

Books of the Week

➤ **MANY PERSONS** who would be little interested in the names of wildflowers become acutely interested in the identity of the unsown—and usually unwanted—plants that spring up in numbers on the lawn or in the vegetable garden. A flora of these hardy though unwelcome volunteers is offered by John M. Fogg, Jr., in **WEEDS OF LAWN AND GARDEN** (*Univ. of Penna. Press*, \$2.50). Well-drawn, generous-sized line illustrations make identification easy, and brief, informal text descriptions give an idea of the habits of the plants and sometimes suggestions on what to do about them.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **EVEN BEFORE** the bursting atom had produced a military revolution and threatened a political one, it was playing hob with philosophies invented in times when atoms were really atomic, that is, indivisible. The new physics is producing a new metaphysics. The old, safe, clockwork cosmos of nineteenth-century materialism has to give way to something newer which, if less certainly predictable and dogmatically definable, is at least a closer approach to truth. In **AFTER MATERIALISM—WHAT?**, Sir Richard Clifford Tute tries his hand at some of the answers. (*Dutton*, \$3.)

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **SCIENTISTS** who can conduct research and also write interestingly are rare; more rarely still do they come in pairs. One such dually-gifted team is Carroll Lane Fenton and Mildred Adams Fenton. They have done much creditable field work in geology; now, in **THE STORY OF THE GREAT GEOLOGISTS**, they trace the steady evolution of their science through life sketches of the men who found the facts and argued out the theories. (*Doubleday*, *Doran*, \$3.50.)

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **BRIEFER** than most college texts in botany, L. Edwin Yocum's **PLANT GROWTH** nevertheless covers essential points adequately. Its primary emphasis on function rather than form is especially to be commended. (*Catell*, \$3.)

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **NEWEST ADDITION** to the Pacific World Series is **PLANT LIFE OF THE PACIFIC WORLD**, by Elmer D. Merrill (*Macmillan*, \$3.50). Of course, a one-book presentation cannot do more than outline the enormous, complex and diversified botany of this great area; but it has the merit of meeting an immediate need, and it is hoped will help to stimulate collections and note-taking that will eventually synthesize into the complete Botany of the Pacific Area.

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **ONE** of the best known of living paleontologists, Roy Chapman Andrews, presents in **MEET YOUR ANCESTORS** a compact popular account of present knowledge of ancient man and his possible ancestry. This book is especially valuable for its inclusion of recent discoveries, particularly in this country. (*Viking*, \$3.)

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **LITERATURE** on Southeast Asia is growing in proportion to popular interest in this area, recently one of the many scenes of war. However, the timeliness of H. G. Deignan's new monograph, **THE BIRDS OF NORTHERN THAILAND**, is largely a coincidence, for the book was in preparation long before the war. Ornithologists will feel indebted to the Smithsonian Institution for producing this excellent publication. (*Subt. Publ. Documents*, \$1.25.)

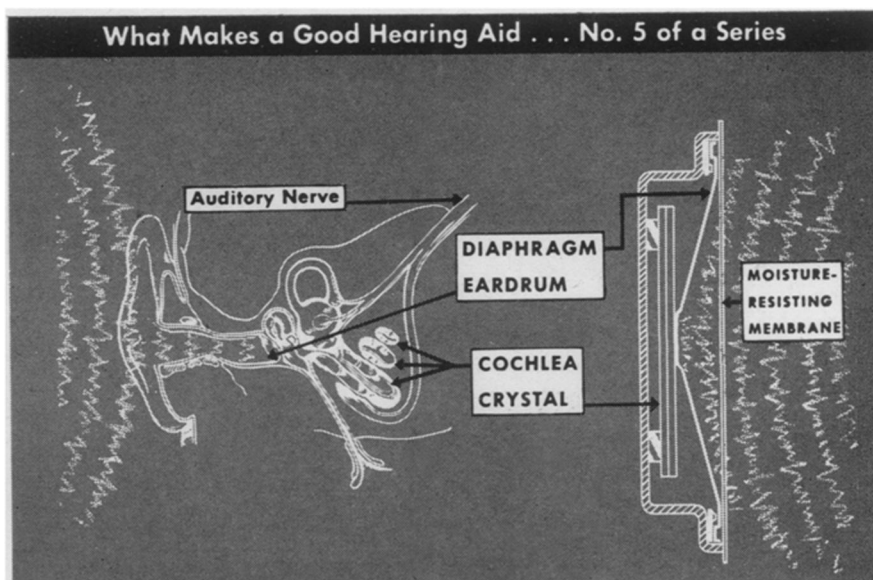
Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

➤ **ANILIN'S** myriad rainbow-tinted derivatives so dominate the world's dye-vats that it is difficult for us to realize that they are

all creations of yesterday, that our grandparents knew fabrics colored with extracts of roots, barks and berries. Douglas Leechman, in his little book, **VEGETABLE DYES FROM NORTH AMERICAN PLANTS**, recaptures some of this all-but-lost lore of colors and puts it into forms that the least experienced amateur can readily use. It should be appreciated especially by persons interested in handicrafts. (*Webb*, \$1.25.)

Science News Letter, November 3, 1945

A strain of *bees* resistant to American foulbrood, one of the worst bee diseases, is being produced through breeding and selection with promising results by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.



MICROPHONE

● The crystal microphone should be considered as the "ear" of a hearing aid.

The diaphragm of the microphone—an "eardrum" that vibrates to sound waves—should pick up sound from all directions. The microphone should be mounted on shock absorbent material in such a way as to protect the diaphragm from mechanical and frictional noises.

Sound energy is converted into electrical energy, which is comparable to cochlear nerve impulses, by means of a Rochelle Salt Crystal which possesses the piezo-electrical property of respond-

ing to sound frequencies transmitted by the diaphragm. These delicate crystalline "nerves" should be sealed into the microphone to protect them from moisture.

Good hearing aid performance depends upon the engineering and precision manufacture of its miniature microphone—its sensitive electro-mechanical "ear."

To design the microphone for the new **WESTERN ELECTRIC Model 63 Hearing Aid**, Bell Telephone Laboratories drew on its vast experience in telephony, radio, movie and public address sound systems.

THIS SERIES, BASED UPON RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY BELL TELEPHONE LABORATORIES IS PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF THE HARD OF HEARING AND THEIR PHYSICIANS

Western Electric Hearing Aids

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