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Artificial Intelligence: An Applications-oriented Approach — Daniel Schutzer. Presents a brief survey of what artificial intelligence (AI) is, its history and its key attributes. Discusses the theories and concepts behind AI and the tools and techniques used in this young, evolving field. The current AI applications are described; these are primarily in the areas of expert systems and natural language processing systems. Tells how to implement an AI system and explores the future prospects for AI. Van Nos Reinhold, 1987, 294 p., illus., \$39.95.

California Butterflies — John S. Garth and J. W. Tilden. More than 230 species of butterflies have been found in California due to the state's great variety of habitats, from the Sierra Nevada mountains to the deserts to the coastal belt. Butterflies found in California range in size from the Pygmy Blue, with a wingspan as small as half an inch, to the Two-Tailed Swallowtail, which can have a wingspan of half a foot. This book tells how to observe butterflies, record observations and collect and preserve specimens. The California butterflies are illustrated and information is given for each species regarding habitat, distribution, abundance and flight periods. U of Cal Pr, 1986, 246 p., 24 plates, color/b&w illus., \$19.95.

Coping with Hearing Loss: A Guide for Adults and Their Families — Susan V. Rezen and Carl Hausman, foreword by Keenan Wynn. Covers matters as practical as communicating with someone who mumbles, choosing and adjusting a hearing aid and dealing with doctors. Explores how impaired hearing affects personal relationships and why some people who have a hearing loss are reluctant to do something about it. Explains how the ear functions normally and what can go wrong. Hearing rehabilitation is discussed, as are other aids for those with a hearing loss. Originally published in hardback in 1985. Dember Bks(Norton), 1986, 191 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.

Creating a New Garden — Faith Whiten and Geoff Whiten. A well-illustrated book with a variety of plans for those who are faced with the task of designing a garden or who wish to modify an existing garden. Norton, 1986, 138 p., color/b&w illus., \$22.50.

Don't Forget! Easy Exercises for a Better Memory at Any Age — Danielle C. Lapp. Practical suggestions are coupled with easy exercises designed to improve memory. Offers both methods for general memory improvement and special solutions to specific problems, such as remembering names and faces, numbers, instructions, retaining what you read and overcoming absent-mindedness. The techniques suggested here are based on scientific studies done at the Stanford University School of Medicine. McGraw, 1987, 253 p., illus., paper, \$6.95.

The Laser Book: A New Technology of Light — Clifford L. Laurence. A concise introduction to the subject of lasers for readers with nontechnical backgrounds. Explains the technical concepts necessary to the understanding of what lasers are and how they work. Describes the common types of lasers and their characteristics, and discusses the major applications of lasers. Prentice Hall Pr, 1986, 208 p., illus., \$19.95.

Owls: An Introduction for the Amateur Naturalist — Gordon Dee Alcorn. This book, beautifully illustrated with line drawings and photographs, points up the distinguishing characteristics of owls and then goes on to describe each species of North American owls. Prentice Hall Pr, 1986, 176 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.

Red Fox: The Catlike Canine — J. David Henry. One of the author's first encounters with the red fox was watching one in a snowstorm chase a jet down a runway at the Minneapolis airport. After observing more than a dozen generations of wild foxes in their natural habitat, Henry here discusses the social ecology of the red fox, telling of the choice of mate, courtship, selection of den and raising the young. Describes the red fox's diverse hunting strategies and its way of caching food. Goes on to describe unusual behaviors of red foxes that he has witnessed. The book is well illustrated with color and black-and-white photographs. Smithsonian, 1986, 174 p., color/b&w illus., \$22.50.

DIRT

By John Anthony Adams

Dirt is not a textbook but rather a treasury of fascinating and myth-exploding facts for everyone from weekend gardeners to builders to seekers of conversation tidbits. What did the Civil War have to do with soil science? How do sand dunes bury villages? What is a pingo and why does it cause "drunken trees"? Does scientific evidence support the theories behind organic gardening and the causes of acid rain?

The fact is, most people still know no more about this important element of nature than the knowledge they gained in a sandbox or at the playground.

— from the book

Texas A&M Univ. Press, 1986,
8 1/2" x 5 1/2", 160 pages, paperback, \$11.95

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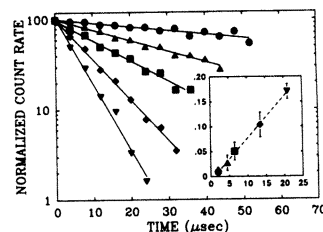
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