Next high in 1939 in total numbers were books for juvenile readers, 34,848,416 volumes, compared with 29,336,530 volumes in 1937.

Statistics on other books, by class and number, for 1939 and 1937, are given in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Kind	1939	1937
Agriculture and related subjects	1,018,809	1,034,607
Biography	2,384,647	2,754,390
Fine arts	590,885	694,163
History	2,306,829	1,238,806
Law	2,356,395	2,448,165
Medicine	1,868,892	3,923,532
Music (musical notations)	5,682,042	6,722,598
Poetry and drama	1,499,477	1,788,541
Religion and philosophy	6,413,606	6,944,102
Sociology and economics	886,751	1,156,885
Travel and geography	1,482,138	1,641,931
Reference	6,716,403	3,841,442
Miscellaneous	16,196,422	23,367,371
Bluebooks, directories, catalogues, etc.	7,724,351	4,280,525

Publication of pamphlets more than doubled in number, with a 1939 total of 540,536,202, compared with 216,847,761 in 1937.

Maps, atlases and globe covers published in 1939 numbered 64,309,275, compared with 103,867,467 in 1937.

A. W. VON STRUVE

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

PRESERVATION OF THE CONTINUITY OF THE SCIENTIFIC RECORD

UPON us in the more fortunate continents where research in pure science can still go on there surely rests an obligation to do all we can in aid of our colleagues abroad. The exigencies of the immediate situation are sufficiently clear, but it is now none too early to plan for aid in the restoration of pure science abroad after the war.

Specifically, foreign subscriptions to American scientific journals have fallen off. This means that the continuity of files in foreign libraries may be broken, irretrievably unless the situation is planned for now, and much that is being accomplished by American scientists and by Europeans working in America will be unavailable to the scientists abroad who return after the war to their depleted laboratories and impoverished libraries. Are the publishers and editorial boards of American journals setting aside enough extra copies of their current numbers so that the broken files abroad may be made complete after the war?

Each scientist in this country must know of colleagues abroad with common interests. Are we each buying enough extra reprints of current articles to supply at a more propitious time those abroad who work in our fields? By clear thinking and decisive action on these and related questions much might be done to restore the free culture of science which is now so hard pressed in much of the world.

STUART MUDD

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

RECENT BOOKS IN GEOGRAPHY

AT a time when wide-spread military conquest and a series of international crises have once again focused attention on geography, it is significant to note the appearance of five books in that field between August and December, 1940. Four are revisions of earlier texts, but the fifth is a completely new work.

As a popular treatise of the subject by a professional geographer, Roderick Peattie's "Geography in Human Destiny" (323 pages and 26 illustrations. New York: George W. Stewart. 1940. $3.50) should prove of special interest to those who have had only a grade-school or high-school acquaintance with formal geography.

After introductory chapters on the nature and content of his field, Professor Peattie proceeds to trace the environmental thread in human activity from the Paleolithic Age to the present moment, or, as he regretfully suggests, from "stone ax to dive bomber." He develops his philosophy in a direct and simple, if not highly polished style, and enriches the discussion with frequent citations from broad personal experience and the pens of others. The volume is concluded by comments on the geographic basis of national conservation and a brief treatment of the author's concept of "The Geography of Peace." An interesting feature is the list of further readings of a popular nature which appears at the end.

While some geographers may shrink from its rather strongly environmentalistic tone, and others may doubt the appropriateness of the chapter on evolution, the fundamental soundness of "Geography in Human Destiny" is beyond question. Total lack of pictorial illustration is the greatest shortcoming of the book. Although it contains twenty-six well-executed maps, charts and physiographic diagrams by Arthur Robinson, the many opportunities for clinching arguments or making points more effective through the use of well-selected photographs have been ignored by either the author or the publisher.

Principles of Human Geography. By ELLSWORTH HUNTINGTON. Fifth edition. 594+xxiv pp. 70 maps, 26 diagrams, 2 plates and numerous tables