

THE READING TABLE

CLOTHING AND STYLE. By William H. Dooley. New York: D. C. Heath & Company. 1930. \$2.40.

This book by the principal of the Textile High School, New York City, has achieved something more than the usual textbook that deals only with garment construction and textile study. Clothing is considered from its social, æsthetic, historic, economic, and hygienic aspects.

The chapters applying art principles to dress are particularly good, as is the chapter that deals with the economic factors affecting the price of clothing. In presenting the social aspect of clothing, the author is keeping step with the modern trend in all lines of education. The relation of clothing to health is also interestingly developed.

The cycle theory of fashions is explained as based on the development of costume throughout the ages. The history of costume, though briefly and concisely given, is entirely adequate for general classroom use.

The book should prove a valuable acquisition to both college and high school home economic libraries.

A. R. B.

PROBLEMS IN GENERAL SCIENCE. By George W. Hunter and Walter G. Whitman. New York: American Book Co. 1930. Pp. 688.

In this text is found a thorough treatment of all those topics which have come to be accepted as comprising the minimum content of a General Science text. Considerable material beyond this accepted minimum is also included. This material should prove especially useful to the more enterprising teachers and students.

The material of the text is divided into twenty-one units of from three to nine parts each. In each of these parts a particular problem bearing on the subject of the unit is stated, and information is presented and experiments are suggested which lead to a solution of this problem. Throughout the text every device is used to develop in the student an attitude of intelligent questioning and a habit of seeking answers to these questions in terms of his own knowledge and observation.

The sequence of the units, and of the problems within the units, is natural and logical. At the same time, the material within each unit is sufficiently complete to allow a wide interchange of order of presentation without serious loss of continuity, should such interchange seem desirable.

The style of the book is interesting and readable. Simplicity and clearness of statement without sacrifice of accuracy is attained to a degree unusual in elementary science texts. The numerous illustrations, both drawings and photographic reproductions, are well chosen and add greatly to the value and attractiveness of the book.

Summaries, test questions, suggested problems, and references to collateral readings are supplied in abundance, and are so designed as to be useful both to teachers and students. At the end of the

text is a glossary of important terms, which should prove most acceptable to all who use this text.

Both in material presented and in the method of presentation this text is admirably suited to high school classes in General Science.

C. E. N.

SCIENCE DISCOVERY BOOK. Based on Carpenter and Wood's OUR ENVIRONMENT. Boston: Allyn and Bacon. 1930.

To those teachers of General Science who are using as a text, *Our Environment: Book One*, the *Science Discovery Book* by the same authors should prove very acceptable. This book, together with the above text, forms a combined manual of experiments, projects, and observations, together with a completely worked out notebook for reports on these experiments and observations, and reports on certain self-tests suggested in the text.

The experiments are so chosen as to require a minimum of equipment. The report forms are worked out with such thoroughness as to relieve the teacher of many supervisory details, and to assure a degree of uniformity in reports. The material is attractively arranged, and every opportunity is taken to develop in the student those practices of orderliness, thoroughness, accuracy, and self dependence, in both thought and execution, that are so desirable in all scientific work.

The *Science Discovery Book* is explicitly designed to accompany the text by the same authors, and by the close correlation of material, is admirably adapted to this use. This close correlation, however, renders it practically useless in connection with any other text.

C. E. N.

OUR UNITED STATES. By William B. Guitteau. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1930. Pp. 626 plus 46. \$1.68.

This is a history of the United States suitable for the seventh grade or junior high school. The part divisions and chapter headings are well adapted to clearness and interest in studying and teaching. The pictures are numerous and attractive; the maps are well made and plentiful. The appendix contains some useful matter besides the Declaration of Independence and the Federal Constitution; and the index is much more complete than is usual in books of this grade. Social, political, industrial, and economic topics are given due emphasis.

RURAL COMMUNITY LIFE. By Lee Ora Lantis. New York: American Book Company. 1930. Pp. 375.

It is the aim of this book to discuss social conditions in rural communities and to offer suggestions for improving the standard of living of rural citizens. The author recognizes that soil, climate, topography, racial types, and other factors enter largely into the problem. There is a summary at the end of each chapter. There are also questions and suggestions for projects. The illustrations and diagrams are helpful. Numerous references for additional reading are given.

LABORATORY EXERCISES IN EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS, WITH TABLES. By Robert Lee Morton. New York: Silver, Burdett and Company. 1928. Pp. 197.

This small volume is a practical problem book intended to give opportunity for the student to gain skill in the manipulation both of the simpler and the more technical statistical measures. There are fifty exercises supplemented with the more important tables so necessary as time-saving devices in statistical manipulation. This book should do much to take inaccuracy and mysticism out of the handling and interpretation of data.

W. J. G.

SOLID GEOMETRY. By F. Eugene Seymour. New York: American Book Company. Pp. 239.

An interesting feature of this new geometry is a summary of the important theorems of the plane geometry necessary to be known and to which references may be readily made by the student of solid geometry.

The treatment of the subject follows much the conventional lines. The figures are well drawn and clear-cut. Numerous exercises are interpolated from time to time enabling the student to put into practice the theory developed in the text. Cavalieri's theorem is introduced in the determination of the volume of a sphere. A small space is devoted to illustrations of the conic sections as plain sections of a conic surface although no proof is given. The book contains as supplementary propositions and exercises a goodly number of the less used theorems on polyhedra and of the geometry of the surface of a sphere. The trigonometric functions are introduced at the end, and the book contains tables of powers and roots, of logarithms of numbers, of natural trigonometric and of logarithms of trigonometric functions to which are appended tables of formulas commonly used in geometry and tables of measurements of length, area and volume. The value of the book is enhanced by a satisfactory index.

H. A. C.

PLANE GEOMETRY. By Joseph P. McCormack. New York: D. Appleton and Company. 1928. Pp. 383.

The introductory chapter gives a number of definitions of common terms in use in Geometry. The theorems through the book whose proof is required by the College Entrance Board are marked with a star which gives a certain advantage in the use of a book in a school preparing students to take College Entrance Board examinations. Book One covers the usual theorems of Rectilinear Figures with numerous exercises and some half tone illustrations and has an advantage over the older texts in geometry in that simple measurements whose construction develops on geometric principles are referred to at the time when its principles are developed. The usual method of handling the circle is followed fairly closely.

Book Two apparently has been made to show the oneness of certain theorems which are usually given as entirely separate theorems. Toward the end of the chapter of the Circle comes the method of construction of Geometric figures which

one could wish had been introduced earlier. From time to time through the book are given self-measuring tests which should be of a good deal of value to the pupil who is trying to determine the status of his own knowledge of Geometry. Under the aid of proportion and similar facts trigonometric functions are introduced in a simple form.

It seems rather a pity that the problems presented on inequalities of lines and angles should have been left to a supplement as well as the well-known facts with regard to the circum center, in center and centroid of the triangle. Toward the end of the supplement an innovation is the introduction of new-type tests. The book closes with a story of Geometry in eight episodes.

H. A. C.

A TEXT-BOOK OF ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY. By Z. P. Metcalf. Philadelphia: Lea and Febiger. 1930. Pp. 392. \$4.00.

Although the major emphasis of this book is in the economic phase of zoölogy, ample consideration is also given to the classification and morphology of the subject to produce a well rounded text. It is well written and profusely illustrated and is calculated to maintain sustained interest. There is no other book that commends itself to the teacher of zoölogy in quite so many ways. Aside from its use in the colleges this book should be in the library of every high school teacher of biology as a reference.

G. W. C.

PLANNING A CAREER. By Lewis W. Smith and Gideon L. Blough. New York: American Book Company. 1929. Pp. 470.

In the introductory chapters the authors point out the value of education and the bearing of vocational training upon citizenship. The major part of the text, whose sub-title is "A Vocational Civics," is given over to readable brief discussions of all the major occupations for both men and women, couched in language suitable for the junior high school and high school age. Other helpful features of the book are the sets of exercises and of facts, at the ends of chapters, and two appendices, one a collection of striking poems and prose selections dealing with work and kindred topics, and the second furnishing valuable bibliographies on the various occupations.

W. J. G.

TAP DANCING. By Marjorie Hillas. New York: A. S. Barnes and Co. 1930. Pp. 29. \$1.00.

This publication reminds one that tap dancing is beginning to fill a need of dancing that clogging cannot. Tap dancing may be adapted to modern sheet or record music, while clogging is usually adapted to sheet music only.

Definition of tap dancing terms and fourteen routines, with suggested sheet and record music, are included in this recent publication. The instructions are simple. For the beginners sheet music would be preferable to records. The material seems suitable for the average senior high school and college students, who have some knowledge of clogging.

C. W.

CHAPTERS IN CHURCH HISTORY. By John W. Wayland. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company. 1930. Pp. 154. \$1.50.

A very interesting and unusual book of the history of the Christian Church. This book is designed for classes taking a brief course in Church History. It will be practical for Sunday School classes or for any type of class or individual limited in time and opportunity. The book is characterized by Dr. Wayland's practical and scholarly treatment.

W. B. V.

FIRST AIDS

Among first aids to beginners' French the following deserve to be considered.

- Camerlynck's *France, Book I*
Allyn and Bacon, New York
- My Progress Book in French, No. I*
Looseleaf Education, Inc., Columbus, Ohio
- Coussirat's *French Grammar Exercise Pad*
Globe Book Company, New York
- Modern Language Wall Charts (French)*
D. C. Heath & Co., New York
- Victrola records to accompany Fraser and Squair's
New Complete French Grammar
Student Educational Records, Inc., Lakewood,
New Jersey
- Victrola record, *The Four Hundred Commonest
French Words*
Automatic Record Institute, New York
- Victrola records of the *Marseillaise* and other airs
Chantons un peu—a good song book
Doubleday, Doran and Co., Garden City, New
York
- Games for drill in vocabulary, verbs, pronouns, etc.
Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, Wis-
consin
- Maps of France and Paris

FIVE RULES FOR HAPPY PARENTHOOD

Parents as well as children have the right to be happy and enjoy the family relationships, says Dr. Jessie Chase Fenton in *The Parents' Magazine*. Five rules which, according to this child psychologist, will lead to happy parenthood, are:

1. Recognize the fact that parenthood does not endow one with any exalted characteristics; even parents are human beings.
2. Find your children interesting, in the sense that radio fans find a radio interesting.
3. React to your children objectively, not possessively.
4. Don't submerge yourself in your children. Keep a life of your own.
5. Enjoy your children.

NEWS OF THE COLLEGE

Mary Watt, Katherine Bowen, Mary Farinholt, and Frances Ralston brought prestige to H. T. C. when they were chosen on the picked team to play an exhibition game against the Philadelphia "Southeasterners" at the recent hockey tournament at William and Mary. The entire team made the trip. Although the tournament was primarily instructive rather than competitive, Harrisonburg tied Sweet Briar in one game with a score of 0-0, and was defeated 2-1 by Farmville.

With Nancy Trott in charge of student participation, the annual Red Cross drive held this year was a real success. Of especial interest was the float in the Armistice day parade, which attracted much comment because of its unusual features.

Richard B. Sheridan's comic opera, "The Duenna," was presented here by the Jitney Players, November 12, as the second number of the college entertainment series.

Miss Florence Stratemeyer, first vice-president of Kappa Delta Pi and member of the faculty of Teachers College, Columbia University, visited the campus and training school, November 1 and 2. Alpha Chi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi entertained in her honor.

Mary Cloe, of Charleston, West Virginia, was elected president of the freshmen class recently. Other officers are: Evelyn Watkins, of Norfolk, vice-president; Dorothy Williams, of Norfolk, treasurer; Mildred Simpson, of Norfolk, secretary; Margaret Eure, of Lynchburg, business manager, and Virginia Carmines, of Hampton, sergeant-at-arms. Miss Lula Coe will be their Big Sister, Dr. H. A. Converse, their honorary member, and Janet Rebecca Hanson, their class mascot.

Approximately six hundred white-clad H. T. C. girls marched, according to class, in the Armistice day parade here. Immediately after the parade, the student body at-