

Books of the Week

For the editorial information of our readers, books received for review since last week's issue are listed. For convenient purchase of any U. S. book in print, send a remittance to cover retail price (postage will be paid) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

ABC OF CAT DISEASES—P. M. Soderberg—*All-Pets*, 64 p., illus., paper, 85 cents. Written by a layman to help make cat owners more understanding of their animals' diseases and symptoms.

ASTM STANDARDS ON TEXTILE MATERIALS: With Related Information—ASTM Committee D-13 on Textile Materials—*American Society for Testing Materials*, October, 1952 ed., 660 p., illus., paper, \$5.00. This latest edition includes tests on stretch and snag resistance of hosiery.

ADVANCES IN CARBOHYDRATE CHEMISTRY—Claude S. Hudson, Melville L. Wolfrom and Sidney M. Cantor, Eds.—*Academic Press*, Vol. 7, 370 p., \$7.50. A compilation of papers reporting recent studies in this field of chemistry.

ADVANCES IN GEOPHYSICS—H. E. Landsberg, Ed.—*Academic Press*, Vol. I, 362 p., illus., \$7.80. This first in a series, summarizing recent advances, contains reviews of established knowledge and evaluations of geophysical data. Some of the papers point to the major progress that

has been made, while others demonstrate that sciences such as astronomy can contribute to this rapidly expanding field.

BASIC BIOLOGY FOR HIGH SCHOOLS—Carroll Lane Fenton and Paul E. Kambly—*Macmillan*, rev. ed., 726 p., illus., \$3.84. Fundamental problems, principles and facts are presented in this abundantly illustrated text designed for a one year course. Important practical subjects are treated in a special unit.

CYCLAMEN PERSICUM: Its Natural and Cultivated Forms—Walter C. Illsley—*Stanford University Press*, 47 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. Contains historical and descriptive information on this increasingly popular house plant.

DICTIONARY OF CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT—Marjorie Tallman—*Philosophical Library*, 291 p., \$5.00. Words and expressions are defined and often illustrated by events in American History. Of value not only to the student, but to those who want a better understanding of our government as it operates today.

THE EFFECT OF CHROMIUM PLATING ON THE ENDURANCE LIMIT OF 4340 STEEL—George M. Cabbie, Jr.—*Virginia Polytechnic Institute*, Engineering Experiment Station Series No. 82, 20 p., paper, 25 cents. Results of investigation showed that a single plating reduced the fatigue limit 21%, and a second plating reduced it another 10%.

GUIA DE INSTITUCIONES Y SOCIEDADES CIENTIFICAS LATINOAMERICANAS: Quinta Parte, Mexico, Panama y Venezuela—Christina Buechner, Executive Secretary—*Pan American Union*, 39 p., paper, 15 cents. Intended to fill the long felt need for an adequate directory of Latin American scientific institutions. This directory includes institutions concerned with medicine, engineering and the natural sciences, both public and private.

HOW CHILDREN AND TEACHER WORK TOGETHER—Elsa Schneider—*Govt. Printing Office*, Office of Education Bulletin 1952, No. 14, 24 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. A successful teacher can establish rapport by working with the children, and the pamphlet gives some of the ways in which this is accomplished.

AN INQUIRY INTO DOMESTIC HOT WATER SUPPLY IN GREAT BRITAIN: Part 2, The Use of Water Heating Appliances in Summer, and the Relation Between the Usage of Hot Water and the Appliances Available—F. M. Lea, Director—*Her Majesty's Stationery Office*, National Building Studies Special Report No. 14, 77 p., paper, 75 cents. The typical Englishman takes one hot bath a week and the favorite appliance for providing it is an immersion heater. Only five percent of the British do not take baths.

METHYL ALPHA-D-GLUCOSIDE DRYING OILS—John P. Gibbons and Robert A. Janke—*Mellon Institute*, 3 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

PERSONS AND PERSONALITY: An Introduction to Psychology—Sister Annette Walters and Sister Kevin O'Hara—*Appleton*, 677 p., illus.,

\$4.50. A college text for the Catholic student of psychology. Designed to help the Christian student reconcile his religious teaching with scientific knowledge.

REPORT OF THE HYDRAULICS RESEARCH BOARD FOR THE YEARS 1947-1951: With the Report of the Director of Hydraulics Research for the Years 1948-1951—Claude Inglis, Director—*Her Majesty's Stationery Office*, 39 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. A summary of various research projects relating to coast erosion, flood protection and other civil engineering problems.

REPORT OF THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH BOARD: With the Report of the Director of Mechanical Engineering Research for the Year 1951—D. G. Sopwith, Director—*Her Majesty's Stationery Office*, 37 p., illus., paper, 50 cents.

TOWARD A REGIONAL PROGRAM OF PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING IN THE SOUTH—Philip G. Davidson, Chairman—*Southern Regional Education Board*, 47 p., paper, 50 cents. A report by the Committee on Public Health Training studying the needs and opportunities in training for public health.

WATER SUPPLY AND PURIFICATION—W. A. Hardenbergh—*International Textbook Co.*, 3rd ed., 516 p., illus., \$6.50. New materials and developments have necessitated rewriting a number of chapters. Included is a new chapter on fluoridation.

YOUR FARMHOUSE—CUT-OUTS TO HELP IN PLANNING—U. S. Dept. of Agriculture—*Govt. Printing Office*, Home and Garden Bulletin No. 22, 55 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. In this new edition, designed to help you visualize your future home, there are plans suggesting ways to meet indoor traffic problems. Includes floor plans for different types of houses and cut-outs of furniture and equipment.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1953

BACTERIOLOGY

Chemicals "Return" Bacteria to "Life"

► BACTERIA "KILLED" by ultraviolet irradiation have been "returned to life" by exposing them for 24 hours to sodium pyruvate and similar chemicals.

Three scientists of the Naval Medical Research Laboratory at Camp Lejeune, N. C., F. Heinmets, J. J. Lehman and W. W. Taylor, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in St. Louis that bacterial suspensions considered sterile by all usual standards were reactivated by pyruvates and other cellular metabolites.

This discovery points up unrecognized dangers in the re-contamination of sterilized objects by contact with chemicals. "This recontamination could have dangerous effects in disease prevention and public sanitation," the scientists said.

A possible benefit from this recovery of bacteria after irradiation may be to increase our knowledge about the effects of irradiation on higher animals, including man, they said.

Science News Letter, January 10, 1953



Wins Writing Success Though Crippled with Arthritis

"When I became almost crippled with arthritis, N.I.A. training proved its value. I began acting as local correspondent for two papers. Then I started a publication of my own. 'The Beekeeper' became a reality and a success. Were I physically able, I would crawl to the top of the house and shout the merits of N.I.A. training."—Elmer Carroll, Route 3, Box 540, Lansing, Mich.

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DO YOU have that constant urge to write but fear that a beginner hasn't a chance? Here is what the former editor of Liberty said:—"There is more room for newcomers in writing than ever before. Some of the greatest of writing men and women have passed from the scene. Who will take their places? Fame, riches and the happiness of achievement await the new men and women of power."

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