

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 publication direct from issuing organization.

A CONCISE HISTORY OF ASTRONOMY—Peter Doig—*Philosophical Library*, 320 p., \$4.75. Bringing up to date the story of this the oldest of the sciences. Foreword by the Astronomer Royal.

CONFERENCE ON THE SUN IN THE SERVICE OF MAN—Harlow Shapley, Chairman—*American Academy of Arts and Sciences*, 145 p., illus., paper, \$2.50. Papers read at a conference which brought together researchers at Harvard and MIT as well as others interested in solar problems.

THE DRUG PLANTS OF ILLINOIS—Leo R. Tchou—*Natural History Survey*, 135 p., illus., paper, single copies free upon request to publisher, 184 Natural Resources Building, Urbana, Ill. How to collect, dry and market common herbs with medicinal value.

EXHIBIT TECHNIQUES—Helen Miles Davis—*Science Service*, 112 p., illus., \$2.00. For those who build exhibits for science fairs and other displays, this book gives invaluable information and suggestions. There are hints for planning exhibits, working out effective panels, lettering, labeling, and planning for safe construction.

FOOD AND YOU—Edmund Sigurd Nasset—*Thomas*, 92 p., \$3.00. What the author describes as a "modest essay on a most important subject."

THE FORMATION OF MINERAL DEPOSITS—Alan M. Bateman—*Wiley*, 371 p., illus., \$5.50. Why minerals are where they are and where others may be found.

FRONTAL LOBOTOMY AND AFFECTIVE BEHAVIOR: A Neurophysiological Analysis—John F. Fulton—*Norton*, 159 p., illus., \$3.00. A Salmon lecture discussing the effects of this serious brain operation on human behavior and urging that the original radical lobotomy be abandoned in favor of a more restricted lesion.

THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE: Origins and Results of the Scientific Revolution—Sir Lawrence Bragg and others—*The Free Press*, 184 p., illus., \$2.50. Radio talks by noted scientists. Not intended as a comprehensive history, this little book presents rather significant samples beginning with Democritus in 460 B.C.

Wanted: Surplus Electronics

You can now legally sell your Government-donated Surplus equipment to us, or exchange it for items you can use. We particularly need Microwave Test Equipment, Spectrum Analyzers, etc.; all "TS-" items, "APR-" Receivers, ARC-1, ARC-3, etc., complete or parts; General Radio, L&N, Ferris, etc., standard equipment; parts, tubes and wire; any electronics material

Sell now, during this period of temporary shortage, obtain highest prices, and aid the Defense effort. We specialize in re-conditioning and assembling complete sets of equipment for use in the nation's laboratories and factories.

ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES

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INSECT RESISTANCE IN CROP PLANTS—Reginald H. Painter—*Macmillan*, 520 p., illus., \$8.50. Bringing together scattered references on the subject and offering tentative conclusions as a result of the author's personal experience.

THE LOST PHAROHS: The Romance of Egyptian Archaeology—Leonard Cottrell—*Philosophical Library*, 256 p., illus., \$6.00. Telling for amateurs the glamorous story of Egypt's ancient past.

MAN MAKES HIMSELF—V. Gordon Child—*New American Library*, 192 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. The story of the rise of civilization originally published in England in 1936 by the Rationalist Press.

MIRACLE AT KITTY HAWK: The Letters of Wilbur and Orville Wright—Fred C. Kelly, Ed.—*Farrar, Straus*, 482 p., illus., \$6.00. Selected from about 30,000 items deposited in the Library of Congress to tell the story of the Wright's achievements and reveal their personalities in their own words.

MODERN PLASTICS ENCYCLOPEDIA AND ENGINEER'S HANDBOOK: Including Special Defense Section—*Plastics Catalogue Corporation*, 636 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Reference work for dealers, industrial chemists and others interested in this comparatively new field.

NUTRITION FOR HEALTH—Holger Frederick Kilander—*McGraw-Hill*, 415 p., illus., \$3.00. A high school text intended to teach young people how to select their foods and how to prepare and care for them.

100 WAYS TO SAVE MONEY BUYING YOUR CAR: Or How To Be an Expert Car Buyer—W. J. K. Cummings—*Cummings Enterprises*, 6th printing, 96 p., illus., paper, \$1.25. Tips on how to keep from being cheated on either your new car, used car, or financing, etc. A new edition of a popular book entitled "How To Be an Expert Car Buyer".

PLANTS IN THE CITY—Herman and Nina Schneider—*John Day*, 96 p., illus., \$2.50. Telling boys and girls, through simple experiments, how plants can grow even in the city and without soil.

PSYCHOANALYSIS, MAN, AND SOCIETY—Paul Schilder—*Norton*, 382 p., \$4.00. The sociological implications of emotional deviations discussed from the psychoanalytic viewpoint.

RADIOCARBON DATING—Frederick Johnson, Ed.—*Society for American Archaeology*, 65 p., paper, \$1.50. Including a timetable of radiocarbon dates for various important samples of ancient remains and discussions by various experts of their significance.

READ THE LABEL ON FOODS, DRUGS, DEVICES, COSMETICS—Food and Drug Administration—*Govt. Printing Office*, 40 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Telling how to read the label to get your money's worth and guard your family's health. (See p. 207).

SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY—E. E. Evans-Pritchard—*The Free Press*, 134 p., \$2.50. Six radio talks intended to acquaint the public with the little-known science of social anthropology. The emphasis is on history of the science.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SON'S ADOLESCENCE—J. Roswell Gallagher—*Little, Brown*, 212 p., \$3.00. A physician writes for fathers about the ordinary, healthy son who is becoming a man.

WASA-WASA: A Tale of Trails and Treasure in the Far North—Harry Macfie—*Norton*, 288 p., \$3.00. Wasa-Wasa means *far, far away* and this is a tale of adventure in the distant North. Translated from the Swedish by F. H. Lyon.

Science News Letter, September 29, 1951

MEDICINE

Viruses Lurking Until Old Age May Cause Cancer

► **WHETHER, UNDER** certain conditions, ordinary viruses such as cause diseases ranging from polio to common colds can induce cancer is a problem posed by findings reported to the Second International Gerontological Congress in St. Louis.

The findings, on cancer in birds, were presented by Drs. F. Duran-Reynals and B. A. Briody of Yale University School of Medicine.

In birds, these scientists reported, the cancer-causing viruses behave at first as ordinary viruses. They infect the chicken or other bird at an early age. They may induce a non-cancerous disease or they may not. But after this stage, the viruses remain in hiding in the bird until the bird later reaches a certain age, the cancer age.

Then the virus shows itself as a cancer virus. It varies or mutates at this stage, probably under the influence of the age factor of the bird that acts as the virus host.

Through this mutation or variation, the virus become capable of causing a great variety of tumors or leukemias.

Later, through further effects on the virus, the age factor suppresses fundamental attributes of malignancy, such as steady growth. Masking of the virus and regression of the tumor may result.

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MEDICINE

More Cortisone Relatives Available for Testing

► **LARGE SUPPLIES** of two adrenal gland hormones related to the anti-arthritis remedy, cortisone, are now available for trial on patients, Dr. Richard S. Schreiber, director of The Upjohn Company, announced in Kalamazoo, Mich.

The hormones are known as compound B and Compound F. In animals compound F is more active than cortisone and it is believed to be the predominant natural hormone.

The larger supplies of these two hormones result from a method developed by Upjohn chemists for partial synthesis from hog glands and easily accessible sterol chemicals.

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