

The Gramophone Record

By H. Courtney Bryson. Pp. xix + 286. (London : Ernest Benn, Ltd., 1935.) 21s. net.

THE gramophone record industry is so specialized, particularly in the manufacture of disk records, that although the industry is half a century old and substantial developments have taken place in the last decade, there have been hitherto no books or 'inside' information published which give a comprehensive account of the extremely delicate processes involved in making multiplications of a master record perhaps a million times. The author gives an amusing, but intelligent, historical account of the pioneers and their early efforts in recording natural sounds, and then carefully states the nature of the problem and how it is solved at the present time.

The text is profusely illustrated with photographs of technical operations, so that the reader is not left in the air with theoretical notions. The author is a specialist in plastics, and hence the valuable part of the book is concerned with the materials, which are necessarily the limiting factors in making records of technical excellence, their properties and technique of handling. The final chapter deals with possibilities of departing from the prevalent black shiny disk, but the author is not hopeful. We are also pessimistic, since the shellac disk is the cheapest method of obtaining an artistic record which is tolerable, and on account of the rapid decline in the sales

of records, the large record firms, which have substantial monopolies, will be loath to change to an improved system. These aspects tend to make the present text the more valuable. L. E. C. H.

Stereoscopic Photography :

its Application to Science, Industry and Education. By Arthur W. Judge. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Pp. xi + 340 + 22 plates. (London : Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1935.) 21s. net.

IN Great Britain the amateur photographer, unlike his colleague on the Continent, is not as a rule interested in stereoscopic photography : its developments therefore have been mainly scientific and industrial. The additional matter contained in this new edition of Mr. Judge's book reflects this condition. The most important advances perhaps are in connexion with medical work, ophthalmic appliances and the recording of X-ray 'screening' experiments under improved conditions. Nevertheless, the classical part of the subject permits of wide extension, such as the application of geometrical optics to the more refined problems of binocular vision. The book is thoroughly practical and provided with an abundance of illustrations.

In the past, it has been difficult to obtain up-to-date information of the kind in English : this volume therefore should appeal to a wide circle of inquirers.

F. I. G. R.

Forthcoming Books of Science

Agriculture and Horticulture

Jonathan Cape, Ltd. Fool's Garden—Muriel Stuart.

English Universities Press, Ltd. The Vegetable Book—W. E. Shewell-Cooper.

Faber and Faber, Ltd. A Survey of the Agricultural and Waste Lands of Wales—edited for the Cahn Hill Improvement Scheme by Prof. R. G. Stapledon.

Crosby Lockwood and Son, Ltd. British Sheep—Dr. A. H. H. Fraser. Farm and Garden Seeds—S. P. Mercer. Farm Machinery—Dr. V. E. Wilkins and Thompson Close. Insect Pests of Fruit Trees—Dr. A. M. Massee. Profit from Fertilizers—various authors. Vegetable Growing for Market—A. H. Hoare.

Longmans, Green and Co., Ltd. English Farming, Past and Present—Lord Ernle (new edition by Sir A. D. Hall). The Earth Goddess : a Study of Native Farming on the West African Coast—G. Howard Jones.

McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., Ltd. Rich Land, Poor Land—Chase.

Macmillan and Co., Ltd. Hardy Fruit Growing—Sir Frederick Keeble and A. N. Rawes.

Oxford University Press. The Study of the Soil in the Field—G. R. Clarke.

Anthropology and Archæology

George Allen and Unwin, Ltd. We, the Tikopia : a Sociological Study of Kinship in Primitive Polynesia—Dr. Raymond Firth.

D. Appleton-Century Co., Inc.—The Study of Man : an Introduction—Ralph Linton.

Thornton Butterworth, Ltd. Cambodian Glory—H. W. Ponder.

Cambridge University Press. The Secret Languages of Ireland—Dr. R. A. S. Macalister. Naven : a Survey of the Problems suggested by a Composite Picture of the Culture of a New Guinea Tribe drawn from three Points of View—Gregory Bateson.

Chatto and Windus. Stone Men of Malekula (4 vols.)—John Layard. The Stones of Assyria—C. J. Gadd.

English Universities Press, Ltd. The Aryans—R. T. Clark.

Hutchinson and Co. (Publishers), Ltd. Witches and Warlocks—Philip W. Sergeant.

John Long, Ltd. The Black Art—Rollo Ahmed.

McGraw-Hill Publishing Co., Ltd. Co-operation and Competition among Primitive Peoples—Mead. Primitive Behaviour—Thomas.

Macmillan and Co., Ltd. The Rengma Nagas of Assam—J. P. Mills. Aftermath—Sir James Frazer.

John Murray. The Bornu Sahara and Sudan—Sir Richmond Palmer.

Ivor Nicholson and Watson, Ltd. Orientations—Sir Ronald Storrs. A Popular Anthropology—Sir George Dunbar.

Oxford University Press. Witchcraft, Oracles, and Magic among the Azande—E. E. Evans-Pritchard. Scandinavian Archæology—Prof. Haakon Shetelig and Prof. Hjalmar Falk. A Study of the Kanuri—J. Lukas. Pleistocene Man in Minnesota—Dr. Albert E. Jenks.

Penguin Books, Ltd. Some Experiences of a New Guinea Magistrate (vols. 1 and 2)—C. A. W. Monckton.