

Books of the Week

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ANIMAL COLOUR CHANGES AND THEIR NEUROHUMOURS: A Survey of Investigations, 1910-1943—George Howard Parker *Cambridge University Press (Macmillan)*, 377 p., illus., \$6.50. Devoted to the topic of how, not only the chameleon, but a variety of other creatures change color.

ANTHROPOLOGY: Race, Language, Culture, Psychology, Prehistory—A. L. Kroeber—*Harcourt, Brace*, Rev. ed., 856 p., illus., \$7.50. A text also of interest to the layman who wants to know more of man's early history.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE EARTH: Its Past, Present and Future—George Gamow—*New American Library*, 194 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. A beautifully readable and engagingly illustrated book by a well-known scientist. Reprint of a book originally published by Viking but revised somewhat to bring it up to date.

CHEMICAL RUSSIAN, SELF-TAUGHT—James W. Perry—*Journal of Chemical Education*, 221 p., \$3.00. The author believes it is not so difficult as you think provided

you give up the idea of finding exact English equivalents of all Russian words. Alphabetical glossary included.

CHYMIA: Annual Studies in the History of Chemistry, Vol. 1—Tenney L. Davis, Ed.—*University of Pennsylvania Press*, 190 p., illus., \$3.50. Selections from the Edgar Fahs Memorial Collection of rare books, manuscripts and prints relating to chemists and their works.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF BACTERIOLOGY—A. J. Salle—*McGraw-Hill*, 3d ed., 730 p., illus., \$6.00. For beginners in the study of bacteriology, but especially those who intended to specialize in the field. Revised and expanded.

FURTHER EXPERIENCE WITH THE RANGE FINDING TEST IN THE INDUSTRIAL TOXICOLOGY LABORATORY—Henry F. Smyth, Jr., and Charles P. Carpenter—*Mellon Institute*, 6 p., paper, free if requested direct from the publisher at the University of Pittsburgh.

ISOMERISM AND ISOMERIZATION OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS—Ernst Davis Bergmann—*Interscience*, 138 p., \$3.50. Six lectures delivered in the United States in 1946 by the director of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Palestine.

MARRIAGE FOR MODERNS—Henry A. Bowman—*McGraw-Hill*, 2d ed., 544 p., illus., \$5.00. A text which developed out of the course on marriage at Stephens College.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, VOLUME IV: CONDENSATE PRODUCTION AND CYCLING—Park J. Jones—*Reinhold*, 238 p., illus., \$5.00.

SAADIA GAON, THE BOOK OF BELIEFS AND OPINIONS—Translated from the Arabic and Hebrew by Samuel Rosenblatt—*Yale University Press*, 496 p., \$5.00. The first systematic presentation of Judaism as a

rational body of beliefs. By a scholar who lived from 882 to 942.

SEX HABITS OF AMERICAN MEN: A Symposium on the Kinsey Report—Albert Deutsch, Ed.—*Prentice-Hall*, 244 p., \$3.00. Discussion of the social, religious and other implications of a much-talked-about book.

STRENGTH OF MATERIALS—Joseph Marin—*Macmillan*, 464 p., illus., \$4.75. Text for a first course in this subject.

VICTOR ROBINSON MEMORIAL VOLUME, ESSAYS ON HISTORY OF MEDICINE: In Honor of Victor Robinson on His Sixtieth Birthday, August 16, 1946—Solomon R. Kagan, Ed.—*Froben*, 447 p., illus., \$10.00. The tribute of 38 authors to a leader in their field. Edition limited to 350 copies.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION—PROGRESS AND PLANS—H. van Zile Hyde—*Department of State*, 23 p., paper, free upon request direct to U. S. Department of State, Washington 25, D. C. Includes text of the constitution of WHO. This is the first specialized agency of the United Nations of which the U. S. has not been a member at the time of entry into force of its constitution.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1948

SEISMOLOGY

New Earthquake Indicator Records at Distance

► A SEISMOGRAPH, or earthquake-recording instrument, of radically new type has been developed at Harvard University by a graduate student in geology, Roland K. Blumberg of Seguin, Texas. Instead of writing the squiggly line that is a distant earthquake's signature by a dancing dot of light on a sheet of photographic paper, it translates the impulses into electrical terms, thereby making it possible to install the recording end of the setup at any convenient distance from the wave-detecting mechanism, and to have the record made by a fountain pen on a strip of ordinary paper.

Whereas in existing seismological equipment it is necessary to have three instruments oriented on three axes—north-south, east-west and vertical—to make a complete record of the shape of an earthquake's waves, with the new design a single instrument suffices for all three. It drives three pens on the recorder, thus making a simultaneous triple record of every earthquake.

First installation of the new instrument has been made at the University's observatory at Harvard, Mass., Prof. Don Leet announces. The first major disturbance that was registered on its paper tape was the disastrous Philippine earthquake of Jan. 24.

Science News Letter, May 22, 1948

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