

SCIENCE NEWS®

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COVER: More than one-third of the earth's land surface is desert or semi-desert, and scientists predict that one-third of the earth's arable land may be lost to desertification during the next 25 years. Growing awareness of this problem prompted the recent United Nations conference on desertification. See story p. 282. (Photo: UN/P. Frankel)

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS, Vol 15—Geoffrey Burbidge et al, Eds.—Annual Reviews, 1977, 602 p., illus., \$17. Topics include the origin of solar activity, extragalactic X-ray sources as well as a prefatory article by E. J. Opik.

ARID LANDS RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS: A World Directory, 1977—Patricia Paylore, Ed.—U of Ariz Pr, 1977, 317 p., paper, \$7.50. Originally published in 1966, this revised edition reflects the growing scientific anxieties of the arid world's specialists. Includes scope of interest, research program, staff, facilities, publications and history for the listed institutions.

CHILD EFFECTS ON ADULTS—Richard Q. Bell and Lawrence V. Harper—LEA (Halsted Pr), 1977, 253 p., \$16.50. Devoted to the way in which parents and other care-giving adults are themselves molded by the children they rear.

MATHEMATICS ENCYCLOPEDIA: A Made Simple Book—Max S. Shapiro, Ed.—Doubleday, 1977, 289 p., illus., paper, \$5.95. Contains all the mathematical topics covered by academic curricula through the college level. Originally published as a part of *The Cadillac Modern Encyclopedia*.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH INFORMATION DIRECTORY: A Guide to State, National and International Organizations, Government Agencies, Educational Institutions, Hospitals, Grant-Award Sources, Health Care Delivery Agencies, Journals, Newsletters, Review Serials, Abstracting Services, Publishers, Research Centers, Computerized Data Banks, Audiovisual Services, and Libraries and Information Centers—Anthony T. Kruzas and Robert Fitch Allen, Eds.—Gale, 1977, 664 p., \$48.

MEET MY PSYCHIATRIST—Les Blacklock, Introduction by Sigurd F. Olson—Voyageur Pr, 1977, 111 p., color plates, \$8.95. With warmth and charm, magnifi-

cent color photographs and personal observations, the author shares with us his love of nature.

ORIGINS: What New Discoveries Reveal About the Emergence of our Species and its Possible Future—Richard E. Leakey and Roger Lewin—Dutton, 1977, 264 p., color, b&w photographs and drawings, \$17.95. Exploring the forces that nurtured the hunting and gathering way of life and the question of why it was superseded by an agricultural society. This study may give us some insight into modern society and with it some guide to our future.

THE PHENOMENON OF SCIENCE—V.F. Turchin, translated by Brand Frenz—Columbia U Pr, 1977, 348 p., charts & diagrams, \$17.50. A Soviet nuclear physicist and computer scientist presents an evolutionary scheme of the universe with heavy reliance on cybernetics in which he treats scientific concepts as "objects" governed by the same evolutionary regularities as chemical and biological entities.

PIAGETIAN PSYCHOLOGY: Cross-Cultural Contributions—Pierre R. Dasen, Ed., Preface by Jean Piaget—Gardner (Halsted Pr), 1977, 379 p., charts, \$18.95. Cognitive development in children of 11 different cultures is described. Includes chapters written by non-Western and Western psychologists studying children of their own culture.

ROCKETSHIP: An Incredible Voyage Through Science Fiction and Science Fact—Robert Malone—Har-Row, 1977, 127 p., illus., drawings by J.C. Soares, paper, \$6.95. The story of the rocketship, including history and science fiction, beginning with da Vinci's design to modern spacecrafts and those envisioned for the future. Illustrated with outstanding photographs and drawings.

UNTIL THE SUN DIES—Robert Jastrow—Norton, 1977, 172 p., illus., \$8.95. Examines the forces that have shaped human beings and created the power of human intelligence. Considers the prospects for intelligent life on other planets in this solar system and elsewhere in the cosmos.

THE VERSATILE SATELLITE—Richard W. Porter—Oxford U Pr, 1977, 173 p., illus., \$11. Descriptive rather than mathematical, this book tells what a satellite is, how it is put into orbit, what special considerations enter into its design and especially how it can be used and why.

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