

*Berkeley.* By Prof. G. Dawes Hicks. (Leaders of Philosophy Series.) Pp. xii+336. (London: Ernest Benn, Ltd., 1932.) 12s. 6d. net.

THIS is a valuable addition to the series of monographs on the philosophers who have mainly influenced Western thought. Much has been written already on Berkeley; yet Prof. Dawes Hicks succeeds in being both original and interesting in his account of the Bishop of Cloyne. In the exposition of Berkeley's doctrine, he rightly stresses the importance of his opinions about mathematics and the sciences for the understanding of his philosophical views; and the section devoted to Berkeley's place in history adds some fresh material to the valuation of this most fascinating thinker. T. G.

### Technology

*A Dictionary of Electrical Terms: including Telegraphy, Telephony and Wireless.* By S. R. Roget. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. vii+396. (London: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1931.) 7s. 6d. net.

So rapid has been the progress made in various branches of electrical science that even scientific workers themselves have sometimes to look up many of the latest treatises published before they find the definition of the term or phrase they are looking for. We have looked up many words such as *bel*, *néper*, *booster*, in this dictionary, and have found clear and satisfactory definitions. Purely trade names of apparatus have been omitted. The use of many technical terms in the electrical industry is almost entirely confined to the United States; but some which originated there are equally used on both sides of the Atlantic; the author gives both. Conciseness has been attained without the sacrifice of intelligibility and the author does not trespass on the function of the encyclopædia or the technical treatise.

In the second edition more than nineteen hundred further expressions have been added and a good many alterations have been made. The author's purpose has not been to compete with the officially established definitions compiled by the British Standards Institution and by the International Electrotechnical Commission. His purpose has been to give explanations rather than definitions. The dictionary should prove useful to many.

*Advanced Electrical Measurements.* By Dr. William R. Smythe and Dr. Walter C. Michels. Pp. x+240. (New York: D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 1932.) 3 dollars.

THE object of this book is to train students so that they may be useful in research, testing and development work. Perhaps it is too much to hope that all the information given can be assimilated in thirty laboratory lessons; but the book can be commended. It is stated (p. 101) that "the growth of modern physics dates from the time of the conception of the electrical theory of matter". If this is regarded as the definition of 'modern physics', evidence can be produced in support of it, but we think that it rather limits its scope.

Comparing this book with similar books published thirty or forty years ago, it will be seen how the methods given of measuring, for example, inductance and capacitance, have improved in the direction of attaining higher precision, but possibly they are less instructive. Students now experiment with various kinds of alternating current bridges, ionisation gauges and hot wire manometers. Photoelectric cells and optical manometers are also used. The mechanisation of laboratory experiments is proceeding so rapidly that there is little time to develop originality. The proof reading seems to have been carelessly done as there are variations in the spelling of the names of continental physicists.

## Forthcoming Books of Science

### Agriculture, Forestry and Horticulture

*George Allen and Unwin, Ltd.*—Practical Sheep-Farming, T. C. Norris. *Ernest Benn, Ltd.*—The Garden, W. E. Shewell-Cooper. *Cambridge University Press, Ltd.*—West African Agriculture, O. T. Faulkner and J. R. Mackie. *Martin Hopkinson, Ltd.*—The Apple, Sir Daniel Hall and M. C. Crane; The Garden of To-day, A. Tipping. *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.*—Tropical Soils, Dr. P. Vageler, translated by Dr. H. Greene. *A. Wheaton and Co., Ltd.*—Gardening Science and Biology (Books 2 and 3), Ivan Dowding and H. Bennett.

### Anthropology, Archæology and Ethnology

*Edward Arnold and Co.*—Byzantine Civilisation, Steven Runciman. *B. T. Batsford, Ltd.*—Domestic Utensils of Wood from the 16th to the 19th Century, Owen Evan-Thomas. *Ernest Benn, Ltd.*—If the Blind Lead, M. Alderton Pink. *Cambridge University Press.*—Indo-European Folk-Tales and Greek Legend, W. R. Halliday; Our Forefathers: the Gothic Nations (vol. 2), Dr. G. Schütte. *Cassell and Co., Ltd.*—

The Tomb of Tut-Ankh-Amen (vol. 3), Dr. Howard Carter; An Outline of Italian Civilization, Dr. Decio Pettoello. *Jarrols, Ltd.*—Backwaters of the Savage South Seas, Evelyn Cheesman. *Sampson Low, Marston and Co., Ltd.*—Incomparable India, Col. Robert J. Blackham; The Martial Races of India, Lieut.-Gen. Sir George MacMunn; Forms and Ceremonies of Marriage throughout the World, E. N. Fallaize. *Macmillan and Co., Ltd.*—A Handbook to the Palace of Minos at Knossos with its Dependencies, J. Pendlebury: with a foreword by Sir Arthur Evans; Ivory Poaching and Cannibals in Africa, J. T. Muirhead. *Methuen and Co., Ltd.*—Prehistoric Europe, C. F. C. Hawkes. *Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co., Ltd.*—The Rise of the Celts, H. Hubert; A History of Buddhist Thought, Dr. E. J. Thomas; Nomads of the European Steppe, G. F. Hudson. *G. P. Putnam's Sons, Ltd.*—The Discoveries of Tell Halaf, Baron Max von Oppenheim. *Charles Scribner's Sons.*—Mexico before Cortez, J. E. Thompson. *Sheed and Ward, Ltd.*—Enquiries into Religion and Culture, C. Dawson; The Age of the Gods, C. Dawson. *C. A. Watts and Co., Ltd.*—The Diffusion of Culture, Prof. G. Elliot Smith. *Williams and Norgate,*