

view. A large number of the tests developed are based upon the assumption that the population sampled is of 'normal' form. That this is the case may be gathered from a very careful reading of the text, but the point is not sufficiently emphasised. It does not appear reasonable to lay stress on the 'exactness' of tests, when no means whatever are given of appreciating how rapidly they become inexact as the population sampled diverges from normality. That the tests, for example, connected with the analysis of variance are far more dependent on normality than those involving 'Student's' z (or t) distribution is almost certain, but no clear indication of the need for caution in their application is given to the worker. It would seem wiser in the long run, even in a text-book, to admit the incompleteness of theory in this direction, rather than risk giving the reader the impression that the solution of all his problems has been achieved. The author's contributions to the development of 'normal' theory will stand by themselves, both for their direct practical value and as an important preliminary to the wider extension of theory, without any suggestion of undue completeness.

A last chapter on the principles of statistical estimation has been added to this edition. It provides a good illustration of the application of the ideas contained in the introduction and elsewhere, although perhaps it may prove stiff reading for the biologist.

Our Bookshelf.

The Works of Aristotle. Translated into English under the Editorship of Dr. W. D. Ross. Vol. 1: *Categoricæ and De Interpretatione*, by E. M. Edghill; *Analytica Priora*, by A. J. Jenkinson; *Analytica Posteriora*, by G. R. G. Mure; *Topica and De Sophisticis Elenchis*, by W. A. Pickard-Cambridge. Pp. iv + 652. (Oxford: Clarendon Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1928.) 15s. net.

THIS substantial volume is the first of a series to be added to the well-known Oxford translations, which is to include the whole of the extant works of Aristotle. The six treatises of which this book consists constitute Aristotle's immense contribution to what became known later as the science of logic. The translation faithfully reflects the nature of that contribution.

One might gather from the statements made in many a compendium of the history of philosophy that Aristotle worked out a systematic treatment of logical science. This is not the case. All the same, he was the real founder of logic as a distinctive discipline, and it was he who made the wonderful discovery of the nature of syllogistic inference.

His work is set forth in this translation in a manner which will not only satisfy the scholar, but will also make it accessible to educated readers who cannot pretend to be scholars. The four contributors to the volume have worked under the general editorship of Dr. W. D. Ross, whose guidance and inspiration each of them in turn gratefully acknowledges.

The Statesman's Year-Book: Statistical and Historical Annual of the States of the World for the Year 1929. Edited by Dr. M. Epstein. Sixty-sixth Annual Publication. Revised after Official Returns. Pp. xxxii + 1448. (London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd., 1929.) 20s. net.

THIS valuable year-book has again undergone a thorough revision and incorporates the latest official statistics up to the time of going to press. The lists of books of reference have also been revised. Notable events have occurred in many States during the year, such as the establishment of a central government with new capital in China, the transformation of Albania from a republic to a monarchy, and the restoration of the temporal sovereignty of the Pope. These and other events are duly noted, but the list of separate States now remains the same, and there have been few territorial readjustments during the year. The introductory tables include several of world production of selected commodities. In one respect the value of the book could be enhanced: that is, by the inclusion year by year of more tables of this kind. There is the usual section on the League of Nations. The coloured maps show the City of the Vatican (on a large scale) and the Peru-Colombia boundary adjustment. The size of the book has been slightly reduced, mainly by the condensation of the index, which does not, however, impair its value.

The Annual Register: a Review of Public Events at Home and Abroad for the Year 1928. Edited by Dr. M. Epstein. Pp. xiv + 316 + 166. (London, New York and Toronto: Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd., 1929.) 30s. net.

THIS well-known work of reference has now reached its hundred and seventieth volume, a length of life which alone expresses its value. It continues on the lines of previous issues. The first part, consisting of about 300 pages, is a survey of the history of the world during the year. As usual, this survey is conspicuous for its completeness and lucidity. Nothing of importance seems to be omitted. In the second part of the book there are a chronicle of events which do not fall within the scope of the historical survey, and obituary of some hundred or more eminent men of all nations. The retrospect of achievements during the year devotes nine pages to a record of science, which is little enough compared with literature and finance, but the scientific chapter is nevertheless an excellent survey of the year's progress. The public documents given in full this year are the Kellogg Pact, the Convention of the Pan-American Union, the Agreement with Transjordan, and the Anglo-Chinese Treaty.