

OUR BOOK SHELF.

Religion and Science: Some Suggestions for the Study of the Relations Between Them. By P. N. Waggett, M.A. Pp. xii+174. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1904.) Price 2s. 6d. net.

It is pleasant to find in a book which seeks to deal from the religious standpoint with the relations between religion and science, a full and candid recognition of the claims of natural knowledge. The author of the present volume, whose qualities would no doubt have carried him far had he chosen the field of scientific research for the exercise of his chief activity, has not forgotten his early training. We should not expect from Father Waggett, nor do we find, the least attempt to blink or to minimise the results of scientific investigation in any department of learning. "Religion," as he says, "can have no possible interest in believing what is not true"; nor, it may be added, can religion afford to ignore what is true, from whatever quarter the demonstration of truth may arrive.

The book is not to be taken as a manual of apologetics—in fact many of those to whom it is primarily addressed may be inclined to complain of the author for not coming to closer quarters with the outstanding questions between religion and science. Its object is rather to state the present position, to suggest the lines on which future discussion should proceed, and to indicate the most hopeful means of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion, whether in the realm of thought or conduct. This object is carried out temperately and fairly, and with no lack of appreciation of what is strong in the scientific and philosophical position.

The author speaks, with possibly undue modesty, of his own opinions on the "domestic" issues that divide biologists. Holding, as he does, that "natural selection remains scientifically the most probable and philosophically the most welcome account of the adaptations of animal and vegetable life," he is perhaps inclined to attach too much weight to the arguments that have been brought forward by various scientific authorities on the other side. We miss any explicit reference to the views of Baldwin, Osborn and Lloyd Morgan, which have an important bearing on the whole question of adaptation, and go far towards removing some of the difficulties inherent in the rigid view of heredity. More stress might also have been laid on the quantitative aspect of variation, which is now taking definite shape in the hands of Karl Pearson and other workers. The book, however, on the whole is well abreast of modern inquiry, and may be studied with advantage by many others besides the class of readers for whom it is chiefly intended.

F. A. D.

The Thompson-Yates and Johnston Laboratories Report. Vol. v. (New Series). Part ii. December, 1903. (Published for the University Press of Liverpool by Longmans, Green and Co.) Price 12s. 6d.

THIS new volume of the "Thompson-Yates and Johnston Laboratories Reports" opens with obituary notices of the Rev. Stephen Yates, to whose munificence the Thompson-Yates Laboratories owe their foundation, and of Prof. Nocard. The preliminary report of the trypanosoma expedition to Senegambia of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine occupies two-thirds of the volume, the authors being Mr. Dutton and Dr. Todd, to whom praise is due for the careful and detailed account of their journey and researches. (This has also been published as a separate report.) The laboratory methods of investigation are first described, and the results of the examination of a number of natives and of various animals for the presence of trypanosomata are then detailed. Only a small proportion of natives was found to be infected, and various

experiments on the transmission and pathology of the trypanosoma are given at length. Horses were found to suffer from a fatal trypanosoma disease differing apparently in some respects from nagana. Trypanosomes were also detected in a number of birds, frogs, tortoise, mice, &c. The report is copiously illustrated, and forms an important contribution to the subject of trypanosomiasis, the appended bibliography being a very full one. Mr. Theobald adds notes on the species of mosquitoes collected in this expedition. Among these is a new species coming very near *Stegomyia*, for which a new genus is created, *Catageomyia*. Prof. Ronald Ross contributes a brief article on a new human parasite, the Leishmann-Donovan body, which has already been referred to in these columns (*NATURE*, vol. lxi. p. 495). Messrs. Glynn and Matthews give some interesting details of the numbers of bacteria and their variation under different conditions in swimming baths, and Dr. Stephens and Prof. Boyce detail the examination of a diseased haddock, with description of a parasite the nature of which is not clear. The general "get-up" of the volume maintains the standard of its predecessors, paper, printing, and illustrations all being excellent.

R. T. HEWLETT.

L'Industrie de la Soude. By L. Guillet. Pp. 178. (Paris: Gauthier-Villars, n.d.) Price 3 francs.

THIS little book is a publication of the *Encyclopédie Scientifique des Aide-Mémoire*. It treats of the extraction of common salt, and the hydroxide and carbonates of sodium and of sodium peroxide, and within its compass it gives a fairly accurate account of the modern methods of manufacture of these articles. It is not obvious, however, for what class of readers the work is intended. It is too technical for ordinary people; indeed, most manuals of theoretical chemistry give quite as much information on these special subjects as is contained in this book. On the other hand, no technologist or person actually interested in the manufacture of these articles would rest satisfied with the extent and nature of the descriptive matter. There may, however, be persons to whom a book with a modicum of theory and a minimum of practice appeals.

Telephoto-Work. By G. H. Deller. Pp. 64. (London: Dawbarn and Ward, Ltd., 1904.) Price 1s. net.

THIS little book on telephoto work is one that will appeal to the numerous photographers who now keep a telephoto lens among their photographic equipment. The late author has described fully, illustrating his remarks with an excellent set of process reproductions, the many directions in which this lens may be successfully used, such as in landscape work, architecture, portraiture, and, finally, in short exposure work. Two other useful chapters, by H. Wild and H. M. Hames, deal respectively with the advantages of the "Adon" lens, and with an inexpensive means of practically learning the elements of telephotography by means of a home-made lens.

Buy English Acres. By C. F. Dowsett. Pp. 224. (Published by the Author, Winklebury, Basingstoke.) Price 3s. 6d. net.

THIS is not a book in the ordinary sense. It is a collection of miscellaneous arguments, extracts from books, and biographical notes, all intended to prove that pleasure and profit may be derived from the purchase of English land. The absence of any attempt at coherence or sustained economic discussion is atoned for, so far as possible, by the author's great earnestness. Apart from that, the book has no serious qualities.