

# • Books of the Week •

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**THE ARTS AND THEIR INTERRELATIONS**—A Survey of the Arts and an Outline of Comparative Aesthetics—Thomas Munro—*Liberal Arts*, 559 p., \$7.50. Attempts an answer to the question "What is Art"?

**AN AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL BOOK**—Charles Barrett—*Oxford University Press*, 374 p., illus., \$4.50. An account of wild animal life in Australia. There are 17 color plates and 48 pages of pictures taken from photographs. A reference work useful to both the professional man and the layman.

**AUTOMOTIVE TRANSPORTATION: Trends and Problems**—Wilfred Owen—*Brookings Institution*, 154 p., illus., \$2.00. An examination of the cost and quality and an analysis of past trends and possibilities for the future.

**BASIC COLLEGE PHYSICS**—Henry A. Perkins—*Prentice-Hall*, 605 p., illus., \$6.35. Based largely on the unabridged text of *College Physics*, this is a somewhat shorter and simplified version. Particularly adapted to the needs of the non-technical student.

**CORALS OF THE DEVONIAN TRAVERSE GROUP OF MICHIGAN: Part I, *Spongophyllum***—George M. Ehlers and Erwin C. Stumm—*University of Michigan Press*, illus., paper, 30 cents.

**EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY: An Introduction**—Leo Postman and James P. Egan—*Harper*, 520 p., illus., \$4.50. A text for the student who already has some knowledge of general psychology. Outlines for thirty experiments suitable for training in methods of collecting experimental data are included.

**FEDERAL INFORMATION CONTROLS IN PEACETIME**—Robert E. Summers, Compiler—*H. W. Wilson*, 301 p., \$1.50. Presents the various issues and problems involved. Included is a resume of the facts in the Condon case and FBI loyalty investigation procedure.

**GEOLOGY: Principles and Processes**—William H. Emmons and others—*McGraw-Hill*, 3rd ed. 502 p., illus., \$4.50. This edition pays increased attention to the topography of the "tidewater lands," and has many new and improved illustrations. References to source literature are brought completely up to date. A text for the first course in the field.

**ION EXCHANGE: Theory and Application**—Fredrick C. Nachod, Ed.—*Academic*, 411 p., illus., \$8.80. A treatise written by some of the foremost experts in the country covering a large part of the field.

**LIFE HISTORIES OF NORTH AMERICAN THRUSHES, KINGLETS, AND THEIR ALLIES**—Arthur Cleveland Bent—*Gov't Printing Office*, 454 p., illus., \$1.50. A detailed study of these species and their best known sub-species. The seventeenth of a series on the life history of North American birds.

**THE COLLOID CHEMISTRY OF THE SILICATE MINERALS**—C. Edmund Marshall—*Academic*, 195 p., illus., \$5.80. Volume one of a series of monographs prepared under the auspices of the American Society of Agronomy.

**NEW UNCOILED GASTROPODS FROM THE MIDDLE DEVONIAN OF MICHIGAN AND MANITOBA**—Aurele La Rocque—*University of Michigan Press*, illus., paper, 30 cents.

**REFLECTIONS ON OUR AGE**—Emmanuel Mounier and others—*Columbia University Press*, 346 p., \$4.50. These are the lectures which

formed the background to UNESCO's first conference in 1946. They are written by 22 internationally recognized writers, teachers, philosophers, scientists and others.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE MEASUREMENT OF GEOLOGIC TIME 1947-1948**—John Putnam Marble, Chairman—*National Research Council*, 77 p., paper, \$1.00. Includes reviews of the work being done in such countries as Scotland, Spain, and Japan, and an annotated bibliography of articles relating to the measurement of geologic time.

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## ENTOMOLOGY

### Radioactivity Induced in Mosquitoes To Study Habits

► NOW it's "hot" mosquitoes. The buzzing, biting pests can be made radioactive, so that their flight and attack habits can be studied even in the dark by the way they make Geiger counters tick.

Technique for doing this was developed by two Army medical researchers, Drs. C. C. Hassett and D. W. Jenkins, at the Army Chemical Center in Maryland. The process is quite simple: you just rear your mosquito larvae in water containing a few parts per million of a suitable radioactive chemical. Drs. Hassett and Jenkins used radioactive sodium phosphate, largely because of the convenient 14.3-day half-life of the isotope, and because radioactive phosphorus is not poisonous.

Details of their experiment are reported in *SCIENCE* (July 29).

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## ENGINEERING

### Silent Engine-Generator Made for Military Uses

► ENGINE-GENERATOR set, so quiet that it can scarcely be heard 300 feet away, was revealed by the U. S. Army Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Fort Belvoir, Va., where it was designed and constructed. Its silence is due largely to a glass-wool-lined box in which it is enclosed.

Noise-making equipment in forward positions in time of war is easily detected and spotted by enemy apparatus. The new engine-generator and its near sound-proof box was developed to meet this situation. On a typical, quiet summer evening, this set has an audible range of 325 feet from the rear, or exhaust side, and 200 feet from the front. The silencer box weighs 93 pounds.

The box itself is of aluminum. Its circuitous air intake and exhaust ducts are lined with one inch of glass fiber cemented

to the walls. The interior of the box has a two-inch lining of the same material. Ventilation is assured by the design of the ducts. All the air entering the box is expelled over the cooling fins of the engine. There is no air recirculation, and the efficiency of the unit is not measurably affected by the housing. The generator used is a 1.5 kilowatt unit.

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## Words in Science— TURBOJET-TURBOPROP

► MANY of the fast planes of today and tomorrow are or will be powered by turbojet or turboprops or both.

In the turbojet engine compressed air is forced into combustion chambers. There fuel is added, usually kerosene. It burns, creating high-pressure gases, some of which operate the compressor to supply air for burning but most of which pass out the jet exhaust, giving the propulsion.

The turboprop is a somewhat similar device but all the gases created are used to expand through vanes or buckets on a shaft and give high rotation to the shaft, which in turn drive conventional propellers.

Science News Letter, August 6, 1949

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