

Books of the Week

TO SERVE YOU: To get books, send us a check or money order to cover retail price. Address Book Dept., SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Ask for free publication direct from issuing organizations.

BIRDS OF THE WEST—Ernest Sheldon Booth—*Stanford University Press*, 402 p., illus., \$6.00. A guide book for the beginner.

THE CRIMINALITY OF WOMEN—Otto Pollak—*University of Pennsylvania Press*, 180 p., illus., \$3.50. A study of the background, motivation and methods of female offenders.

FIRE RESISTANCE OF WALLS OF LIGHTWEIGHT-AGGREGATE CONCRETE MASONRY UNITS—Harry D. Foster, Earl R. Pinkston and S. H. Ingberg—*Gov't. Printing Office*, U. S. Dept. of Commerce Report BMS117, 23 p., illus., paper, 20 cents.

FLORICULTURE: Fundamentals and Practices—Alex Lauric and Victor H. Ries—*McGraw-Hill*, 2nd ed., 525 p., illus., \$5.00. Recent advances and new techniques are incorporated in this edition.

FOR INSURANCE AGAINST DROUGHT—SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION—Tom Dale—*Gov't. Printing Office*, U. S. Dept. of Ag. Farmers' Bull. No. 2002, 22 p., illus., paper, 10 cents.

GRAIN STORAGE IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA: Report of a Survey Oct. 1948 to Jan. 1949—T. A. Oxley—*His Majesty's Stationery Office*, Colonial Research Publ. No. 5, 42 p., illus., paper, 75 cents.

HYDROGENATION STUDIES ON MIDLOTHIAN COAL—Fred W. Bull—*Virginia Polytechnic Institute*, 11 p., paper, 20 cents. A short report on a study done by the author.

INTRODUCTION TO THE BACTERIA—C. E. Clifton—*McGraw-Hill*, 528 p., illus., \$5.00. An introductory bacteriology text.

LARVAE OF THE ELATERID BEETLES OF THE TRIBE LEPTUROIDINI (COLEOPTERA: ELATERIDAE)—Robert Glen—*Smithsonian Institution*, 246 p., illus., paper, \$1.65. A study of the characters for identification.

MODERN MEDICINE ANNUAL 1950—*Modern Medicine*, 828 p., illus., \$5.00. An annual volume containing the articles that appeared in the twenty-four issues of the magazine *MODERN MEDICINE* during 1949.

PETROLEUM AND ITS PRODUCTS—William J. Sweeney—*Phi Lambda Upsilon and Department of Chemistry, Pennsylvania State College*, 145 p., illus., paper, \$2.25. The 24th annual Priestley Lectures discuss the occurrence, production, composition and refining of petroleum.

RESULTS OF THE CATHERWOOD-CHAPLIN WEST INDIES EXPEDITION, 1948. PART I. PLANTS OF CAYO LARGO (CUBA), SAN ANDRES AND PROVIDENCIA—George R. Proctor—*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, approx. 25 p., illus., paper, 55 cents.

RESULTS OF THE CATHERWOOD-CHAPLIN WEST INDIES EXPEDITION, 1948. PART II. BIRDS OF CAYO LARGO (CUBA), SAN ANDRES AND PROVIDENCIA—James Bond—*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 25 p., paper, 80 cents.

SO YOU THINK IT'S LOVE!—Ralph G. Eckert—*Public Affairs Committee*, 31 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. A pamphlet warning teen-agers

against popular false notions about love and marriage.

TENSIONS AFFECTING INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING: A Survey of Research—Otto Klineberg—*Social Science Research Council*, 227 p., paper, \$1.75 (Cloth: \$2.25). A monograph compiling much of the scattered and fragmentary products of research on human behavior.

VOLCANOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS—Frank Alvord Perret—*Carnegie Institution of Washington*, Publ. No. 549, 162 p., illus., paper, \$5.00 (Cloth: \$5.50). A condensed record of the observations made by the author ranging over the past 40 years on the different aspects of volcanoes. Among the volcanoes studied were Huzi (Fujiyama, Japan), Vesuvius, Etna, and Stromboli. Valuable illustrations.

Science News Letter, June 10, 1950

MEDICINE

Cures for Skin Diseases From Air-Controlled Rooms

➤ MANY thousands of people crippled by skin disease could be "cured" or greatly relieved and rehabilitated if skin specialists were given a few completely air-controlled rooms for research, Dr. Marion B. Sulzberger of New York University Post Graduate Medical School declared at the U.S. Technical Conference on Air Pollution in Washington.

Object of research in such rooms would be to learn which air conditions would benefit which class of patients. Then there would be hope of treating and curing the patients in their own homes.

"There are many thousands of dermatologic (skin disease) patients who are now useless, disfigured, tortured and despairing and who must continue hopelessly to suffer merely because they cannot 'up stakes' and move to Texas or Arizona or Florida or Egypt," Dr. Sulzberger declared.

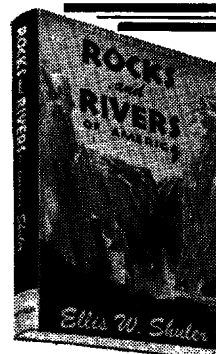
He hopes that the U. S. Public Health Service (one of the government agencies sponsoring the conference) or some philanthropist or foundation or industry such as air conditioning or engineering concerns might sponsor the air controlled rooms needed for research to aid these patients.

High humidities, high temperatures and air stagnation are in a sense air "pollutants," he pointed out.

"It is not just chance," he stated, "that some people 'feel good' only at the seashore, others only in the mountains, still others in the desert, nor that there is often such a mental and bodily 'lift' when the 'air feels good.'"

"What are called the effects of climate and environment and season are surely due in a very great measure to the ways in which the air and what it contains affect the lungs and the skin."

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ROCKS and RIVERS OF AMERICA

by ELLIS W. SHULER

"The reader will learn to appreciate the landscape . . . listen to the many fascinating tales that rocks and rivers have to tell."

NATURE MAGAZINE

In photographs and words, here is the story about the things a man should know concerning the earth he lives on . . . to discover a new enjoyment in the world outside his doors. The book explains all the familiar and strange formations of our land from the soil beneath our feet to unusual sights throughout America. *Illus.* \$4.00

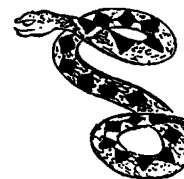
BOY'S BOOK OF

Snakes

by PERCY A. MORRIS

"... a most interesting book. Gives a clear analysis of the entire snake family and their background." SATURDAY REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Here is a factual and informative introduction to the reptile world. An excellent picture of snakes in their natural environs, their habits, and characteristics. *Illustrated.* \$3.00



THEY HOP AND CRAWL

by PERCY A. MORRIS

First hand experience with reptiles and amphibians of all kinds—everything that hops or crawls—together with detail photographs to complete the picture of these creatures in their surroundings. *Illus.* \$3.50

The Seashore Parade

by MURIEL L. GUBERLET

Interesting as fiction is this colorful and down-to-earth story about plants and animals of the sea and shore. The mysteries of the fringes of the shore are opened up in this delightful account of the inhabitants and their constant struggle for existence. *Illustrated.* \$2.00

WEBS in the WIND

The Habits of Web-Weaving Spiders

by WINIFRED DUNCAN

JOHN KIERAN says: "It's a lovely book combining science and art in a delightful way . . . should be a handsome and valuable addition to any Nature Library." *Illustrated.* \$4.50

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