

# 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. Ask for free publications direct from issuing organizations.

ACCIDENT FACTS—*National Safety Council*, 96 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Important information about the cause and prevention of accidents.

AFTER-DINNER SCIENCE—Kenneth M. Swezey—*McGraw-Hill*, 182 p., illus., \$3.00. A book of cute tricks and experiments that you can try out, if not at the dinner table, certainly in the kitchen. Each is clearly shown in photographs.

THE AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER'S HANDBOOK—Aaron Sussman—*Crowell*, 3d ed., 399 p., illus., \$3.75. If you are a snaphooter or have advanced to more serious work, you will find much helpful information in this liberally illustrated (with photographs, of course) work.

THE ANTHRACITE FOREST REGION, A PROBLEM AREA—Frank A. Ineson and Miles J. Ferree—*Govt. Printing Office*, 71 p., illus., paper, 40 cents. A U. S. Department of Agriculture publication recommending action to relieve the situation of chronic unemployment in this coal-mine-forest region.

ATOMIC ENERGY: Being the Norman Wait Harris Lectures Delivered at Northwestern University—Karl K. Darrow—*Wiley*, 80 p., illus., \$2.00. Prepared for laymen because, as the author says, "Ignorance is not safe when the unknown may not be friendly; and since we discovered that matter is not invariably stable, the known has become so awesome as to suggest that the unknown can be unfriendly."

CLIMATIC ACCIDENTS IN LANDSCAPE MAKING—C. A. Cotton—*Wiley*, 2d printing, 354 p., illus., \$7.00. Describing interesting features in the face of the earth caused by accidents which interrupt the normal development of land formation.

THE CRIMINAL AND HIS VICTIM: Studies in the Sociobiology of Crime—Hans von Hentig—*Yale University Press*, 457 p., \$6.00. Tracing interesting relations between various types of crime and hereditary factors, social conditions and other elements. Even the time of day influences certain crimes. The victim too has his responsibility.

THE FEEDING ORGANS OF ARACHNIDA INCLUDING MITES AND TICKS—R. E. Snodgrass—*Smithsonian Institution*, 93 p., illus., paper, 90 cents.

HANDBOOK OF ELEMENTARY TECHNICAL MATHEMATICS—John W. Greenwood and M. Irving Chriswell—*Prentice-Hall*, 186 p., illus., \$2.80. A high-school text in preparation for technical studies.

MEETING NEEDS OF MANKIND BY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH: EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES OF MELLON INSTITUTE: The Thirty-Fifth Annual Report of the Director, E. R. Weidlein, to the Board of Trustees of the Institution, for the Fiscal Year Ended February 29, 1948—*Mellon Institute*, 44 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to Mellon Institute.

A READER IN GENERAL ANTHROPOLOGY—Carleton S. Coon—*Holt*, 624 p., illus., \$5.00. Selections from important works for the benefit of the anthropology student.

THE RESCUE OF SCIENCE AND LEARNING: The Story of the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars—Stephen Dug-

gan and Betty Drury—*Macmillan*, 214 p., \$3.00. The story, partly first-hand accounts by the scholars, of what they did in this country, what they accomplished and their impressions of the people and customs they encountered.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1947—*Commonwealth of Australia*, 139 p., paper, \$1.00 approx. Reporting researches in various fields of science and agricultural investigation.

YANKEE SCIENCE IN THE MAKING—Dirk J. Struik—*Little, Brown*, 430 p., \$5.00. Science in the United States has its roots in the beginnings of the nation itself and has grown up along with it. This is a story of the early days in New England.

YOUR DIET FOR LONGER LIFE—James A. Tobey—*Wilfred Funk*, 280 p., \$3.50. Telling the general reader what he wants to know, as indicated by more than 100,000 letters of inquiry.

ZINSSER'S TEXTBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGY: The Application of Bacteriology and Immunology to the Diagnosis, Specific Therapy and Prevention of Infectious Diseases for Students and Practitioners of Medicine and Public Health—Revised by David T. Smith and others—*Appleton*, 9th ed., 992 p., illus., \$10.00. An authoritative text brought up to date with an expansion of part on sulfonamides and a new section on antibiotics.

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## MEDICINE

### Powdered Antibiotics Arrest Lung Infections

► BEFORE your next operation, you will be inhaling through your mouth finely powdered penicillin and streptomycin if a method described to doctors in the *JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION* (Sept. 4) comes into use.

The inhalations will foil germs lurking in the lungs which might rise up and infect the lungs following a surgical operation.

Lung infections following major abdominal or chest surgery are a real problem, as they occur in about a fifth of the operations.

In the tests in Rochester, N. Y., only one out of 51 patients who inhaled the penicillin dust developed lung infections, while none of the 40 treated with streptomycin became ill.

The method was developed by Dr. George V. Taplin, at Rochester when the work was done but now at the University of California at Los Angeles, and Drs. Sidney H. Cohen and Earle B. Mahoney of the University of Rochester.

The treatment promises to become particularly important in the northeastern

section of the country where chronic sinus and respiratory diseases are prevalent.

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## ARCHAEOLOGY

### Australian Ancient Tooth Is Not Human but Animal

► FOR NEARLY 80 years, Australians have treasured as evidence of the antiquity of man in their country a supposed human molar tooth.

Found in the Wellington caves of New South Wales, imbedded in rock with prehistoric animal remains, it has been considered belonging to a period of 7,000 to 12,000 years ago.

Now it turns out that it is not evidence of an early Australian man but the tooth of a giant Ice Age wallaby, a kind of kangaroo.

Dr. H. H. Finlayson of the South Australian Museum tells the sad story in a letter to the British journal, *NATURE* (Aug. 14). The tooth is the posterior half of the upper fourth premolar of the right side of a kind of animal whose remains are found in profusion over a wide area of eastern and southeastern Australia.

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