

DICTIONARY of ANTHROPOLOGY

by Charles Winick

Prepared with the cooperation
of a group of distinguished
anthropologists

Anthropologists in the course of their research are called upon to invent special terms. Many of these terms cannot be defined with absolute precision and are used on the basis of a tacit consensus about their meanings. This agreement depends on a shared notion of the connotations of a particular term rather than on a clear verdict of the word's denotation.

Many anthropological terms carry the burden of their past history into present discourse. Kroeber and Kluckhohn have written a fascinating and sizable monograph on the many shades of meaning which cluster around so basic an anthropological concept as "culture." In other cases, the meaning of a concept is affected by the distinctive circumstances of a classic investigation or the special use to which the concept was put by a particular investigator, or it is overlaid with the remains of past polemics.

Although no attempt has been made to cover every isolated use of a term, the selection of entries has been keyed to standard source and instructional materials in anthropology. To assist the reader into the more remote reaches of the literature, short biographical identifications of some of the leading earlier contributors to anthropology are included. **\$10.00**

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PHYSICS

Russian Thermonuclear Research Translated

➤ THE MOST RECENT WORK done by Russia's top atomic physicists has been published in English in the United States.

Six papers, dealing with thermonuclear experiments, have been translated from the Soviet scientific journal, "Atomic Energy."

One of the papers is that delivered by Igor Kurchatov at Harwell, England, last April, which received wide publicity in this country. It deals with Russian research with high-temperature discharges in deuterium gas.

The other papers by Soviet physicists give more detailed information on various phases of current Russian thermonuclear research. The translation was made by the Consultants Bureau in New York.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1956

Do You Know?

It is estimated there are more than 10,000 species of destructive *insects* in the United States.

Japan's *birth rate* has dropped faster than that of any other nation in recent times—43% in eight years.

In Japan and Iceland, the main part of the animal protein intake is supplied from *fish*.

Alaska is first among the states and territories in number of *fishermen*, with 14,000 out of a total population of 153,000.

Indonesia is surpassed only by the Soviet Union and the United States in the wealth of its natural resources.

MATH IS FUN

By Joseph Degrazia, Ph.D.

Here is a treasury of brain-teasers. You need not be a mathematical genius to solve these problems and puzzles. What you need is to know how to THINK LOGICALLY—how to REASON. This is practically a "course" in applied logic and reasoning—besides being an immense amount of fun that will keep you absorbed for many hours. You will find not only that MATH IS FUN, but also that learning math can be fun!

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Questions

CHEMISTRY—What new type of chemical bond has been discovered? p. 313.

ENGINEERING—How does a heat pump control a building's temperature? p. 310.

MEDICINE—What class of compounds acts as birth control pills? p. 309.

PHYSICS—How might the artificial satellite be used to test Einstein's theory of relativity? p. 309.

VETERINARY MEDICINE—Why is there little value in giving cows thyroprotein? p. 308.

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AERONAUTICS

Silvery Jet Trails On High Not Wanted

➤ THE SILVERY STREAKS high in the sky after jets have passed by are unwanted and unappreciated.

Because the vapor trails are tell-tale, revealing jet warplanes even when they have climbed far out of hearing range of the enemy, the Air Force has asked the Armour Research Foundation of the Illinois Institute of Technology to try to work out a way to suppress them.

The highly visible trails are caused by ice particles that reflect the sunlight. The trails occur usually when the high layers of air are colder than 45 degrees below zero Fahrenheit.

Science News Letter, November 17, 1956



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