

Books of the Week

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ASTRONOMY—William T. Skilling and Robert S. Richardson—*Holt*, 2nd ed., 692 p., illus., \$4.75. This textbook, for a first college course in astronomy, has been revised along lines indicated by results of questionnaires which the authors sent to teachers using the first edition.

ESSENTIALS OF PHARMACOLOGY—Frances K. Oldham, F. E. Kelsey, and E. M. K. Geiling—*Lippincott*, 440 p., \$5.00. A concise and effective introductory text, dealing fully with the entire field of pharmacology, in which general principles are stressed; drugs are discussed in groups according to functions.

EUROPE'S POPULATION IN THE INTERWAR YEARS—Dudley Kirk—*Princeton Univ.*, League of Nations Publication, 1946 II. A.8, 303 p., illus., \$3.50, paper; \$4.00, cloth. This fundamental demographic study explores the changing human resources of 27 European countries, measuring the basic regional differences in population characteristics, which significantly do not coincide with national or socio-economic frontiers.

GENERAL CHEMISTRY—Linus Pauling—*Freeman*, 595 p., illus., \$4.25. An orderly presentation of descriptive chemistry and modern chemical theory, intended for college students whether or not they have had previous training in the subject.

THE GERMAN OILSEED INDUSTRY—W. H. Goss—*Hobart*, 248 p., illus., paper, \$17.50. A well-documented treatise comprising an extensive study of the soybean oil industry in Germany.

HIGHLAND COMMUNITIES OF CENTRAL PERU: A Regional Study—Harry Tschopik, Jr.—*Govt. Printing Office*—Smithsonian Institution, Institute of Social Anthropology, Publication No. 5, 56 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. A discussion of the mixed and varied culture of the Central Highlands, including descriptions of physical setting, population, commerce and communication, as well as a detailed study of life in the respective communities.

HOW TO SPEAK EFFECTIVELY ON ALL OCCASIONS—George W. Hibbitt—*Halcyon House*, 308 p., illus., \$1.98. Intended to aid the reader in increasing his ability as a speaker, this book includes sections on factors making for effective speech, various occasions requiring different types of speech, and the elements of composing speeches.

IS MARRIAGE NECESSARY—George A. Bartlett—*Pelican*, 179 p., paper, 35 cents. A Judge writes of marriage and its problems from his experience on the bench of the Reno divorce court.

MAYA EXPLORER—Victor Wolfgang Von Hagen—*Univ. of Okla. Press*, 324 p., illus., \$5.00. Biography of John Lloyd Stephens, who rediscovered a lost culture in Central and South America, and became "the father of Mayaism."

THE METROPOLITAN LIFE: A Study in Business Growth—Marquis James—*Viking*, 480 p., \$5.00. The story of the development of this biggest business in the world from a struggling private enter-

prise to a semi-public institution sponsoring health and welfare programs, housing developments, medical research and educational activities, and development of the field of industrial insurance.

THE PRACTICAL NURSE—Dorothy Deming—*Commonwealth Fund*, 370 p., \$3.00. A comprehensive work on the functioning of the practical nurse in homes, hospitals, public health, and industry, with suggestions for expansion and improvement of her service in the future.

READING AND VISUAL FATIGUE—Leonard Carmichael and Walter F. Dearborn—*Houghton*, 483 p., illus., \$5.00. Written for all those interested in the functioning of the eyes, this book not only summarizes existing literature but reports extensively on new experiments in the field, with high school and college students as subjects.

RESEARCH ON WAGES: Report of a Conference Held on April 4-5, 1947, at the Yale Labor and Management Center, prepared for the Committee on Labor Market Research—Lloyd G. Reynolds—*Soc. Sci. Res. Council*, Pamphlet 4, 41 p., paper, 50 cents. A summary of the conference discussion on several aspects of wage policy, with suggestions for further research in this field.

SCIENCE TEACHING—Arthur G. Hoff—*Blakiston*, 303 p., \$3.75. Designed as an aid to the science teacher, this volume indicates for the instructor the means of preparing the student for adapting to a scientific environment and for utilizing intelligently the materials and facts of modern science.

SELF-HELP GEOMETRY WORKBOOK—H. D. Welte, F. B. Knight, and L. S. Walker—*Scott, Foresman*, 84 p., illus., paper, 72 cents. Developed to assist the student to a more thorough and full mastery of plane geometry, the workbook provides 34 drills on the major topics as well as discussion units for the more difficult subject matter.

A STUDY OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN'S DIETS—E. M. Widdowson—*British Information Office*, Medical Res. Council. Special Report Series, No. 257, 196 p., illus., paper, \$1.90. This survey made in the British Isles, analyzes the food consumption and values received by each child in selected groups.

TEST YOURSELF!—William Bernard and Jules Leopold—*Hellman, Williams*—94 p., illus., \$2.00. The blurb on this book says: "Find out what makes you tick. Learn your strong points and your weaknesses. See yourself as others see you. . . If you dare!" Psychologists won't agree that anyone can take a short paper-and-pencil test, such as the 30 in this book, and tell whether he is a good lover, has esthetic taste, has superior judgment, etc.

TEXTBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY—Thurman B. Rice—*Saunders*, 4th ed., 603 p., illus., \$6.50. A practical textbook for those who seek an understanding of bacteriology without probing its more theoretical aspects.

TREASON'S PEACE—Howard Watson Ambruster—*Beechhurst*, 438 p., \$3.75. The well-documented story of IG Farben, the German dye trust, from its origins in six

small coal-tar dye companies to its recent position as a huge international and cartelized chemical combine having world domination as its ultimate aim.

THE USE OF THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY CELLS FOR GAS ANALYSIS IN STUDYING THE FISCHER-TROPSCH SYNTHESIS OF HYDROCARBONS—Edmond L. D'Ouille and K. Elizabeth Howe, 6 p., illus., paper. Free from: *Mellon Institute*, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Science News Letter, October 25, 1947

PHYSICS

Electrically Heated Glass Adds to Plane Safety

➤ A NEW glass, that conducts electricity and therefore can be electrically heated to keep it free of ice, is being installed in the control cabins of the new Boeing giant Stratocruiser passenger planes, in Seattle, Wash.

This glass, called Nesa and developed by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, has inside and outside layers of plate glass with a layer of a clear vinyl plastic between. On the inside surface of the outer layer is a transparent but electrically conductive coating, whose composition is secret. By passing an electric current through the coating, regulated heat can be applied to the glass, keeping it ice and fog free at all times.

Science News Letter, October 25, 1947



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