

• New Machines and Gadgets •

⚙️ **FOR AN EXTRA ROOM**, you can build partitions with glass blocks and interlocking wooden strips, now being manufactured.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

⚙️ **SOLUTION** to the heating problem: spend those long winter evenings in the bathtub with a good book. All you need is the new combination towel-rack and bookholder attached to the wall.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

⚙️ **AN IMPROVED SANDING** apparatus for icy roads distributes the sand uniformly, permits increased amounts where needed, and has a heater which causes the grains to adhere to the ice through partial melting and re-freezing. This not only gives the ice-sheathed road a better traction surface, but prevents the sand from being blown and scattered.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

⚙️ **AN ILLUMINATED HANDBAG** recently patented lights up inside when it is opened. This should be a boon to all males who have ever waited on cold doorsteps while a lady found her key.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

⚙️ **"POWER BOTTLES"**, steel cylinders full of highly-compressed carbon dioxide, are making bombing trips safer for crew members. By a twist of the wrist, a pilot can release the gas into the plane's hydraulic system in case it is put out of order by enemy attack. With an 80 horsepower wallop, the expanding gas pushes down stuck landing wheels, opens bomb-bay doors, or puts on jammed landing brakes.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

⚙️ **PLASTIC TIRES** have been molded for wheeled restaurant equipment and industrial hand trucks. The phenol-formaldehyde product gives extremely good wear and rolls more easily than rubber tires, although noisier and less resilient.

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⚙️ **PRESENT MACHINERY** for processing natural rubber can also be used to mix synthetic rubber by a technique developed at one of the large rubber companies. The information is being passed on to the entire industry. This dispels fears that new, complicated machinery made of critical materials, would

be necessary before the synthetic rubber program could get into full swing.

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⚙️ **A CONTINUOUS** bleaching process using hydrogen peroxide turns cloth white in two hours at rates up to 200 yards per minute, replacing the old

"batch" bleaching which required eight to 24 hours. Military textiles are thus being processed at unprecedented speeds.

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If you want more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington, D. C., and ask for Gadget Bulletin 189.

First Glances at New Books

➤ **IN STRAIGHT FORWARD STYLE**, mixing the old with the new, the part that science is playing in our modern world is told in **SCIENCE REMAKES OUR WORLD** by James Stokley, (*Ives Washburn*, \$3.50). There is little accent upon war and the military uses of science. Rather, there is backgrounding of the science of today and tomorrow.

Science News Letter, January 16, 1943

➤ **MAP READING** is simply, vividly and compellingly presented in **HOW TO READ MILITARY MAPS**, by Roderick Peattie (*George W. Stewart*, \$1.50). It will be useful not only to soldiers and marines now, but to the young people who will presently be in service.

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➤ **TEN YEARS** of working with students in a large university teaches psychiatrists much, not only about emotional problems in college life, but mental health in general. Recommended for the general reader as well as the specialist, is **MENTAL HEALTH IN COLLEGE** by Clements C. Fry, and Edna G. Rostow (*Commonwealth Fund*, \$2).

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➤ **GUIDE TO EASTERN FERNS**, by Edgar T. Wherry (*Science Press*, \$1), appears in a new edition, this time with an analytical key. This small but highly successful book is useful not only to the trained botanist but to all who are really interested in wild plants.

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• Just Off the Press •

AERO-ENGINES—D. Hay Surgeoner—*Longmans, Green*, 110 p., illus., \$1.25 (Air Training Series). Elementary book of British origin.

BIOCHEMISTRY AND MORPHOGENESIS — Joseph Needham—*Macmillan*, 787 p., illus., \$12.50.

THE CONQUEST OF BACTERIA—F. Sherwood Taylor—*The Philosophical Library*, 178 p., illus., \$2.

CONVERSACION: Spanish for the Army and Navy of the United States — Henry V. Besso and Solomon Lipp—*Hastings House*, 294 p., illus., \$1.50. The authors recommend that this book be used with the textbook, "Conversational Spanish."

DIET WITHOUT DESPAIR—Marion White—*M. S. Mill*, 128 p., \$1.50.

THE EFFECTS OF WHITE CONTACT UPON BLACKFOOT CULTURE, with Special Reference to the Role of the Fur Trade — Oscar Lewis — *Augustin*, 73 p., \$1.50. (Monographs of the American Ethnological Society, VI).

THE FLAG OF THE U. S. — Milo Milton Quaife—*Grossett & Dunlap*, 210 p., illus., \$2. For young people.

THE FLIGHT OF THE CHIEFS: Epic Poetry

of Fiji—*Buell H. Quain—Augustin*, 248 p., illus., \$4.

FLYING AND WEATHER — Lili Heimers — *New Jersey State Teachers College*—23 p., 50c. (Audio-visual and teaching aids, 1942). Paper-bound, mimeographed.

JORDANOFF'S ILLUSTRATED AVIATION DICTIONARY — Assen Jordanoff — *Harper* — 415 p., illus., \$3.50. An illustrated alphabet approach to aviation, from "A" to "W" for widget.

NATURE LORE: LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF NATURE—H. P. K. Agersborg—*C. C. Nelson*, five volumes, illus., \$10, or \$2 per volume.

A PRIMITIVE MEXICAN ECONOMY—George M. Foster—*Augustin*, 115 p., illus., \$2. (Monographs of the American Ethnological Society, V).

RADIO: From Start to Finish—Franklin M. Reck—*Crowell*, 160 p., illus., \$2. A brief history of radio, nicely illustrated.

VEGETABLE GARDENING IN COLOR—Daniel J. Foley—*Macmillan*, 255 p., illus., \$2.50. Subjects arranged in alphabetical order.

TABLES OF FOOD VALUES—Alice V. Bradley—*Manual Arts Press*—224 p., \$3.50. Revised and enlarged edition.