

*Palgrave's Dictionary of Political Economy.* Edited by Henry Higgs. New edition. Vol. 1: A-E. Pp. xviii + 924. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1925.) 36s. net.

THOUGH this is the first volume of Palgrave's standard work, it is the second of the new edition to appear, and students of economics will have reason to be grateful to the publishers for furnishing them with so excellent a reprint of an extremely useful book. The plan of vol. 1 is precisely the same as that of vol. 2, which was reviewed in NATURE of February 16, 1924, p. 233. Only a few changes of any moment have been made in the new edition. The editor has added in an appendix a good deal of new matter. In the present volume the new matter takes up ninety pages, and dealing as it does with such subjects as banking, censuses, the conversion of the national debt, recent budgets, canals, libraries on economics, and the development of economic teaching in recent years in Great Britain, it serves a very useful purpose in bringing up to date some of the more important topics in the body of the book.

This additional information is so good that one is inclined to ask for more. The article on bimetallicism, for example, might perhaps with advantage have found a place in the appendix; it would have been helpful to have been provided with even a few notes on recent developments. So, too, with the article on commissions of inquiry, which in the body of the book are noted up to the year 1905. The list might well have been continued to include the commissions of inquiry during the last twenty years. The same applies to the article on communism, in which of late there have been some interesting developments. But where there is so much that is good, it is perhaps ungracious to be discontented with omissions. It ought to be noted that the biographies form a useful feature of the volume, and the index, which is the soul of a book of reference, is particularly full and elaborate.

*Tychonis Brahe Dani opera omnia.* Edidit I. L. E. Dreyer. Tomus VII. Pp. v + 422. n.p. Tomus XI. Pp. iv + 414. n.p. (Hauniae: Libraria Gylden-daliana, 1924.)

THE appearance of these two volumes will be welcomed by all who are interested in Dr. Dreyer's monumental edition of the works of Tycho Brahe. We note that in the seventh volume Dr. Dreyer's name no longer stands alone on the title-page, but there is associated with him as co-editor Joannes Ræder. The present co-editor's assistance was acknowledged in the prolegomena to the tenth volume, which appeared in 1923, and the assistance given in the preparation of that volume is continued in the eleventh.

Vol. 6 of the series contained those astronomical letters written by or to Tycho Brahe which were published by him in his lifetime. Vol. 7 contains in chronological order the rest of his astronomical correspondence down to 1597. The series will be continued in Vol. 8, in which we are also promised notes on Tycho's correspondents and on the persons mentioned in the letters. The non-astronomical letters are reserved for Vol. 14. Most of the letters included in the new volume had been previously published, but the present text is based on MS. originals or MS. copies preserved for the most part

at Vienna. Perhaps the most interesting part of the correspondence is that with Thaddæus Hagecius of Prague, physician to the Emperor Rudolf II. Much of the contents of the letters is only distantly related to astronomy. Among the most interesting topics are the presence or absence of parallax in the new star of 1572 and in comets.

Vol. 11 continues the records begun in Vol. 10, and comprises the observations made from 1586 to 1589. The volume also contains a catalogue made in 1589 of zodiacal stars. The observations are very varied, and it is to be hoped that a good index will be supplied in a later volume.

*Life and Word: an Essay in Psychology.* By Dr. R. E. Lloyd. Pp. xvi + 139. (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1924.) 7s. 6d. net.

DR. LLOYD'S thesis is that thought, which is verbal, "takes certain definite directions which are the directions of human behaviour, but circumstance does not lie around us in a definite order. How, then, can we take our thought from circumstance? It is, therefore, not taken from things, but given mysteriously." The very statement of the thesis would seem to exclude the problem from the purview of science; and, indeed, the book is rather one of philosophical reflection than otherwise, though it contains many acute observations of scientific relevance. The author raises the very ancient problem of the universals in a somewhat novel modern form; but his attempt to classify "humanity" by identifying it with "verbal-thought" will scarcely convince contemporary psychologists. This "verbal-thought" is looked upon by Dr. Lloyd as a function distributed among individuals, in a way similar to that in which a quality or characteristic is distributed among the members of a species, in that, as a whole, it is partly identical and partly different in any given individual.

The view that thought is a *differentia* of human individuals is not a new one. What Dr. Lloyd would emphasise is that it varies from one individual to another. But this has long been implicitly realised; and the stress laid upon individual differences by modern psychology is explicit. The difficulty is one inherent in classification, in which concepts must be used which neglect differences and consider only similarities. The little book is puzzling, but suggestive and stimulating to thought.

*The Book of Receipts: containing a Veterinaria Materia Medica, a Pharmaceutical Formulary, a Photographic Formulary;* together with numerous Chemical and other Tables likely to be of use to Pharmacists and Manufacturers. By E. W. Lucas and H. B. Stevens. 12th edition. Pp. 473. (London: J. and A. Churchill, 1924.) 10s. 6d. net.

THE scope of this book is sufficiently indicated by its extended title. It is intended mainly for the use of pharmacists, but the photographic formulary and the sets of recipes for microscopical reagents and stains, waxes, varnishes, and special inks, etc., may be useful in scientific laboratories. The authors should consider the desirability of issuing these sections with additions as a separate laboratory receipt book. The collection is at present rather too eclectic to appeal to the average scientific worker.