

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.

ABSTRACTS OF TECHNICAL STUDIES IN ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY 1943-1952—Rutherford J. Gettens and Bertha M. Usilton, Compilers—*Smithsonian*, 408 p., paper, \$3.00. Popular articles as well as highly technical ones are covered in this bibliography.

ANCIENT EDUCATION—William A. Smith—*Philosophical Library*, 309 p., \$3.75. Tracing the cultural and educational development of seven early peoples—the Mesopotamians, the Egyptians, the Indians, the Chinese, the Greeks, the Romans and the Hebrews.

THE BIOLOGIC EFFECTS OF TOBACCO: With Emphasis on the Clinical and Experimental Aspects—Ernest L. Wynder, Ed., with foreword by Joseph Garland—*Little, Brown*, 215 p., illus., \$4.50. An attempt to present the truth about this hotly contested subject.

CAPRICORN ROAD—Francois Balsan, translated from the French by Pamela Search—*Philosophical Library*, 252 p., illus., \$4.75. Describing a trip through a practically unexplored territory in southern Africa where observations were made of scientific interest.

CARNEGIE CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1954—Charles Dollard, President—*Carnegie Corporation of New York*, 110 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 589 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Reporting on the activities of this Corporation.

CEREBRAL PALSY: Methods of Evaluation and Treatment—George G. Deaver—*Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, Rehabilitation Monograph IX, 57 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Presenting the information that in the experience of the author has proved most useful in meeting the total needs of the cerebral palsied child and his parents.

CONCERNING CHRISTOPHER: Fun With a Parrot—Dorothy L. Cutting—*Exposition Press*, 42 p., \$2.50. About a pet parrot, his care and training.

THE EVER-NEARER NEAR EAST: Report on a Study Tour, With Glimpses of Greece, Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, and Israel—Samuel Guy Inman—*Worldover Press*, 22 p., paper, 50 cents. Telling of a trip by 22 persons

who looked not only at conventional sights, but at social, economic and international relations in a troubled part of the world.

FOOTING THE HOSPITAL BILL—Elizabeth Ogg—*Public Affairs Committee*, Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 222, 28 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Evaluating existing voluntary prepayment plans.

GENETICS AND METABOLISM—Robert P. Wagner and Herschel K. Mitchell—*Wiley*, 444 p., illus., \$7.50. Bringing together a variety of facts from many scientific fields in an attempt to synthesize a general picture of the biochemical basis of inheritance.

HANDBOOK OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE—Fred C. Blanck, Ed.—*Reinhold*, 1039 p., illus., \$12.50. A convenient reference work for all workers who have to do with foods.

HORIZONS OF HOPE—*Alfred P. Sloan Foundation*, 33 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y. Describing the animated motion picture of the same name produced by the Sloan Foundation to tell of some of the promising avenues of research on cancer, and describing progress made since the film was issued.

IMPROVING YOUR GARDEN THROUGH SOIL MANAGEMENT—Earl F. Downey—*Crown*, 250 p., illus., \$3.95. For the gardener and covering over 50 varieties of vegetables and a great number of flowers and shrubs.

INFORMATION PROCESSING EQUIPMENT—M. P. Doss, Ed.—*Reinhold*, 270 p., illus., \$8.75. Information resulting from a symposium held by the American Chemical Society.

MACHINE TRANSLATION OF LANGUAGES: Fourteen Essays—William N. Locke and A. Donald Booth, Eds.—*Technology Press of MIT and Wiley*, 243 p., \$6.00. Computer designers and electronic engineers are now engaged in erecting a new "Tower of Anti-Babel" which will serve to speed the day when all men can communicate freely together.

THE MEDICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF ANXIETY—Richard L. Jenkins—*Biological Sciences Foundation*, 46 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. For physicians who are constantly having to deal with the problem of anxiety.

THE MULTIFLORA ROSE FOR FENCES AND WILDLIFE—Wallace L. Anderson and Frank C. Edminster—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Leaflet No. 374, 8 p., illus., paper, 5 cents. This beautiful plant can serve to keep livestock at home and to furnish welcome cover for birds, rabbits and other kinds of wildlife. It has a new use for soil conservation.

A REAPPRAISAL OF THE FREMONT CULTURE: With a Summary of the Archaeology of the Northern Periphery—H. M. Wormington—*Denver Museum of Natural History*, 200 p., illus., paper, \$3.12. Describing what was found in an excavation on a ranch in Utah, particularly a village site where an ancient people lived in circular door-less houses which they entered through the roof.

SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC DETERMINATION OF ALIPHATIC SULFIDES IN CRUDE PETROLEUM OILS AND THEIR CHROMATOGRAPHIC FRACTIONS—Harry V. Drushel and James F. Miller—*Mellon Institute*, 7 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

SUMMER NATURE EXPLORATIONS—Eva L.

Gordon—*New York State College of Agriculture*, Cornell Rural School Leaflet, Volume 48, Number 4, 32 p., illus., paper, 10 cents. Suggestions of what to do on your summer vacation that will be of scientific interest.

THERMODYNAMICS: From the Classic and Generalized Standpoints—Joseph Louis Finck—*Bookman Associates*, 224 p., illus., \$7.50. Presenting in unified form the author's own work in thermodynamics.

UNDERWATER SPORT—Albert VanderKogel and Rex Lardner—*Henry Holt*, 188 p., illus., \$3.50. Describing the strange world under the surface of the sea and what can be learned there.

THE UNITED NATIONS AND HOW IT WORKS—David Cushman Coyle with an introduction by Ahmed S. Bokhari—*New American Library*, 208 p., paper, 35 cents. To give an understanding of this means by which men of many nations attempt to achieve world peace.

WHAT IS POPULARITY?—Mary L. Northway—*Science Research Associates*, Better Living Booklets, 47 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Discussing why children are liked by other children and how parents and teachers can help them grow in popularity.

Science News Letter, June 18, 1955

MEDICINE

Women's Cosmetic for Jeep Disease Treatment

► THE COSMETIC preparations women use to remove superfluous hair might help speed recovery from jeep disease. This is the slow-healing painful infection at the base of the spine which thousands of World War II soldiers developed from riding in jeeps. Doctors called it pilonidal sinus.

The idea of trying depilatories, as the hair removers are known, comes from Dr. Shields Warren, radiologist at New England Deaconess Hospital, Boston. He suggested their use instead of X-rays to remove hair near the base of the spine. X-rays to this area so near the reproductive organs might, Dr. Warren warned, lead to temporary or permanent sterility.

He made the suggestion to Drs. Neil W. Swinton and Robert K. Wise of the Lahey Clinic, Boston. They were using X-rays to destroy hair in the area affected by jeep disease and so give the infection time to heal.

In their opinion, the trouble comes when hairs break off on the surface of the skin and are driven inward by repeated blows at the base of the spine like those encountered in riding in a jeep.

Formerly it was thought the condition was a congenital defect in which the skin failed to close completely at the back before a baby was born. According to this theory, a small sac of skin grew inward and became filled with hair that normally should have been on the outside of the body.

Drs. Swinton and Wise report excellent results when the extra hair in the area is temporarily removed after which a minor operation is performed to clean up the infection and healing progresses rapidly.

They reported their methods and theory at the meeting of the American Proctologic Society in New York.

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