

importance. Its relative importance is greater if the volume is bound in two or more books.

Thus this form of reference forms a logical sequence; journal, series, volume number, page reference, lastly year as a check in case of error in the preceding references. Too many references which follow this system in other respects omit the year of publication.

This method of indication places the parts of the reference in their order of importance and use.

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

An Introduction to Economic Geography. Volume I. *Natural Environment as Related to Economic Life.*

By WELLINGTON JONES and DERWENT S. WHITTLESEY. 375 pp., 366 figures. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1925. \$5.00.

"W. D. JONES and D. S. Whittlesey have just produced the best American work on economic geography." Thus has Jean Brunhes, the French geographer, characterized this recent addition to geographic literature. He might have added that it is almost the first presentation in text-book form that is strictly geographic in its contents and method. Most of the other works on economic geography that have appeared have been either physiographies with some emphasis on the influences of physiographic features upon man or descriptions of resources and industries with an attempt to show the relation of those resources and industries to environmental conditions. "An Introduction to Economic Geography" is a presentation of the newer tendencies in the teaching of geography in this country, especially as those tendencies are finding expression in the school of geography of the University of Chicago.

The present work is the first volume of a two-volume treatise. It deals with the natural environment and with some of the more significant relationships to economic life. The second volume, promised for the near future, will deal with the major economic activities and with their relationship to the natural environment. The two volumes are intended for use in introductory geography courses in colleges and in senior high schools.

"An Introduction to Economic Geography" follows none of the orthodox rules of text-book arrangement. There is no systematic treatment either by commodities or by countries. The first volume is divided into three major parts. The first part consists of a series of exercises and question groups covering the outstanding features of the environment. There are exercises on climate, land forms and soil, rocks and min-

erals, ground and surface waters, the ocean and coasts, and the shape, size and location of land masses. It is the intention of the authors that the student should secure his understanding of the principles of geography through working out the exercises inductively from materials supplied in the remaining two parts of the book.

Part II is text material covering the same range of subjects as the exercises. It includes factual material and explanations of the elements of the physical environment, together with brief descriptions of some vital activities of man as influenced by that element. Accompanying the explanation of the arid and semi-arid climates, there is a description of dry-farming as practiced in the western great plains region and of the life of the nomadic Khirghiz. With the section on land forms, there is an excerpt descriptive of the isolated and backward life of the southern Appalachians. Most of the text material has been prepared by the authors, but a part of it has been adapted for the present use from other sources.

Part III consists of illustrations, 366 in all. They include many maps and graphs, but the great majority are photographs, most of them taken by the senior author. There is an exceptionally good collection of geographic illustrations for the Orient, a result of Professor Jones's two trips to Asia. The folder of world maps is worthy of special notice. It contains excellent maps of world climatic regions, world temperature for January and July, semi-annual rainfall and land forms. The temperature maps show surface temperatures rather than the usually mapped sea level temperatures of so little significance to the geographer.

There are few adverse criticisms to be made of "An Introduction to Economic Geography." The treatment of a subject in each of the three parts of the book tends to weaken the continuity. It would seem preferable, at least, to combine Parts II and III and insert the illustrations throughout the book immediately with the pertinent text material.

The principal criticism is that the explanations of the elements of the environment are not always adequate. Geography, it is true, is not the study of the environment, but it is the study of the relationships that exist between that environment and living organisms. Without an understanding of both the organisms and the environment any understanding of their relationships is impossible. The absence of such necessary background may easily lead to an over-emphasis of superficial relationships or to an insistence on relationships that do not exist.

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