

# books OF THE WEEK

Listing is an editorial service for readers' information. For convenient purchase of any book listed or any U.S. book in print, remit retail price (we pay postage) plus 25c handling charge to Book Order Service, Science News, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Prices subject to publishers' changes. Be sure to include zip code in your address.

**THE AMERICAN HERITAGE DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**—William Morris, Ed.—Houghton Mifflin, 1969, 1600 p., 4000 illus., 200 maps, tables, \$7.95; thumb-indexed \$8.95. Well-leaded readable print, more than 150,000 entries, capsule biographies, geographical data, all information, except 54-page appendix on Indo-European roots, entered in one alphabetical listing. Special articles on aspects of language.

**BEEVER AND COMPANY**—Joseph A. Davis—Harper, 1969, 203 p., photographs and drawings by author, \$5.95. Zoo curator tells of his home life with otters and a young fennec.

**BEYOND RACISM: Building an Open Society**—Whitney M. Young, Jr.—McGraw-Hill, 1969, 255 p., \$6.95. Concerned with the "post-civil-rights" problems of building bridges of responsible citizenship between the black and white community in America's polarized society.

**BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES IN MAMMALIAN SYSTEMS**—Herman F. Kraybill, Ed.—N.Y. Acad. of Sciences, Annals, Vol. 160, Art. 1, 1969, 422 p., diagrams, paper, \$23. Papers deal with pesticide residue analysis, metabolism of pesticides, occurrence and distribution of residues, biochemical effects, toxicology and physiology.

**BIOLOGY OF MAMMALS**—Richard G. Van Gelder—Scribner, 1969, 197 p., \$5.95. An annotated outline of some of the ways in which American mammals vary to adapt to the stresses of environment, attempts to locate the underlying principles essential to the lives of mammals.

**BIRDS OF ASIA**—A. Rutgers—Taplinger, 1969, 321 p., 160 color plates by John Gould, \$15. Reproductions from the original lithographs of the 19th century ornithologist with up-to-date descriptions of species on facing pages.

**THE CARBON-14 DATING OF IRON**—Nikolaas J. van der Merwe—Univ. of Chicago Press, 1969, 137 p., illus., \$7.50. A study of the application of radiocarbon dating to man-made iron and slag specimens and the procedures used in solving problems in the metallurgical and cultural history of the Iron Age.

**CAREERS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN ASTRONAUTICS**—Lewis Zarem—Dutton, 1969, rev. ed., 290 p., photographs, \$6.95. A comprehensive guide to a wide range of job opportunities created by the space program.

**THE CELL**—Carl P. Swanson—Prentice-Hall, 1969, 3rd ed., 150 p., electron micrographs, diagrams, \$5.95; paper, \$2.50. Deals with the structure, function and behavior of normal cells and cell organelles, with examples from the animal, plant and microbial kingdoms.

**THE CHANGING CLASSROOM: The Role of the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study**—Arnold B. Grobman—Doubleday, 1969, 370 p., illus., \$6.95. A history and, evaluation of BSCS, explores in depth the problems, goals, failures and successes of curriculum change in secondary school biology instruction.

**CHECKERBACK'S JOURNEY: The Migration of the Ruddy Turnstone**—Marjorie Bartlett Sanger—World Pub. Co., 1969, 160 p., illus. by Betty Fraser, \$4.50. Handsome book, follows a shorebird's flight from Brazil up the coast of North America to Greenland, set against the background of the flyway's ecology.

**CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS OF RADIOISOTOPES**—H. J. M. Bowen—Methuen (Barnes & Noble), 1969, 131 p., diagrams, \$5. Monograph reviews for scientists the ways in which radioisotopes have been used in chemistry.

**CHEMICAL FALLOUT: Current Research on Persistent Pesticides**—Morton W. Miller and George G. Berg, Eds., foreword by Aser Rothstein—Thomas, C.C., 1969, 531 p., diagrams, \$22.50. Follows pesticides from their entry into the ecological system, their impact on natural populations, their mechanisms of action to their effect on human populations and ends with evaluation of control of pesticides.

# films OF THE WEEK

Listing is for readers' information of new 16mm and 8mm films on science, engineering, medicine and agriculture for professional, student and general audiences. For further information on purchase, rental or free loan, write to distributor.

**THE CHEMICAL HISTORY OF A CANDLE.** 16mm, color, sound, 26 min. Recreates Faraday's lecture in 1827 at the Royal Institution. Presents a sequence of demonstrations interposed with sections of logical reasoning aimed at showing that a candle takes oxygen from the air and produces soot, water and carbon dioxide. Includes 3.4 minute introduction by Dr. Dixy Lee Ray, director, Pacific Science Center, Seattle. Audience: high school. Purchase \$260 or rental \$10 from Modern Learning Aids, 1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036.

**ELECTRICITY: CELLS AND CIRCUITS.** Standard 8mm or Super 8mm, color, silent. Seven cartridge-loading films for the Technicolor projector on "How Do You Connect A Battery, Bulb, and Switch To Make The Bulb Light?," "How Can You Make A Simple Galvanometer?," "Will A Sugar Solution Conduct Electricity? A Salt Solution?," "What Is Needed To Make A Wet Cell?," "What Happens When Lights Are Connected In A Parallel Circuit?" and "What Happens When Lights Are Connected In A Series Circuit?" Audience: intermediate grades, junior high. Purchase Standard 8mm \$112 or Super 8mm \$126 from Rand McNally and Co., P.O. Box 7600, Chicago, Ill. 60680.

**FIRE IN MY KITCHEN.** 16mm, color, sound, 12 min. Demonstrates the measures the housewife herself can safely take to cope with a top-of-the-range or oven fire: first the attempt to smother the fire, and then the use of an extinguisher if this fails. There is also guidance on wastebasket fires, overloaded circuits, grease accumulations and the hazards of clothing ignition in and around the range. Makes the point that the kitchen is usually the only room where it is normal to have a fire every day of the year, and so it must be under control at all times. Audience: general. Purchase \$130 from National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street, Boston, Mass. 02110.

**FIRST AID: RESUSCITATION.** 16mm, color sound, 6 min. Doctor Lenon Brand, Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology, with the help of Marion Thompson, demonstrates the life-saving technique. Using "Resuss Annie," a dummy, Doctor Brand covers all the aspects of resuscitation as Miss Thompson demonstrates the steps. Audience: high school, college, adult. Purchase \$85 from 6509 De Longpre Ave., Hollywood, Cal. 90028.

**THE HUMAN BODY: THE CHEMISTRY OF DIGESTION.** 16mm, color or b&w, sound, 16 min. Molecular models, animation and X-ray photography present a comprehensive view of the chemical process of digestion in our bodies. Viewers see how the three basic nutrients of food and the enzyme action of saliva, gastric juices, the pancreas and liver function in the process of digestion. Explains saccharide molecules, triglyceride, amino acid, polypeptide and the enzymes amylase, proteinase and lipase. Audience: senior high, college. Purchase color \$195 or b&w \$97.50 from Coronet Films, 65 E. South Water St., Chicago, Ill. 60601.

## LETTERS

# to the editor

### Crucial Focus

Jay Chamblin's article "Focus on Lipoproteins" (SN: 7/12, p. 33) was extremely well done and covered very nicely the crucial issues presented at the symposium.

I have been a longstanding subscriber to SCIENCE NEWS and continue to enjoy its excellent coverage of current science. Also, I have finally adjusted to the new format and think it's an improvement.

Alexander V. Nichols  
Associate Professor of Medical Physics  
University of California  
Berkeley, Calif.

### Interferon

I feel that your reporter has hit the nail on the head ("Interferon: Hard times for a panacea," SN: 7/12, p. 24), and has summarized points of view quite satisfactorily. I think she has been quite fair in presenting the various points of view which are held by workers in the field of interferon. Obviously, many years will pass before we really know which particular points of view were correct, and whether interferon does offer any practical possibilities.

Warren R. Stinebring, Ph.D.  
Professor and Chairman of  
Medical Microbiology  
The University of Vermont  
College of Medicine  
Burlington, Vt.

Address communications to Editor,  
Science News, 1719 N Street, N.W.  
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