
Evolution of Man

This is the fifth title in a series of scientific books sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History. Professor Howells has done a magnificent job of bringing to the layman a highly readable account of the history of mankind. His free and easy style, and the dramatic treatment of the subject matter combine to make this book fascinating in all its details as well as its being authoritative.

There are twenty-five chapters which are organized into three parts. Part One leads the reader through a short discussion of the principles of evolution. Application of these principles are then made to the evolution of the vertebrate groups which have served as ancestral to man. In the second part the author discusses fossil men and their probable relationship to *Homo sapiens*. Enough history about these finds and the men who made them is included to heighten interest in this section. Part Three deals with the nature and origin of races, their migrations and geographical distribution. In the last chapter the author depicts some of the probable trends in man's evolution during the next one million years.—*W. M. Tidd*.

Mankind So Far, by William Howells, xii and 319 pages. Thirty-seven line-cut and half-tone illustrations. Published by Doubleday, Doran and Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1944. \$4.50.

Ticks of North America

This excellent monograph on argasid ticks contains the following sections: Introduction; Medical and Veterinary Importance of the Argasidae; Explanation of Terms; Principal Characters of Argasidae; Methods; Family Argasidae; Genus Argas; Genus Otobius; Genus Ornithodoros; Genus Antricola; Plates; Classified List of Hosts; Geographical Distribution of Species; Bibliography; and Index.

The morphology of each species is thoroughly described and illustrated for all stages that have been recognized. The known distribution of each species is indicated by a map and information on hosts and biology is included in so far as it is available. The numerous illustrations are of high quality in that they are artistic in appearance and show diagnostic features.

Twenty-five species are recognized for the area covered and many people are already acquainted with some of them. Two bad pests are the blue bug of poultry in Florida, Texas and elsewhere, and the spinose ear tick of cattle in the West. Some species are vectors of disease and in this connection may be mentioned the relapsing fevers of the Western States and the experimental transmission of Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

The authors have produced a treatise which can be used by amateurs as well as by seasoned entomologists and therefore it can be predicted that their book will be the stimulus for much research and especially faunistic studies.

The American Midland Naturalist Monograph No. 1. The Argasidae of North America, Central America, and Cuba, by R. A. Cooley and G. M. Kohls. 152 pages, 57 text figures, 14 plates. The University Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, June, 1944. Price, \$2.00.