

BOOKS

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ATLAS OF THE PLANETS — Paul Doherty, Introduction by Patrick Moore. Written for the amateur astronomer by an artist-astronomer who is an assistant director of two sections of the British Astronomical Association. The planets are depicted as the author has seen them through a telescope. The text discusses each planet and describes its features. McGraw, 1980, 143 p., color/b&w illus., \$16.95.

BIOLOGICAL STRUCTURES — W. Krommenhoek et al. The color and black and white photographs in this atlas show details of a wide variety of cells, tissues and organs. Each is accompanied by a description pinpointing essential and distinctive features. Univ Park, 1980, 143 p., color/b&w illus., \$16.50.

COMPARISONS: Of Distance, Size, Area, Volume, Mass, Weight, Density, Energy, Temperature, Time, Speed and Number throughout the Universe — The Diagram Group. A visual guide to measurement—how man measured in the past and the many systems of measurement used today. Drawings, diagrams and charts are used to point up the comparisons. Tells not only the extremes of the biological and physical world but also compares such things as the speed of wind to the speed of a car to a person walking. St Martin, 1980, 240 p., illus., \$15.

THE CONSUMER'S BRAND-NAME GUIDE TO HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS — Carol Ann Rinzler. Reveals the ingredients in nearly 100 household products and explains their safe and effective use. Discusses for each product: its safety rating, its contents, how it works, possible side effects, what's better, safer or cheaper and commonly used brand names. Lippincott & Crowell, 1980, 228 p., \$10.95, paper, \$6.95.

EMERGENCY HANDBOOK: A First Aid Manual for Home and Travel — Peter Arnold. The purpose of this book is to alert you to various first-aid and emergency situations and to offer generally accepted treatments for the best response. Doubleday, 1980, 250 p., illus., \$11.95.

GÖDEL, ESCHER, BACH: An Eternal Golden Braid — Douglas R. Hofstadter. In a lucid and entertaining style the Pulitzer Prize winning author weaves together paradoxes drawn from the mathematician Gödel, the artist Escher, the musician Bach and the Greek philosopher Xenon in a discussion of modern scientific philosophy. Originally published in hardback in 1979. Random, 1980, 777 p., illus., paper, \$8.95.

LIFE AFTER '80: Environmental Choices We Can Live With — Kathleen Courrier, foreword by Richard Munson. Compiled as a celebration of the 10th anniversary of Earth Day. The articles by outstanding environmentalists discuss the critical issues affecting our environment. Brick Hse Pub, 1980, 280 p., paper, \$6.95.

MATHEMATICS: The Loss of Certainty — Morris Kline. Explains in nonmathematical language the drastic changes that have taken place in the understanding of pure and applied mathematics and discusses the implications of these changes for science and human reason. Oxford U Pr, 1980, 366 p., \$19.95.

• (PBS) "Nova" Oct. 7 "The Cancer Detectives of Lin Xian" is a medical detective story of the efforts by Chinese scientists to trace the source of the esophageal cancer that has plagued the county of Lin Xian for 2,000 years. The "cancer detectives" — from the Cancer Institute of Beijing — are able to trace several contributing factors peculiar to the area by observing the food preparations made by a middle-aged farm woman who has the disease; Oct. 14 "The Sea Behind the Dunes" examines one year in the life of a coastal lagoon, focusing on the interconnection of the lagoon's living inhabitants in maintaining the fragile balance of its ecosystem; Oct. 21 "Portrait of a Killer," a repeat broadcast, is an "inside" look at the number one cause of death in the United States — heart disease. Swedish photographer Lennart Nilsson and pathologist Jan Lindberg have produced a film of the progress of cardiovascular disease inside the human body; Oct. 28 "Do We Really Need the Rockies?" examines the promise and problems of shale oil, which is present in the Western Rocky Mountains in quantities sufficient to end our dependence on foreign crude oil yet is economically and environmentally undesirable.

• (PBS) "The Body in Question" Oct. 7 "Try a Little Tenderness" investigates the range of possible causes leading to a stomach ache, from overeating to ulcers, and uses a fictitious patient admitted to a teaching hospital with abdominal pains to show the route taken by a doctor making a diagnosis; Oct. 14 "How Do You Feel?" demonstrates that the feelings of bodily discomfort are neither what nor where they seem; Oct. 21 "Breathless" includes recreations of seventeenth century experiments to show how the understanding of breathing forms the basis of modern diagnosis; Oct. 28 "Blood Relations" examines the ways in which philosophers and scientists have historically looked at blood and shows how the understanding of blood and its circulation has helped in the control of disease.

Radio

• "Man and Molecules," the longest-running syndicated radio show being aired (it has been broadcast for 18 years), is produced as a public service by the American Chemical Society. It is aired weekly, each show consisting of a 15-minute discussion with a leading scientist. Subjects range from health and medicine and the natural sciences to energy, the environment and space. Upcoming in October is a four-part series on recombinant DNA. "Man and Molecules" is currently aired on more than 500 radio stations around the country and the world. For the station nearest you, write to: "Man and Molecules," P.O. Box 19210, Washington, D.C. 20036.

SCIENCE ON THE AIR

SCIENCE NEWS prints the latest written word of scientific developments and noteworthy news. We've set this space aside to inform our readers of programs of scientific interest that are scheduled on television and radio. Check your local listings for exact times.

Television

• Oct. 1 (PBS) "Nuclear Nightmares: Wars that Must Never Happen" is a 90-minute documentary that imagines the unthinkable — the possibility that civilization could be brought to a sudden and catastrophic end in a nuclear war — using four visually explicit scenarios of nuclear holocausts.

• Oct. 17 (PBS) "The Royal Archives of Ebla" examines what has been hailed as one of the most exciting archaeological finds of the century — the discovery of 17,000 cuneiform tablets and fragments at Ebla, Syria. The 4,500-year-old tablets are in the process of being translated — an event that holds the promise of changing our understanding of earliest recorded history.

• (PBS) "Connections," a 10-part series originally broadcast last fall that explores the development of technology and its impact on the modern world, is being repeated beginning Oct. 4. This month's segments include: Oct. 4 "The Trigger Effect," a recreation of the 1965 New York

blackout that illustrates the technological interdependence of the modern world; Oct. 11 "Death in the Morning," an examination of the diverse course of innovation that led to the production of the atomic bomb; Oct. 18 "Distant Voices," a look at how seemingly unrelated events led to the invention of modern telecommunications devices; and Oct. 25 "Faith in Numbers," a look at the link between the origin of the computer and the invention of the water-wheel.

• (PBS) "Here's to Your Health" Oct. 4 "The Immune System" is an update on the progress being made by medical research in unlocking the secrets of immunology; Oct. 11 "Cancer of the Colon" is a progress report on what is being done to diagnose and treat the most common internal cancer; Oct. 18 "Medical Research" features Nobel laureate Hans Krebs, who talks about medical research methods and benefits; Oct. 25 "Adolescent Sexuality" is a look at the results of the greatly increased sexual activity on the part of teenagers.