

involved in drawing deductions from data that have not been examined in the light of the modern physical theory of atomic structure.

In accordance with a practice which is becoming increasingly common, a series of problems has been added to each of the principal chapters. Experience shows that problems such as these are of great value in fixing the subject matter of the text in the mind of the reader, if he is willing to make use of them, and their inclusion in the present volume is therefore to be welcomed.

(2) Prof. Thompson's "Theoretical and Applied Electrochemistry," based originally upon a course of lectures on applied electrochemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, appeared first in 1911. The principal change in the second edition arises from a decision to include in the volume a treatise on theoretical electrochemistry as well, in response to suggestions made by readers of the first edition. The sections on "Applied Electrochemistry of Aqueous Solutions" and on "Electric Furnaces and their Products" have, however, also been revised and largely rewritten. The author has received assistance from a large number of those engaged in the electrochemical industry of the United States, and there can be little doubt that his book gives a satisfactory account of the present position of the industry so far as this is available for publication.

The Spirit of Modern China.

From Peking to Lhasa: the Narrative of Journeys in the Chinese Empire made by the late Brig.-General George Pereira. Compiled by Sir Francis Younghusband from Notes and Diaries supplied by Major-General Sir Cecil Pereira. Pp. x+293+33 plates. (London: Constable and Co., Ltd., 1925.) 18s. net.

GENERAL PEREIRA'S notes, from which this volume has been compiled by Sir Francis Younghusband, cover three journeys. Of these, the first from Peking to Lhasa and India is the longest and the one of which the account is the most detailed. It is also the most interesting, for the author was the first European to succeed in reaching Lhasa from China since 1848, when Pères Huc and Gabet reached the Holy City from this direction. This journey was in itself a remarkable feat for a man nearly sixty years of age and physically weak; but almost immediately he started on his second journey from Burma to Shanghai, and then, in attempting to traverse China from south to north, he died in 1923 while on his way from Yunnan to Kansu.

Pereira was particularly well qualified for the task he had set himself. He had resided long in China and had visited every one of its provinces, either as a

private individual or as an official. His notes of his journey are therefore valuable not merely as a geographical record; they also embody the acute observations on conditions in China in the years 1921-23 of one who was intimately acquainted with the people. In addition, three chapters written by Pereira himself, one in 1921 and two in 1923, summarise his views of the situation. He held that the evils of the imperial system had been multiplied under the Republican Government, while the checks on undue extortion and the influence of the students had been removed. The great dangers, as he saw them, were the facility with which popular opinion might be diverted into dangerous channels, as had happened in the Boxer movement; the student movement with its superficial acquirement of Western ideas; and generally, the lack of discipline in education, due to the weakness in the position of the foreign teacher, and the increase in the numbers of the soldiery, who at the least inducement were liable to become brigands. These factors were, of course, additional to and dependent on the lack of a strong central government. The proposal to abolish extra-territoriality he considered to be due to a misunderstanding of the position outside of the treaty ports, where Europeans lived in conditions which were practically Western.

Subsequent events have largely justified Pereira's views, even if to some little extent these are coloured by his training and mentality. The emphasis he lays on the importance of the student class as the future governors of the country, and his acute analysis of its weaknesses, lend support to the views of those who press the need for the inculcation of a new public spirit in Chinese affairs, and hope that it may be attained through co-operation between Britain and China in extending the facilities for university and secondary school education by means of the Boxer indemnity.

The Kiwai.

Among Papuan Headhunters: an Account of the Manners and Customs of the Old Fly River Headhunters; with a Description of the Secrets of the Initiation Ceremonies divulged by Those who have passed through All the Different Orders of the Craft, by one who has spent many Years in their Midst. By E. Baxter Riley. Pp. 316+16 plates. (London: Seeley, Service and Co., Ltd., 1925.) 21s. net.

IN this book we have the observations upon the natives of the region of the Fly estuary by a missionary who has been in the district for twenty-five years, and as he has taken a lively and sympathetic interest in the people under his care, we may accept his account with