

little time or opportunity for revision of the text, so that a number of corrections will be required in a subsequent edition. There is no acknowledgment, in the preface, of borrowed illustrations; and though a certain number of these are acknowledged in the text, there remain a few which are not. For example, Fig. 19 is scarcely distinguishable from that of the same subject (mustard seedlings) by Sachs. Fig. 196 bears an equally close resemblance to that of the lungs in Thornton's "Physiology", while in Fig. 215 one recognises the old familiar spotty frog from Sir Arthur Thomson's "Outlines of Zoology". Among the original drawings which will require correction are Figs. 168, 221, 232, 245, and 301. A number of errors also creep into the text. For example, the experiment on p. 36 concludes with the word "absorbed" where "transpired" is presumably intended; the description (as well as the illustration) of the trout on p. 232 will give pain to any honest angler—"scales of calcium carbonate, commonly called chalk", is only part of the heresy. These lapses will, however, be easier to rectify than a tendency which runs throughout the book to hurry from description to description, without a pause to consider or to summarise the broad principles involved.

*The Practical Dog Book: with Chapters on the Authentic History of all Varieties hitherto unpublished, and a Veterinary Guide and Dosage Section, and Information on Advertising and on Exporting to all parts of the World; a Comprehensive Work dealing with the Buying, Selling, Breeding, Showing, Care and Feeding of the Dog.* By Edward C. Ash. Pp. xxxii + 343 + 44 plates. (London: Simpkin Marshall, Ltd., 1930.) 21s. net.

It is four years since we had the pleasure of reviewing Mr. Edward Ash's magnificent and encyclopædic work, "Dogs: their History and Development", and it is a pleasure to receive another work on the same subject from his able pen.

The present book covers, to a great extent, the same ground as his former one, but in a very much shorter and more concise manner. In addition to a series of excellent descriptions of the various breeds of to-day, with their histories, there are sections which deal with the care and management of kennels in general and their inmates, both in sickness and in health. For those taking up dog-breeding as a hobby or a career, there are invaluable chapters dealing with the transport and export of dogs to foreign countries, with quarantine regulations at home and abroad, and the latest possible information regarding the showing of dogs in every country in the world.

The book is profusely illustrated with a series of beautiful plates. These fall into two groups which form an interesting and instructive contrast. One group consists of the dogs of yesterday, which include not only the dogs of the past century but also dogs from the very beginning of things. The second group is composed entirely of the best specimens of the dogs of to-day.

Mr. Ash has collected together in this work a thousand and one items of information about dogs

in general, which should be of the utmost value to anyone concerned in the breeding and exhibition of these animals. To the dog lover and student of history, also, the book should be of the greatest value and interest.

*The Origin and Growth of Religion: Facts and Theories.* By Prof. W. Schmidt. Translated from the original German by Prof. H. J. Rose. Pp. xvi + 302. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1931.) 15s. net.

It was a happy idea that urged Pater Schmidt to write this manual for the comparative history of religions, and a still happier one that prompted Prof. Rose to translate it into English. It is based on notes for a year's course of the author's lectures and covers the history of the subject, sketches the various theories, movements, and schools, and gives a brief account of the religions in the order of their appearance. A book of this kind was badly needed, especially for students in England, where ideas about method are apt to be a little nebulous, and where, perhaps, too little attention has been paid to development in theory on the Continent.

Pater Schmidt has based his exposition on his great work "Ursprung der Gottesidee", still in course of publication, and his criticism, especially of Tylor and the English animists and pre-animists, is orientated in accordance with his views on the priority of the belief in 'high gods'. He is less than respectful to the English 'diffusionist' school. It is evident that the author is not fully acquainted with the movement of anthropological thought in England and does not understand the various ways in which it develops. The tone of his criticism of Tylor's alleged silence on the subject of 'high gods' is unworthy. While his health lasted, Tylor neither ignored nor attempted to burke criticism of his views; but he did not rush into print. Unfortunately, the same tone appears, if not so pronounced, in Father Schmidt's criticism of 'Protestant' anthropologists. The only appropriate reply is a *tu quoque*. In neither case is the cause of science advanced. Some of the excellent notes added by Prof. Rose here serve to palliate the defects.

*Intermediate Mechanics: Dynamics.* By D. Humphrey. (Longmans' Modern Mathematical Series.) Pp. x + 382. (London, New York and Toronto: Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd., 1930.) 10s. 6d.

THE author of this book has set out to fill, in the case of dynamics, the gap that often exists between the normal senior school course and scholarship work in a subject, and he has succeeded admirably, though, in view of the fact that he does not hesitate to use the methods of the calculus whenever they are helpful, the detailed proof that 60 m./hr. = 88 ft./sec. seems somewhat outside the scope of the book. The arrangement is generally good, and the argument clear; the examples are plentiful and well graded, in many cases being accompanied by excellent notes as to appropriate methods or special difficulties.