

ADVENTURES OF A MATHEMATICIAN—A. M. Ulam—Scribner, 1976, 328 p., illus., \$14.95, paper, \$4.95. Autobiographical reminiscences of childhood and student days in Poland, life at Princeton, Harvard and Los Alamos, as well as more recent reflections on mathematics, mathematicians and physicists.

ANIMAL FACTS AND FEATS—Gerald L. Wood—Sterling, 1977, 256 p., color and b&w photographs, \$14.95. A fascinating collection of the extremes of the animal world and the stories behind them in this "Guinness Book of Animal Records."

THE ATLAS OF MERCURY—Charles A. Cross and Patrick Moore, foreword by Sir Bernard Lovell—Crown, 1977, 48 p., photographs and drawings, \$10. From the best of the Mariner 10 photographs a new chart of Mercury is presented; the photographs showing the most important characteristics are further enlarged; and experiments carried out by Mariner 10 are discussed along with earlier observations from earth-based telescopes.

A BAREFOOT DOCTOR'S MANUAL—The Revolutionary Health Committee of Hunan Province, Translated by Titus Yu—Cloudburst Pr (Greene), rev. ed., 1977, 372 p., drawings, paper, \$6.95. This manual, published in China in 1970 to supply the barefoot doctors with a basic guide to their work in serving China's rural population, provides a fascinating introduction to the Chinese concepts of health and disease.

EVER SINCE DARWIN: Reflections in Natural History—Stephen Jay Gould—Norton, 1977, 285 p., illus., \$9.95. In order to "come to terms with Darwin, we must understand both his beliefs and their implications." All the essays are devoted to the exploration of Darwin's view of his evolutionary world.

FIELD GEOLOGY IN COLOR—D. E. B. Bates and J. F. Kirkaldy—Arco, 1977, 215 p., color plates and drawings, \$7.95. Gives guidance on the field work that can be done with a minimum of equipment—hammer, handlens, notebook, pencil, map, compass/clinometer.

THE FLYING CIRCUS OF PHYSICS: With Answers—Jearl Walker—Wiley, 1977, 295 p., drawings, paper, \$6.95. Physics problems from the everyday world, some easy, others enormously difficult, that scientists spend their lives trying to solve. A book intended to make you think about the physics around you. Answers are included, as well as a bibliography keyed to the questions.

FRACTALS: Form, Chance, and Dimension—Benoit B. Mandelbrot—W H Freeman, 1977, 365 p., illus., \$14.95. The author undertakes to describe mathematically a fascinating class of highly irregular geometric shapes—fractals. Examples of fractals observed in nature are terrestrial coastlines, cloud formations, brownian motion and stellar clustering. Profusely illustrated with computer-generated drawings (See SN: 8/20/77, p. 122).

GETTING INVOLVED WITH YOUR OWN COMPUTER: A Guide for Beginners—Leslie Solomon and Stanley Veit—Ridley Enslow, 216 p., illus., \$9.95, paper, \$5.95. Discusses the possible uses of a personal computer, the basic computer system, various computer systems that are available and further information sources about personal computers.

HABITS: How We Get Them, Why We Keep Them, How We Kick Them—Richard Stiller—Nelson, 1977, 157 p., diagrams, \$6.95. The ease with which humans become habituated is an important intellectual advantage. Without this ability to form new habits we might not have survived as a species. This readable book is about the psychological, physiological and philosophical aspects of habit.

A HISTORY OF HERBAL PLANTS—Richard le Strange—Arco, 1977, 304 p., illustrated by Derek Cork, \$15. The introduction is a worldwide historical survey of herbs used through the ages, followed by an encyclopedia of 750 plants, giving history, locale, appearance and curative properties of each plant. Beautiful line illustrations.

HOW BIRDS FLY—Russell Freedman—Holiday, 1977, 64 p., drawings by Lorence F. Bjorklund, \$6.95. The rigid wing of an airplane is simple compared with the flapping wing of a bird. A simply written book with beautiful drawings intended as an introduction for those who have wondered how a bird stays up, how it uses its wings and how it maneuvers.

THE IRON SUN: Crossing the Universe Through Black Holes—Adrian Berry—Dutton, 1977, 176 p., drawings, \$7.95. An attempt to solve the problems of the feasibility of travel to the stars.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS: The Art and Sport of Boomeranging—Benjamin Ruhe—Viking Pr, 1977, 105 p., drawings, \$4.95. Covers the history from ancient lore to modern scientific investigation, the aerodynamic principles involved, plans for construction of a variety of boomerangs, instruction for the neophyte thrower and games to play with "the thinking man's frisbee."

MATHEMATICAL MAGIC SHOW: More Puzzles, Games, Diversions, Illusions & Other Mathematical Sleight-of-Mind from SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN—Martin Gardner—Knopf, 1977, 284 p., drawings & photographs, \$8.95. With comments from readers, afterthoughts from the author and a brief glossary of mathematical terms for those not mathematically indoctrinated.

PLAGUES AND PEOPLE—William H. McNeill—Anchor/Doubleday, 1976, 377 p., \$10, paper, \$3.50. A historian describes the dramatic impact of infectious diseases on the rise and fall of civilizations.

POISON PLANTS—Alan Eshleman—HM, 1977, 188 p., illus. by Kristin Jakob, \$6.95. An introduction to poisonous plants that discusses how and why some plants are poisonous, describes toxic effects on humans and animals, and tells how people throughout history have used poisonous plants. Illustrated with beautiful line drawings.

RAYS OF HOPE: The Transition to a Post-Petroleum World—Denis Hayes—Norton, 240 p., \$9.95, paper, \$3.95. The transition to a world with dwindling oil output is an imminent reality; it could be a painful transition if we do not prepare for it, says the author. This Worldwatch Institute book attempts to think through some of the steps which must be taken in energy conservation and in the development of alternate sources of energy.

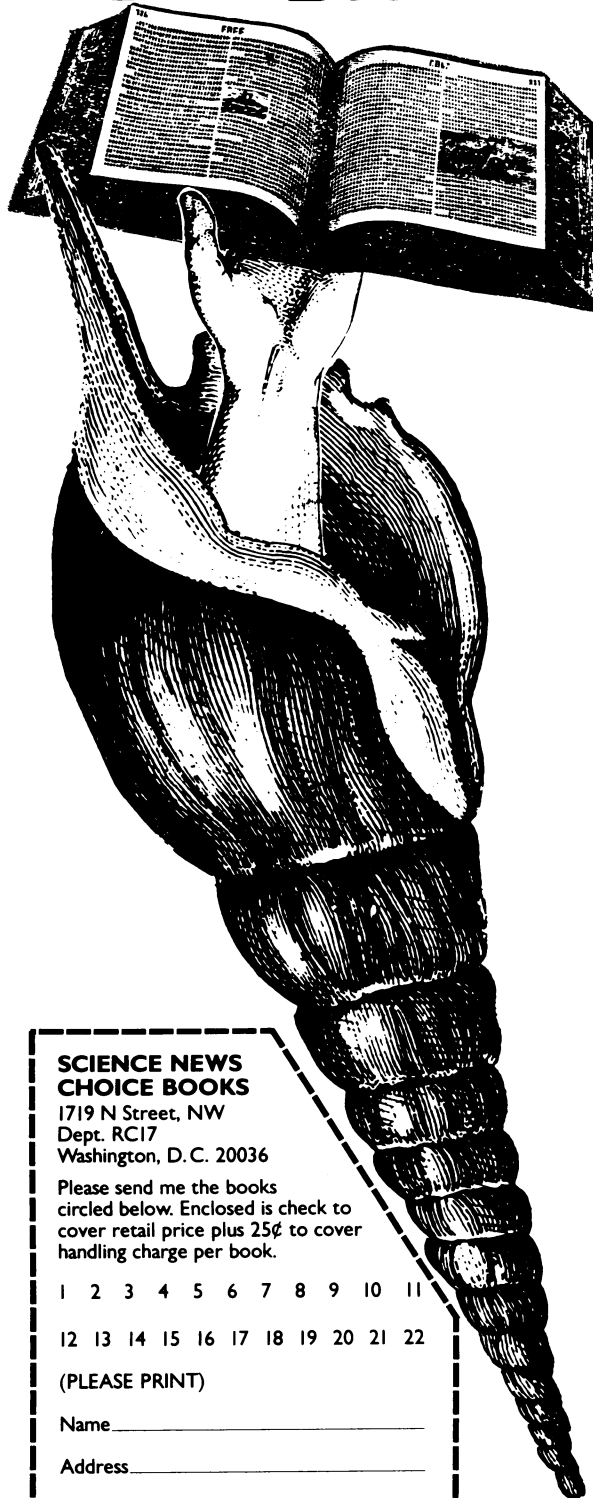
ROCKETSHIP: An Incredible Voyage Through Science Fiction and Science Fact—Robert Malone—Har-Row, 1977, 127 p., illus., drawings by J. C. Soares, paper, \$6.95. The story of the rocketship, including history and science fiction, beginning with da Vinci's design to modern spacecrafts and those envisioned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

A SIERRA CLUB NATURALIST'S GUIDE TO THE DESERTS OF THE SOUTHWEST—Peggy Larson with Lane Larson—Sierra, 1977, 286 p., drawings, \$9.95, paper, \$5.95. The four deserts comprising the North American desert are quite distinctive from one another. This guide describes the characteristic and variant plant and animal life and the specific topography, geology and climate conditions of each.

SPACE-TIME TRANSIENTS AND UNUSUAL EVENTS—Michael A. Persinger and Gyslaine F. Lafrenière—Nelson-Hall, 1977, 267 p., diagrams, \$9.95, paper, \$5.95. Written by a psychologist and his research assistant with the help of computer technology, this book is a study of unusual events. Its purpose is to encourage thinking about the limits of our concepts and the boundaries of man.

WHITNEY'S STAR FINDER: A Field Guide to the Heavens—Charles A. Whitney—Knopf, rev. ed., 1977, 104 p., charts & drawings, paper, \$5.95. Includes a star finder that enables you to identify stars that can be seen with the naked eye, a small telescope or binoculars. Tables, descriptions of events and planetary appearances have been updated through 1981.

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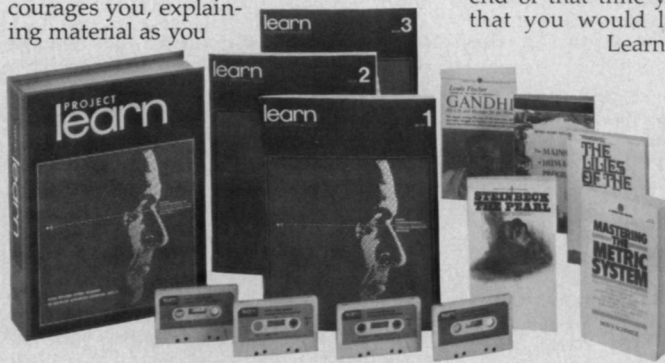
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