

# 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.

**THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE:** Vol. X, No. 40—*British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 108 p., illus., paper, 7s 9d per copy, £1 5s per year. Scientific papers on timely subjects.

**THE BEHAVIOUR AND SOCIAL LIFE OF HONEY-BEES**—C. R. Ribbands—*Bee Research Association (Hale)*, 352 p., illus., \$4.50. A non-technical report of research, supplemented by inference and speculation on the part of the author who is principal scientific officer of the Bee Department of Rothamsted Experimental Station, England.

**CEMENT AND CONCRETE REFERENCE BOOK 1954**—*Portland Cement Association*, 112 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 33 West Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Ill. Facts about the history, manufacture and uses of portland cement and concrete.

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH: Report for the Year 1952-53**—*Her Majesty's Stationery Office*, 315 p., paper, \$1.80. Reporting research accomplishments of the year and giving details of a five-year plan for the future.

**DUSTY** — Veterans Administration Training Guide—*Govt. Printing Office*, 23 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. Teaching, in comic strip technique, the art of sanitary dusting in hospitals.

**THE FABULOUS INSECTS**—Charles Neider, Ed.—*Harper*, 278 p., \$3.50. A collection of insect stories by a large number of such famous nature writers as Fabre, Teale and Beebe.

**THE FIRST BOOK OF COTTON**—Matilda Rogers—*Franklin Watts*, 69 p., illus., \$1.75. Tracing for children the story of cotton from the time it is growing in the snowy field until it is made into garments or home furnishings.

**GEOLOGY OF THE PALEN MOUNTAINS GYPSUM DEPOSIT, RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA** — Richard A. Hoppin — *California Division of Mines*, Special Report 36, 25 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. The gypsum is of high quality, but its value is lessened by fragments of marble that will increase the cost of mining.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF COLOR TELEVISION**—John R. Locke Jr.—*Rider*, 43 p., illus., paper, 99 cents. Based on the recommendations of the National Television System Committee for a compatible system, which means that present black-and-white receivers will pick it up.

## YOUR SKIN AND ITS CARE

By H. T. Behrman, M.D., and O. L. Levin, M.D.

Two dermatologists give you the up-to-date scientific facts. They tell you in detail exactly what to do to beautify and improve your skin, how to avoid or correct skin disorders, and how to deal with many skin problems as: **Daily care of the face—allergies—cosmetics—pimples—blackheads—acne—whiteheads—cysts—boils—oily skin—dry skin—chapping—poison ivy—gold sores—hives—superfluous hair—ringworm—moles—birthmarks—soars—warts—tumors—skin cancer—excessive sweating—etc.**

"The type of book to which the physician can refer his patients." — *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

"Accurate, unvarnished story of practical skin care." — *Connecticut State Medical Journal*.

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**EMERSON BOOKS, Inc., Dept. 985-H**  
251 West 19th Street, New York 11

**INSECT METAMORPHOSIS**—R. E. Snodgrass—*Smithsonian*, Miscellaneous Collections, Volume 122, Number 9, 124 p., illus., paper, \$1.20. The change from caterpillar to butterfly is so dramatic that we are likely to overlook the even more striking change from butterfly to caterpillar. Early insects, the author tells us, lived on land and developed without metamorphic changes, which are of relatively late origin.

**INTRODUCTION TO COLOR TV**—Milton Kaufman and Harry E. Thomas — *Rider*, 140 p., illus., paper, \$2.10. Devoted to fundamental principles of operation, this book does not take sides in the "battle of the picture tubes" or in differences over circuitry.

**LOST CONTINENTS: The Atlantis Theme in History, Science, and Literature**—L. Sprague de Camp—*Gnome*, 362 p., illus., \$5.00. An account of the various "lost continents" and the people who have argued for them and the others who have tried to de-bunk them.

**MARINE TROPICALS** — Ed L. Fisher — *Sub-Marine Studios*, 55 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. Instructions for collecting and keeping salt water fish and sea life alive in a small home aquarium.

**MATH E MAGIC: MAGIC, PUZZLES AND GAMES WITH NUMBERS**—Royal Vale Heath—*Dover*, 126 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Fun you can have with numbers while baffling your friends with your "mind reading" powers.

**MONARCH BUTTERFLY**—Marion W. Marcher—*Holiday House*, 46 p., illus., \$2.00. A child's story of the life of one of the most beautiful of living creatures, among whom the male wears perfume. A section tells how to raise them.

**MOPPY** — Veterans Administration Training Guide — *Govt. Printing Office*, 45 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. Teaching, in comic strip technique, how to get rid of unsightly dirt and dangerous germs in a hospital.

**NURSE AND PATIENT: An Ethical Consideration of Human Relations**—Evelyn C. Pearce, foreword by the Rt. Hon. The Lord Webb-Johnson—*Lippincott*, 182 p., \$3.00. "It is essential," the author emphasizes, "to remember that patients are people."

**PARROTS AND PARROT-LIKE BIRDS**—The Duke of Bedford—**DISEASES OF PARROTS**—David L. Coffin—*All-Pets Books*, 210 p., illus., \$6.00 For bird lovers.

**PORCELAIN ENAMEL IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY: Research Conference Report No. 6, November 12 and 13, 1953**—Edward H. F. Dickens, Ed.—*Building Research Advisory Board*, 146 p., illus., paper, \$6.00. Technical papers discussing the qualities and uses of this new building material.

**RESEARCH CENTER, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS ANNUAL REPORT 1953**—*Association of American Railroads*, 39 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, Public Relations Department, Transportation Building, Washington, D. C. Reporting major research activities of the year and outlining future plans.

**SPECIALIZED HOME RADIO MANUAL: Volume 8, RCA June 1951-December 1953**—*Rider*, 96 p., illus., paper, \$1.65. Servicing information.

**SWEEPY** — Veterans Administration Training Guide—*Govt. Printing Office*, 28 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. How to get rid of the "dust puppies" in hospitals.

**THE SYNTHESIS OF X-RAY SPECTROMETER LINE PROFILES WITH APPLICATION TO CRYSTALLITE SIZE MEASUREMENTS**—Leroy Alexander—*Mellon Institute*, 7 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Making use of the convolution principle to predict theoretically the nature of the line profiles to be expected under various experimental conditions.

**TV MANUFACTURERS' RECEIVER TROUBLE CURES: Volume 5**—Milton S. Snitzer, Ed.—*Rider*, 120 p., illus., paper, \$1.80. The manufacturer's own answers to some of the problems that may come up in the use of their particular receivers.

**WAXEY** — Veterans Administration Training Guide—*Govt. Printing Office*, 45 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. Comic strip characters tell how to wax hospital floors to protect the surface and not endanger the nurse or patient.

**YOU AND YOUR ALLERGIC SKIN** — Herman Hirschfeld—*Nelson House*, 24 p., paper, 25 cents. Cosmetics, plastics, plants, inhalants and the newer synthetic wearing apparel have greatly increased the number of sufferers of skin allergy. This booklet is addressed to them.

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### PSYCHOLOGY

## Words Help Solve Non-Verbal Problems

► WORDS CAN help you solve a problem even when the problem is not a verbal one. Dr. Charles N. Cofer of the University of Maryland reported at a Conference on Human Problem Solving in New York.

A particular problem he described consisted of tying together two strings hung a distance apart from the ceiling. However, the strings were not long enough to take hold of one, walk over to the other and tie the two together.

There are several possible solutions, but these are the most common:

1. Tie one string to an object nearly midway between the two strings, so that it will be held there while you get the other string.
2. Hold one string in one hand, and "fish" with a tool for the other string.
3. Tie a heavy object to one string and set it to swinging, catching when the swing brings it close to the other string.

The help given by words was tested by an experiment. Three groups of subjects were given a list of words to learn on each of five days before they undertook the string problem. A fourth group did not learn any words, but did have the string problem. For only the first group, Group A, the words rope, swing and pendulum occurred together in one of their lists.

Men having just learned the words "rope," "swing" and "pendulum" were helped by this to catch on to the pendulum method of solving the problem.

Of the men in Group A, 68% got the pendulum solution to the string problem, as compared with 58% of Group B and 47% of Group C. Group D was less successful.

Girls, however, were not aided by the words in this case. Few of them thought of the pendulum solution, and there was no significant difference among the girls.

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