

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.

ALL ABOUT THE INSECT WORLD—Ferdinand C. Lane—*Random House*, 141 p., illus., \$1.95. Telling children about the ways of life of the odd six-legged creatures that everywhere surround us.

ALL ABOUT THE STARS—Anne Terry White—*Random House*, 144 p., illus., \$1.95. Introducing young people to the wonders of the night sky.

ALL ABOUT THE WONDERS OF CHEMISTRY—Ira M. Freeman—*Random House*, 148 p., illus., \$1.95. An associate editor of the *American Journal of Physics* tells boys and girls about some of the things chemistry can do for us, and discusses chemistry as a career for them when they grow up.

ALL ABOUT WHALES—Roy Chapman Andrews—*Random House*, 148 p., illus., \$1.95. A well-known scientist writes for young people about the giants of the deep, drawing particularly on his own first-hand experiences.

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA—Robert C. Stebbins—*McGraw-Hill*, 528 p., illus., \$8.50. A regional nature handbook providing information in a readily available form for the use of scientists and lovers of the out-of-doors.

BATS—Charles L. Ripper—*Morrow*, 64 p., illus., \$2.00. Charming drawings by the author make this book for children attractive as well as informative.

BIOCHEMICAL DETERMINANTS OF MICROBIAL DISEASES—René J. Dubos—*Harvard University Press*, 152 p., \$3.50. Infection, the author reminds us, is only one phase of microbial diseases. Certain biochemical factors affect the ability of microbes to cause pathological changes in the tissues of the body.



GOLF: Your LEFT SHOULDER makes the amazing difference!

One of the most startling discoveries to emerge from wide research in the golf swing is that your game literally hinges on your left shoulder!

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CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS AND REFERENCE GUIDE FOR A & E MECHANICS—*Aero Publishers*, 12th ed., 120 p., paper, \$2.00. The reference guide section contains sample questions and answers on the regulations.

IDEAS AND OPINIONS BY ALBERT EINSTEIN—Translated and revised by Sonja Bargmann—*Crown*, 377 p., \$4.00. Containing material from *Mein Weltbild* and other publications, together with new papers, selected with the help of Prof. Einstein himself to represent his most important writings.

JANIE LEARNS TO READ: A Handbook for Parents Whose Child Will Soon Learn to Read—Edith G. Stull with guidance from Nila Banton Smith—*National Education Association*, 40 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Parents can help the young first-grader or kindergartener, in many ways, to prepare for reading.

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON—Margaret and John Kieran—*Random House*, 182 p., illus., \$1.50. A biography, written for children and adults, telling of the life of the great naturalist and artist.

LECTURES ON THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF MEDICINE: Volume II 1952-53—Sir James Spence and others—*University of London (John de Graff)*, 380 p., 29 plates, \$6.00. Lectures arranged under the direction of the British Postgraduate Medical Federation.

LIVER INJURY: Transactions of the Twelfth Conference September 21, 22 and 23, 1953, Princeton, N. J. — F. W. Hoffbauer, Ed. — *Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation*, 231 p., illus., \$4.25. Papers prepared for the purpose of interchange of ideas and information between the various fields of science and medicine concerned with this single problem.

MADAM: My Eight Years of Adventure With the Congo Pigmyes—Anne Eisner Putnam with Allan Keller — *Prentice-Hall*, 303 p., illus., \$3.95. The wife of an anthropologist tells of her exciting life and her husband's work among the pigmies.

PERCEPTUALISTIC THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE—Peter Fireman — *Philosophical Library*, 50 p., \$2.75. Perception, thinking and logic, the author tells us, are three basic mental activities, always interwoven. Jointly they build a perceptual view of the world and a perceptual theory of knowledge.

TEXTBOOK OF MICROBIOLOGY—William Burrows and others—*Saunders*, 16th ed., 824 p., illus., \$11.00. Since the first edition in 1908, this book has included treatment of the fungi, viruses and animal parasites as well as bacteria.

WASHABILITY STUDIES OF FOUR VIRGINIA COALS—Carl Shelton Jr.—*Virginia Polytechnic Institute*, Engineering Experiment Station Series No. 94, 40 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Reports of studies to determine what methods for removing impurities are best suited for particular coals.

THE WILDERNESS WORLD OF JOHN MUIR—With an Introduction and Interpretive Comments by Edwin Way Teale—*Houghton Mifflin*, 332 p., illus., \$4.50. Selections from the works of a Scotch-American naturalist who tramped through much of the wild country of America during his life, from 1838 to 1914.

Science News Letter, September 25, 1954

PSYCHOLOGY

Worry May Cause Bull's Eye Miss

➤ IF THE rifleman misses the bull's-eye or fumbles in re-loading, his clumsiness may be due to worry, or to the startle or fear caused by explosions close by him.

Tests showing the effect of anxiety and a stress situation on marksmanship were reported to the American Psychological Association meeting in New York by Drs. Joseph C. Hammock and Albert I. Prince, of the Human Resources Research Office, George Washington University.

A test was used to measure the anxiety of 378 U. S. Army infantrymen. The 25% rated most anxious were then compared with the 25% least anxious. Stress was introduced by setting off charges of dynamite closer and closer to the soldiers while they were firing.

Although the anxious men fumbled their clips, their fumbling was found not to make them take any longer to fire the first round or to change clips.

Stress does slow the men down, it was found, but some of their slowness and inaccuracy of fire should be charged to the dust raised by the explosions and its effect on vision, rather than just the fear produced by the explosions.

Science News Letter, September 25, 1954

New "Mechanical Educator" to IMPROVE MEMORY

Inability to recall names, places, facts quickly is a common, often costly, shortcoming that can now be easily overcome with the aid of a new electronic device for self-instruction, memory and concentration training. This versatile new educational tool can also be used effectively in language learning, speech correction and improvement, in mastering tables, formulas—anything to be memorized—faster than ever.

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