 p., 60 c. The natural history of *Homo sapiens* v. *Americanus* seen through the eyes of an experienced ecologist and told in simple, straightforward English. Between the sociologist who ignores science and the demagog who at once overrates and falsifies science stands the true scientist who has a more definite knowledge of both its values and its limitations. And therein lies the beginning of wisdom.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Physics

ELECTRON OPTICS—Otto Klemperer—*Cambridge (Macmillan)*, 107 p., \$1.75. The basic principles, methods and applications of electron optics for use by the student of experimental physics and the research worker who has not specialized either in geometrical optics or in electron physics.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Astronomy

THE STORY OF ASTRONOMY—Arthur L. Draper and Marian Lockwood—*Dial Press*, 394 p., \$3. The assistant curators of the Hayden planetarium, New York City, tell the story of astronomy as they do in their lectures describing the heavens at the daily planetarium shows. Abundant illustrations are a feature of the book.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Entomology

THE GENERA DERMACENTOR AND OTOCENTOR (IXODIDAE) IN THE UNITED STATES—R. A. Cooley—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 89 p., illus., \$1.25. Ticks used to be merely rather troublesome woodland

and brushland pests; now they are known as bearers of dangerous diseases. This manual gives their taxonomy (including synonymy), detailed description, with plates; distribution, with maps; host relationships. Invaluable alike to entomologists and public health workers.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Nutrition

FOOD AND HEALTH—A. Barbara Calow—*Oxford*, 168 p., illus., \$1.75. This book by a leading English nutritionist, modestly subtitled "an introduction to the science of nutrition," purports to be a second edition, but it has been so much enlarged, particularly with recent developments in field of vitamins, that it can properly be regarded as a new work.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Archaeology

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WHEELER BASIN ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER IN NORTHERN ALABAMA—William S. Webb—*Gov't. Print. Off.*, 214 p., 50 c. (See page 327)

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Agriculture

ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL DAIRY CONGRESS HELD IN BERLIN, GERMANY, AUGUST 1937—Report of the Delegation of the United States to the Secretary of State—*Gov't Print. Off.*, 119 p., 15c.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Architecture

THE 1940 BOOK OF SMALL HOUSES—Architectural Forum editors—*Simon and Schuster*, 239 p., \$1.96. Plans, photographs, specifications, interiors, and actual costs of 144 small houses.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

General Science

EXPLORATIONS AND FIELD-WORK OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN 1938—*Smithsonian Institution*, 116 p., illus., free upon direct application to Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Agricultural Economics

CHANGING ASPECTS OF RURAL RELIEF—A. R. Mangus—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 238 p.; **RURAL FAMILIES ON RELIEF**—Carle C. Zimmerman and Nathan L. Whettan—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 161 p.; **FARMING HAZARDS IN THE DROUGHT AREA**—R. S. Kifer and H. L. Stewart—*Govt. Print. Off.*, 219 p. (See page 334). The three above books may be obtained only upon direct request from the Works Progress Administration, Washington, D. C.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Genetics

YOU AND HEREDITY—Amram Scheinfeld—*Stokes*, 434 p., \$3.75. A highly readable book, written by a layman with the cooperation of many scientists. If you wonder why you look like Great-Aunt Sarah or whether it is safe for cousins to marry or what eugenics and sterilization of the unfit are all about, or whether your baby will inherit his father's keen mind, you will want to read this book.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Engineering

UTILIZING HEAT FROM THE SUN—C. G. Abbot—*Smithsonian Inst.*, 11 p., 10c. "Both solar cooking and solar distilling of nonpotable water are practical and efficient propositions, which it is likely will be in common use before long if the necessary outfits can be produced at attractive prices."

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Plant Pathology

PLANT VIRUSES—Kenneth M. Smith—*Chemical Pub. Co.*, 107 p., \$1.25. A very small book on a very big subject, but it manages to pack into its few pages a great deal of information, some of which is not easily accessible elsewhere.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Archaeology

TOOLS AND THE MAN—W. B. Wright—*Bell, London*, 236 p., 12 s. 6 d. An informative book for general reading and reference, designed to explain the Stone Age from the angle of its leading industrial activity. Dr. Wright shows how stone tools evolved and improved, and also relates the archaeological evidence to geologic events.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Geography

THE SOUTH AMERICAN HANDBOOK, 1939 (15th ed.)—Howell Davies, ed.—*Wilson*, 714 p., \$1. Turned out in guidebook size, this volume tells what a fact-hunter is likely to want to know about each country from Mexico and Cuba southward. It includes information on public holidays, postal rates, railways, consulates, hints for travelers, natural resources, etc.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939

Physiology

PHYSIOLOGY OF MUSCULAR ACTIVITY, 2d ed.—Edward C. Schneider—*Saunders*, 428 p., \$3.

Science News Letter, May 27, 1939