

G. Armstrong—*Watts, F.*, 150 p., illus., \$3.95. How today's flight surgeons, in the air and in their laboratories, are preparing the way for man's flight into space.

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REPRODUCTION IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS, Vol. I—H. H. Cole and P. T. Cupps, Eds., foreword by Herbert M. Evans—*Academic*, 651 p., illus., \$14. Treatise dealing with the complex mechanisms involved in the reproduction of higher animals, the internal (nervous and endocrine) and external (food and environment) factors which play vital roles in breeding farm animals.

SOVIET PHYSICS: Technical Physics, Vol. 3, No. 1, A Translation of the *Journal of Technical Physics* of the Academy of Science of the USSR (Russian Original Vol. 28, No. 9)—Robert T. Beyer, Chmn.—*Am. Institute of Physics*, 219 p., illus., paper, monthly, annual subscription starting with Vol. 3, No. 1: \$75, libraries of non-profit academic institutions: \$35.

THE SPECTRUM OF BETA LYRAE—J. Sahade and others—*Am. Philosophical Soc.*, 64 p., illus., paper, \$2. Contains atlas of 195 Mount Wilson coude spectrograms. Vol. 49, Part 1 of the *Transactions*.

SULFUR IN PROTEIN: Proceedings of Symposium held at Falmouth, Mass., May 1958—Reinhold Benesch and others, Eds.—*Academic*, 469 p., illus., \$14. Deals with the role of sulfur in a variety of biological systems, presenting the findings of recent research.

SYMPOSIUM ON RADIOACTIVITY IN INDUSTRIAL WATER AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE WATER—A. Louis Medin and others, introd. by A. R. Belyea—*Am. Soc. for Testing Materials*, 70 p., illus., \$2.50. Discussion of test methods and samples.

THEY EXPLORED! Humboldt, Livingstone, Frémont, Hedin, Scott, Herzog—Rhoda Hoff and Helmut de Terra—*Walck, H. Z.*, 120 p., illus., \$3.25. Tells young people why these men explored, what they discovered and how the world benefited from their explorations.

URANIUM AND OTHER MIRACLE METALS—Fred Reinfeld—*Sterling*, rev. ed., 128 p., illus., \$3.95. Tells the general reader what uranium is, where and how it is being mined and how it is used in atomic energy, radioactive drugs and other peacetime applications.

VIRUS GROWTH AND VARIATION: Ninth Symposium of the Society for General Microbiology—A. Isaacs and B. W. Lacey, Eds.—*Cambridge Univ. Press*, 272 p., illus., \$7. Symposium was held at University of London in April 1959.

YOUR MICROSCOPE AND HOW TO USE IT—Hy Ruchlis and Bernard Friedman—*Science Materials Center*, 32 p., illus., paper, 70¢. Pamphlet explains parts of the microscope, tells boys and girls how to use it, suggesting experiments.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1959

#### AGRICULTURE

### Russia Is Third Largest Producer of Fats and Oils

THE SOVIET Union is now the third largest producer of fats and oils in the world, exceeded only by the United States and Communist China. Its estimated 1958 production was 2.6 million metric tons.

Edible vegetable oils accounted for the main share of the output, followed by lard and tallow, butter, and fish and whale oils.

These figures, based largely on Russian sources, have been published by the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Total 1958 production of edible vegetable oils, including those extracted from imported seeds, is estimated at about 1.2 million tons. In 1959 it is likely to reach an all-time record, mainly because of an exceptionally good sunflower seed harvest.

Increased Russian production of oilseeds has been accompanied by improved extraction processes, the FAO reports. Hydraulic presses have been almost completely replaced by continuous screw presses and solvent extraction mills, thus increasing the yield of oil.

This technical advance doubled the extracting capacity between 1941 and 1956, although the number of plants increased only slightly.

The FAO study showed estimates of present Russian consumption, placed at about 30 pounds per head, were still far below the 61 pounds per head in North America and the 50 pounds per head in Western Europe.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1959

#### METEOROLOGY

### High-Speed Weather Network Inaugurated

THE FIRST EXTENSIVE high-speed weather facsimile network is now operating for the Air Force, doubling the previous speed at which high-altitude weather information is transmitted.

The new network links 57 Air Weather Service weather stations at Air Force bases throughout the U.S., making immediate transmission of up-to-the-minute weather maps possible. Center of the network is the Global Weather Central at Offutt AFB, Omaha.

The National Weather Analysis Center, Suitland, Md., provides the daily reports on winds, temperatures and vorticity as well as forecasts of Northern Hemisphere weather. NWAC is a joint Weather Bureau, Navy and Air Force facility.

Designed and installed by the Western Union Telegraph Company, the new network will transmit data at a speed of 120 revolutions per minute, twice present speeds. The system, known as the Strategic Facsimile Network, was developed to fulfill Strategic Air Command requirements.

Weather maps transmitted by the network are about three times larger than any now being sent by facsimile.

Science News Letter, June 6, 1959

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