

# 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.

**THE AFFAIRS OF DAME RUMOR**—David J. Jacobson—*Rinehart*, 492 p., \$5.00. An interesting account of fish tales that thousands of credulous persons have swallowed enthusiastically.

**THE COAST OF NORTHEAST GREENLAND**: With Hydrographic Studies in the Greenland Sea; The Louise A. Boyd Arctic Expeditions of 1937 and 1938—Louise A. Boyd and others—*American Geographical Society*, 339 p., with supplement of maps, illus., \$6.00. The author, Miss Boyd, has financed, organized and conducted seven expeditions into the Arctic in ships she chartered and equipped. These reports of her scientific staff, gorgeously illustrated with her own photographs, were previously withheld from publication because of the military value of the material.

**DRUG RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**—Austin Smith and Arthur D. Herrick, Eds.—*Revere Publishing Company*, 596 p., \$10.00. A large number of authors contribute to this volume telling the story behind the preparation of what the patient takes, including the research, testing, control, and even storage involved.

**ELEMENTARY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**—S. S. Wilks—*Princeton University Press*, 284 p., paper, \$2.50. Prepared especially for a short course that is introductory to all fields of investigation.

**THE EMOTIONS: Outline of a Theory**—Jean-Paul Sartre—*Philosophical Library*, 97 p., \$2.75. Translated from the French by Bernard Frechtman. A philosophical work.

**THE INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE**—C. Fayette Taylor and Edward S. Taylor—*International Textbook Co.*, rev. ed., 339 p., illus., \$4.25. A textbook revised to include gas turbines and jet engines.

**MANAGEMENT OF COMMON GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES**—Thomas J. Johnson, Ed.—*Lippincott*, 280 p., illus., \$7.00. A symposium by 19 contributors presenting various divergent opinions.

**THE MERCHANT SHIP: Design Past and Present**—G. S. Baker—*Sigma*, 159 p., illus., \$3.65 approx. For those who love ships.

**PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE NAVAL ORDNANCE LABORATORY MAGNETIC MATERIALS SYMPOSIUM**—U. S. Naval Ordnance Laboratory, 61 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to the Office of Technical Services, Washington 25, D. C. Papers presented in June, 1948, before a group which had succeeded in adapting Ger-

man techniques and material for American use and had developed one new-type magnetic material.

**PEDIATRICS AND THE EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF THE CHILD: As Discussed by Pediatricians and Psychiatrists at Hershey, Pennsylvania, March 6-8, 1947**—Helen L. Witmer, Ed.—*Commonwealth Fund*, 180 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. Discussion resulting from the bringing together of baby doctors and specialists in mental health. Of interest not only to physicians but also to parents and teachers.

**THE PLAGUE AND I**—Betty MacDonald—*Lippincott*, 254 p., \$2.75. The amusing author of "The Egg and I" finds something to laugh at in a personal battle against tuberculosis including life in a sanatorium.

**PRACTICAL DISC RECORDING**—Richard H. Dorf—*Radcraft*, 96 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. Presenting a new hobby for radio enthusiasts.

**RADIO AT ULTRA-HIGH FREQUENCIES, VOLUME II (1940-1947)**—Alfred N. Goldsmith and others, Eds.—*RCA Review*, 485 p., illus., \$2.50. A technical book for scientists and engineers.

**STUDIES OF PROPERTIES OF SULFUR JOINTING COMPOUNDS**—W. W. Duecker and others—**BACTERIAL OXIDATION OF SULFUR IN PIPE SEALING MIXTURES**—Lloyd R. Frederick and Robert L. Starkey—*American Water Works Assn.*, 21 p., illus., paper, free upon request to Mellon Institute, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

**SUBMARINE GEOLOGY**—Francis P. Shepard—*Harper*, 348 p., illus., \$6.00. A textbook—the first in this field—but written in non-technical style so as to be interesting to all who have wondered about reefs and coastlines, waves and the bottom of the sea.

**SYMPOSIA ON NUTRITION OF THE ROBERT GOULD RESEARCH FOUNDATION, VOLUME I, NUTRITIONAL ANEMIA**—Arthur Lejwa, Ed.—*Robert Gould Research Foundation*, 194 p., illus., free upon request direct to publisher, Carew Tower, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. Papers by eleven investigators covering chemical, physiological and clinical aspects.

**TRANSFORMERS: Theory and Construction**—W. C. Sealey—*International Textbook Company*, 256 p., illus., \$3.00. A practical book.

**VOYAGES TO THE MOON**—Marjorie Hope Nicolson—*Macmillan*, 297 p., illus., \$4.00. Taking the reader out of this world on flights of fancy and legend collected from literature.

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ter, Minn., at the meeting in Chicago of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

Curare paralyzes reflexes, he explained. In operations on the throat, even simple ones, the gagging reflex must be abolished and ordinarily this requires very deep anesthesia. The sneeze reflex which goes into action when the surgeon touches the iris of the eye also requires deep anesthesia to abolish it.

Ether and other gases abolish these reflexes, but are often barred because of the danger that a spark from the electrocautery used in such operations might cause an explosion. Gas anesthetics present a special problem because the operations inside the throat are done in the same area where the apparatus for the anesthesia must be maintained.

Pentothal, an anesthetic which can be given by vein, eliminates these problems, but must be given in very large doses to suppress the throat reflexes. But when curare is used with it, Dr. Adams said, smaller doses of pentothal can be given. He called the combination of these two drugs a "tremendous advance."

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**DON'T WAIT FOR TOTAL DEAFNESS**

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MANUAL 25c

## MEDICINE

### Arrow Poison Used In Throat Surgery

➤ CURARE, the poison South American Indians used generations ago on their arrows, is now being used by modern surgeons when operating on the throat. Its value in supplementing and reducing high dosages of common anesthetics was reported by Dr. R. Charles Adams of Roches-