

# Books of the Week

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**DRY-FLY TROUT FISHING**—William W. Michael—*McGraw-Hill*, 191 p., illus., \$3.50. A book for the novice as well as the experienced fisherman. If you have never fished with a dry fly, the author believes you are missing a lot of fun.

**THE FIELD OF CHEMICAL HYGIENE**—Henry F. Smyth, Jr.—*Mellon Institute*, 2 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. An article on industrial toxicology reprinted from *Chemical and Engineering News*.

**THE GROWTH, REPLACEMENT, AND TYPES OF HAIR**—J. B. Hamilton and others—*New York Academy of Sciences*, 290 p., illus., paper, \$4.00. Reports on various aspects of hair in humans and animals.

**HEATING, VENTILATING, AIR CONDITIONING GUIDE 1951**—*American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers*, 1456 p., illus., \$7.50. A handbook of technical data prepared for the profession.

**HOW ABOUT THE WEATHER?**—Robert Moore Fisher—*Harper*, 186 p., illus., \$3.00. New York's Weather Man has written a foreword to this book which tells what is behind your favorite topic of casual conversation.

**THE IDEA OF PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE**—Curt S. Wachtel—*Froben*, 239 p., \$5.00. The author attempts to discuss the relation of medicine to religion and to present a new philosophy of the soul in the art of healing.

**LARGE QUANTITY RECIPES**—Margaret E. Terrell—*Lippincott*, 414 p., \$7.00. If you want to plan food for a crowd, this book by the director of dining halls, University of Washington, will tell you how to cook soup in three-gallon lots, biscuits by the 5-pounds, chow mein in 30-pound lots, and pies eight at a time.

**LEPROSY**—E. Grunberg and others—*New York Academy of Sciences*, 142 p., illus., paper, \$2.75. Reports presented at the first U. S. conference on leprosy.

**THE ORCHIDS OF MAINE**—Jean Elizabeth Wallace—*University Press*, 80 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Although most people think of the tropics as the only home of the orchids, this

book shows that many grow as far north as Maine, but they are in danger of being wiped out because of over-picking.

**PESTICIDE HANDBOOK**—Donald E. H. Frear, M. Frances Sunday and Sidney Friedman, Eds.—*Commercial Printing*, 158 p., paper, \$1.00. A reference book for those concerned with pest control.

**THE PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC INSTABILITY**—Emile Despres and others—*James Washington Bell*, 33 p., paper, 25 cents. Prepared by a subcommittee of the American Economic Association.

**QUANTUM THEORY**—David Bohm—*Prentice-Hall*, 646 p., \$10.00. Developing the precise nature of three new quantum-theoretical concepts. It was the author's purpose to express the main ideas of the quantum theory in non-mathematical terms, but he found that some mathematics is needed.

**SYMPOSIUM: Applied Research, Atomic Energy**—Robert E. Wilson and Sumner T. Pike—*National Association of Manufacturers*, 22 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 14 West 49th St., New York 20, N. Y. Addresses given at the 55th Congress of American Industry.

**WATCH OUT FOR THE WEATHER**—Jacqueline Berke and Vivian Wilson—*Viking*, 226 p., illus., \$2.95. Telling in light vein the author's ideas on the effects of weather on our lives.

**WHAT THE CLASSROOM TEACHER SHOULD KNOW AND DO ABOUT CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE**—*American Heart Association*, 11 p., illus., paper, single copies free upon request to publisher, 1775 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y. Crowded classrooms are among the conditions that can lead to a "strep" infection, often the forerunner of rheumatic fever.

Science News Letter, May 12, 1951

## MEDICINE

### Discover Method of Staving Off Leukemia-Caused Death

➤ DEATH MAY be staved off a little longer for some of the thousands of child leukemia victims in the country as a result of researches at the U. S. National Cancer Institute.

No cure for this cancer-like disease of the blood is promised yet. But a way has been found to prolong the lives of leukemic mice from 200% to 300%. An equal reprieve for a child may let him live until a real cure is found—or a treatment of more lasting benefit.

The new way to slow down leukemia in mice is to give a combination of anti-leukemic drugs. Some of them are called folic acid antagonists, or "anti-folics." They include aminopterin, a-methopterin, and a-denopterin. Their parent compound is folic acid, one of the B-complex vitamins.

Already widely used in leukemia, they have the disadvantage that leukemic cells develop resistance to them and then the drugs lose their effects. The patients relapse and die.

Studying the leukemic cells of mice, Dr. L. W. Law of the National Cancer Institute found the cells developed their resistance when the mice were getting the largest dose of anti-folics they could tolerate. The resistance, moreover, was stable and inheritable. It remained unchanged when the cells were transplanted through 33 successive generations of mice deprived of anti-folics.

Yet these cells were sensitive to other anti-leukemic chemicals, such as guanazolo, alpha peltatin and triethylene melamine, known as TEM for short.

Mixing these and anti-folics in the biggest tolerated doses caused no resistance and prolonged the survival time of the mice by 200% to 300%. Dr. Law reported details of his studies at the meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Cleveland.

Science News Letter, May 12, 1951

Microwaves used in television transmission are about the length of a cigarette.

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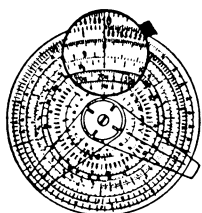
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