

# 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 BEAST THAT WALKS LIKE MAN: The Story of the Grizzly Bear**—Harold McCracken—*Hanover House*, 319 p., illus., \$4.50. Giving legendary lore and historic melodrama, as well as facts, about this great American beast.

**BIRDS OF NEW ZEALAND**—Alfred M. Bailey—*Denver Museum of Natural History*, Museum Pictorial No. 11, 116 p., illus., paper, \$1.60. Briefly introducing New Zealand as a country, and presenting photographs and descriptions of the interesting birds to be found there.

**ENERGY AND SOCIETY: The Relation Between Energy, Social Change, and Economic Development**—Fred Cottrell—*McGraw-Hill*, 330 p., \$6.00. Tracing the development of civilization through the history of fuel sources, with the thesis that the amounts and types of energy employed condition man's way of life materially, and set predictable limits on what he can do and how society will be organized.

**FIX-IT-YOURSELF AUTO REPAIR MANUAL**—Popular Mechanics—*Popular Mechanics Press*, 160 p., illus., \$2.50. Explaining with diagrams and photographs how you can repair and maintain your car.

**FLEAS: How to Control Them**—U. S. Dept. of Agriculture—*Govt. Printing Office*, 8 p., illus., paper, 5 cents. Giving the different varieties of fleas and telling how to control them with insecticides.

**GLOSSARY OF SELECTED GEOLOGIC TERMS: With Special Reference to Their Use in Engineering**—Wm. Lee Stokes and David J. Varnes—*Colorado Scientific Society*, Proceedings, Vol. 16, 165 p., cloth \$3.50, paper, \$2.75. Providing civil engineers and specialists in related fields with a technical glossary of terms used by geologists.

**MR. GOULD'S TROPICAL BIRDS**—Eva Mannerling, Ed.—*Crown*, 16 p., 24 plates, \$7.50. Containing plates selected from John Gould's folios, together with descriptions of the birds taken

from his original text. The plates have been beautifully reproduced.

**GRAY SQUIRREL**—Mary Adrian—*Holiday House*, 46 p., illus., \$2.00. Telling for children the life story of one of our most well known native mammals.

**GROWING PLANTS UNDER ARTIFICIAL LIGHT**—Peggie Schulz—*Barrows*, 146 p., illus., \$3.50. Recent developments have made electric light practical for home gardeners and commercial growers, states the foreword of this book, which gives information on the indoor culture of various plants under artificial light alone, as well as under artificial and natural light combined.

**HOW TO CHOOSE THAT CAREER: Civilian and Military**—S. Norman Feingold—*Bellman*, 52 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. A guide for parents, teachers and students.

**HYDROCORTISONE, ITS NEWER ANALOGS AND ALDOSTERONE AS THERAPEUTIC AGENTS**—Joseph W. Jailer, Ed.—*New York Academy of Sciences, Annals*, Vol. 61, Art. 2, 356 p., illus., paper, \$4.50.

**JOURNAL OF ELECTRONICS: Volume 1, Number 1**—J. Thomson and N. F. Mott, Eds.—*Taylor & Francis (Academic)*, 102 p., illus., paper, Volume 1, 6 parts, \$15.40, single copies \$2.80. An English publication devoted to electron sciences, defined as "a field which extends from fundamental research to the scientific aspects of the construction of devices—the domain of the electron in theory and practice."

**THE LIFE IN THE SEA**—Ralph Buchsbaum—*Oregon State System of Higher Education, Condon Lectures*, 101 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. An introduction to the study of the myriad life of the sea and its ecology.

**THE MIRACLE OF LIGHT AND POWER: How Electricity, Gas and Steam Are Produced for Home and Industry**—Captain Burr W. Leyson—*Dutton*, 186 p., illus., \$3.50. Describing the problems involved in serving a community, and especially a great city, with uninterrupted electric power and gas.

**A NEW RECORDING MICROBALANCE**—Axel H. Peterson—*Mellon Institute*, 4 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Describing a method by which any standard laboratory analytical balance can be converted into a recording microbalance with a sensitivity gain of 10,000, permitting comparative measurements of 0.1 to 0.01 microgram.

**OBEDIENCE TRAINING FOR YOUR DOG**—Cecil Wilmhurst—*Dover*, 70 p., illus., paper, 65 cents. Written, according to the introduction, for "every dog owner who is attempting to train his dog, and especially to those whose dogs are attempting to train them."

**PLASTICS FOR CORROSION-RESISTANT APPLICATIONS**—Raymond B. Seymour and Robert H. Steiner—*Reinhold*, 423 p., illus., \$7.50. Development and application of plastics and resins for corrosion resistance introduced a complete new line of tools for the engineer to use in dealing with corrosion.

**POLIO AND THE SALK VACCINE**—Roland H. Berg—*Public Affairs Committee*, Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 150A, 28 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. "Despite minor shortcomings and some still unanswered problems, the Salk polio vaccine represents a safe, practical method for controlling paralytic polio," is the conclusion of

this pamphlet, written by the medical editor of a leading magazine.

**PROCEEDINGS: CONFERENCE ON EXPERIMENTAL HEPATOMAS**—J. Walter Wilson, Ed.—*Govt. Printing Office*, 233 p., illus., paper, \$2.25. Many laboratories in the field of cancer research are devoting a substantial part of their efforts to the study of the experimental hepatoma, or liver tumor, particularly in rodents. Proceedings of a conference held in October, 1954.

**THE SCIENCE BOOK OF THE HUMAN BODY**—Edith E. Sproul—*Watts*, 232 p., illus., \$4.95. To help the layman gain new understanding of the delicate intricacies of the human body and its functioning as a whole.

**STUTTERING IN CHILDREN AND ADULTS: Thirty Years of Research at the University of Iowa**—Wendell Johnson, Ed., assisted by Ralph R. Leutenegger—*University of Minnesota Press*, 472 p., \$5.00. Addressed primarily to professional workers and students, this book contains previously unpublished papers from the University of Iowa's stuttering research program.

**THREE TICKETS TO ADVENTURE**—Gerald M. Durrell—*Viking*, 203 p., illus., \$3.75. A story of adventure in British Guiana, where the author went in search of animals for British zoos.

Science News Letter, September 17, 1955

## ANIMAL NUTRITION

### Corn Cobs as Diet for Sheep

► SHEEP can be fattened on corn cobs if you pamper their bacteria with fine foods, tests by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's research service indicate.


Sheep, as cattle and goats do, have an "extra stomach," the rumen, where rough feed is pre-digested with the help of bacteria. Normally there are not enough bacteria in the rumen to unlock the large amounts of nutrients hidden in tough materials like corn cobs.

When high-energy concentrate feed is added to a diet of pelleted corn cobs, the bacteria thrive and multiply, increasing in numbers until they digest the roughage.

The USDA scientists found that up to 75% of the main nutrients in roughage could be used by sheep when high-energy foods were added in equal weight.

While they are not as efficiently digested as corn cobs, pellets from low-quality hay and sugar cane wastes could also be used as sheep feed when bacteria are pampered.

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