

not yet been advanced, Dr. Collins declares.

An electric current, once started in a superconducting circuit, continues to flow without help from an electric cell or other source of potential. Such currents may be started in a ring of the material by electromagnetic induction. Currents flowing in a superconductor are generally confined to a very thin surface layer.

There are two forms of liquid helium, known as Helium I and Helium II. The only unusual feature of Helium I is the

fact that its viscosity decreases as the temperature decreases. Helium II, however, has many strange properties. When an open thermos flask containing it is surrounded by a larger thermos vessel, the Helium II liquid quickly distributes itself between the two vessels, establishing the same level in both. The liquid seems able to flow over the retaining wall as if by a siphon. This ability of one form of helium to climb the walls of a container has already been used as a one-step process to separate the two forms.

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last of the breeding stock used in a joint federal-state project to restore these gourmets' darlings, sadly depleted by decades of too-intensive hunting.

The project has been measurably successful, with a total of a quarter-million young terrapin restocked into waters along the South Atlantic coast.

Of late years the demand for terrapin has fallen off considerably. Congressional appropriations have ceased. So the breeding colony at Beaufort, N. C. will be turned loose to hunt for their own grub.

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Books of the Week

TO SERVE YOU: To get books, send us a check or money order to cover retail price. Address Book Dept., SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. In the case of free publications order direct from issuing organizations.

BREEDING LIVESTOCK ADAPTED TO UNFAVORABLE ENVIRONMENTS—Ralph W. Phillips—*FAO* (Columbia University Press), 182 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. Concerned with the kinds of animals that thrive under harsh climatic conditions.

THE DIARY AND SUNDRY OBSERVATIONS OF THOMAS ALVA EDISON—Dagobert D. Runes, Ed.—*Philosophical Library*, 247 p., illus., \$4.75. Intimate glimpses into the daily life and thoughts of a great inventor.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HOME CARE AND REPAIR—William J. Hennessey and William W. Atkin—*Lantern*, 409 p., illus., \$3.95. If you want to know what is a gambrel roof, how to start a coal fire, or how to resurface a stucco wall with shingles, you will find the answers to these and many other questions all in alphabetical order in this book.

FUNDAMENTAL EDUCATION: Common Ground for All Peoples—Special Committee to the Preparatory Commission, UNESCO—*Macmillan*, 325 p., \$2.50. Here is not only stated the problem of world-wide illiteracy and ignorance, but methods are suggested for meeting it.

GEM TESTING—B. W. Anderson—*Emerson Books*, 256 p., illus., \$5.00. How to identify jewels, to distinguish one stone from another and the genuine from imitations.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT DIABETES—Herbert Yahraes—*Public Affairs Committee*, 32 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. Practical information for diabetics and their families and friends.

INTRODUCTORY PHYSICAL METALLURGY—Clyde W. Mason—*American Society of Metals*, 134 p., illus., \$3.00. Lectures before the ASM.

MASONRY SIMPLIFIED, VOL. I: TOOLS, MATERIALS, PRACTICE—J. Ralph Dalzell and Gilbert Townsend—*American Technical Society*, 367 p., illus., \$4.50. Of interest to homebuilders and architects as well as the workmen for whom it is intended.

MASONRY SIMPLIFIED, VOL. II: PRACTICAL CONSTRUCTION—J. Ralph Dalzell and Gilbert Townsend—*American Technical Society*, 405 p., illus., \$5.00. Covering all sorts of construction from chimneys to septic tanks and including ratproofing,

termite protection and other items important to the home planner.

PRECISION INVESTMENT CASTINGS—Edwin Laird Cady—*Reinhold*, 356 p., illus., \$6.00. Describing for the benefit of engineers a relatively new method for making parts and semifinished or finished products economically.

STRANGE PREHISTORIC ANIMALS AND THEIR STORIES—A. Hyatt Verrill—*Page*, 262 p., illus., \$3.75. Not intended as a scientific book, the purpose is rather to entertain with stories of the amazing creatures who walked this earth in times gone by.

TRIBES OF THE LIBERIAN HINTERLAND—George Schwab—*Peabody Museum*, 526 p., illus., paper, \$7.50, cloth \$10.00. The report of the Peabody Museum expedition to Liberia.

TWELVE WALKED AWAY—Marguerite Gaylord Tate—*Harcourt, Brace*, 150 p., \$2.50. The interesting narrative of an airplane crash in the Swiss Alps and the rescue.

USING SALTY LAND—H. Greene—*FAO* (Columbia University Press), 49 p., paper, 50 cents. Telling how to reclaim much land not now useful for agriculture.

VITAMINS AND HORMONES: Advances in Research and Applications, Vol. V—Robert S. Harris and Kenneth V. Thimann, Eds.—*Academic Press*, 478 p., illus., \$7.50. Another in a series of critical reviews in this important field.

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BIOLOGY

Nobody Eats Terrapin Now, So Breeding Project Ends

➤ **TERRAPIN** in North Carolina waters—2,600 of them—are being put out on their own. They have been spoon-fed all of their lives—and some of them are up to 50 years old—but from now on they must forage for themselves.

The 2,600 diamondbacks represent the

CHEMISTRY

Citric Acid Made from Milk in New Process

➤ **CITRIC** acid, the acid of lemons and oranges, is made from milk in the process on which Joseph Szucs of Yonkers has received patent 2,438,136. He feeds a suitable mold on a solution of dried skim milk plus necessary mineral elements, and the mold secretes the acid.

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A trace of *copper* in stock feed has been found beneficial.

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