

phrase also expresses aptly the wide range of the book—the great Siberian meteorite, human biology, the structure of wool fibres, modern advances in engineering, Thames floods, terrestrial magnetism, the constitution of the stars, viruses and vitamins.

The author has travelled widely in search of material, visiting Prof. Kulik in Russia for example to discuss the Siberian meteorite. This and the chapter on the structure of wool fibres are especially good, but a few, such as the sketch of "magnetism in the universe", are too superficial to be of real interest. It is curious that the author should have made so elementary a mistake as that on p. 141, where the average air pressure over the oceans is said to be 28 inches. The last article is entitled "Basic English", and is included because the author realised that "a science expert writing for the public has necessarily to make use of a sort of Basic English". The article reads so fluently and naturally that it comes as a shock to find at the end that it is itself written in Basic English.

*The Problem of Incentives in Industry: Three Lectures given at the London School of Economics under the Heath Clark Bequest to the National Institute of Industrial Psychology.* By Dr. G. H. Miles. Pp. v+58. (London: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1932.) 3s. 6d. net.

THE three lectures contained in this volume give a popular analysis of the various classes of incentives, including fear and financial incentives, non-financial incentives such as appreciation, knowledge, loyalty, welfare schemes, co-operation, and special incentives like responsibility and promotion which affect those holding management positions. The dangers and limitations of particular types of incentives are discussed and Dr. Miles asserts that the essential problem is that of the development of human power.

Incentives which are designed and applied to increase the general welfare of the worker and his interest in life and work do far more than merely augment output and increase the profits of industry. Those who hold with Dr. Miles that the ultimate purpose of industry is the amelioration of the conditions of life of society in general will welcome the issue to a wider public of this lucid statement of general principles. R.B.

*Muscular Work, Fatigue and Recovery: Three Lectures given under the Heath Clark Bequest to the National Institute of Industrial Psychology.* By G. P. Crowden. Pp. ix+74+6 plates. (London: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 1932.) 3s. 6d. net.

THESE lectures outline certain aspects of the rationalisation of industrial work in the light of the physiological requirements of the human body. They describe in a popular and readable manner the way in which the scientific principles determining human efficiency and fatigue are being elucidated and indicate the contribution which

this branch of industrial physiology has to make to human welfare in industry. The survey is not limited to the investigations of British workers alone but also includes a brief description of the Dortmund Institute for the Study of the Physiology of Labour.

The influence of such factors as ventilation, temperature, clothing and food is indicated and this clear and concise statement of the methods of science in this field should stimulate that enthusiastic co-operation among trade unionists, employers, scientific workers, and employees which is essential if full use is to be made even of the knowledge already acquired. R.B.

### Philosophy and Psychology

*A History of Psychology in Autobiography.* (The International University Series in Psychology.) Vol. 2. By Benjamin Bourdon, Harald Höffding, James Drever, Charles H. Judd, Knight Dunlap, C. Lloyd Morgan, Giulio Cesare Ferrari, Walter B. Pillsbury, Shepherd Ivory Franz, Lewis M. Terman, Karl Groos, Margaret Floy Washburn, Gerardus Heymans, Robert S. Woodworth, Robert Mearns Yerkes. Edited by Carl Murchison. Pp. xvii+407. (Worcester, Mass.: Clark University Press; London: Oxford University Press, 1932.) 28s. net.

THE first volume of this work was noticed by us at the time of its appearance. We think that the editor and his co-adjutors were quite justified in their view that the history of recent psychology could scarcely be written, and that indeed a comprehensive statement about present trends in psychology could scarcely be made, without such help as this great work affords. Furthermore, to many readers the personal note which runs through each of these records will prove an aid to understanding, although we must express our conviction that a good deal of the autobiographical detail is superfluous. Still, the work is an important one, and one that reflects credit upon every person concerned in its production.

*David Hume.* By Dr. B. M. Laing. (Leaders of Philosophy Series.) Pp. xi+273. (London: Ernest Benn, Ltd., 1932.) 12s. 6d. net.

AT a time when the extraordinary wealth of our knowledge in all directions threatens our sense of values with conflicting conclusions and assumptions, Hume's scepticism finds a renewed actuality. Dr. Laing's able monograph gives the right historical and philosophical setting of Hume's doctrines, and will no doubt encourage his readers to a closer study of Hume's writings. They will thus find out for themselves that Hume's influence on scientific investigation, or on the theory of it, is strongest where the experimental method and its presuppositions are stressed. But the important part played by mathematics in physical science has set limits to his influence in this direction because of doubts concerning the adequacy of his theory in this respect. T. G.