

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.

CHIGGER CONTROL—Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine—*Govt. Printing Office*, 7 p., free upon request to U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Telling how to make picnic spots more comfortable with chlordane, toxaphene and lindane dusts or sprays. (See page 62.)

THE COHONINA CULTURE OF NORTHWESTERN ARIZONA—John C. McGregor—*University of Illinois Press*, 158 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. A study of a prehistoric Indian tribe, its way of life, contacts with neighbors, and an outline of its history.

THE EDUCATION OF MAN: APHORISMS—Heinrich Pestalozzi—*Philosophical Library*, 93 p., \$2.75. A collection of pithy sayings designed to present some of the underlying basic principles of the philosophy of education of this great Swiss.

ELECTRONICS BUYERS' GUIDE—Donald G. Fink—*McGraw-Hill*, 604 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. A directory of buying-source listings, product advertising and reference material.

ELEMENTARY PROBLEMS IN ENGINEERING—H. W. Leach and George C. Beakley—*Macmillan*, 269 p., illus., \$3.50. A text designed to aid students in engineering problems courses make the transition from high school to the college engineering level.

THE FILM INDUSTRY IN SIX EUROPEAN COUNTRIES—Film Centre—*UNESCO (Columbia University Press)*, 156 p., paper, 65 cents. A detailed study of the film industry in Denmark as compared with that in Norway, Sweden, Italy, France and the United Kingdom.

FOUNDATIONS OF BIOLOGY—Lorande Loss Woodruff and George Alfred Baisell—*Macmillan*, 7th ed., 719 p., illus., \$5.50. Revised to include selected new material on vertebrate structure and function, new illustrations, and an enlarged glossary.

FROM A DOCTOR'S HEART—Eugene F. Snyder—*Philosophical Library*, 251 p., illus., \$3.75. An autobiography which tells the story of a general practitioner and touches upon the national, racial and political problems of the day.

GAS TURBINES AND JET PROPULSION—G. Geoffrey Smith—*Aircraft Books*, 5th ed., 393 p., illus., \$7.50. Revised edition of this authoritative text and reference book on the newest method of transportation.

HYPNOIDAL PSYCHOTHERAPY—Margaret Steger—*Froben*, 150 p., \$3.50. Presents the author's method of using the half-sleeping (hypnoidal) state in the treatment of emotional disorders such as alcoholism. The book is designed for reading by laymen as well as the specialist, but the author warns against the use of hypnosis by laymen and the dangers of hypnosis no matter by whom employed (See SNL, June 23, p. 398.)

INTRODUCTION TO MOTHERHOOD—Grantly Dick Read—*Harper*, 104 p., illus., \$1.75. A basic

primer for a woman expecting her first baby, telling exactly what to expect and how to prepare for "natural childbirth."

MAN AND THE LIVING WORLD—E. E. Stanford—*Macmillan*, 2nd ed., 861 p., illus., \$5.50. Intended to accompany a lecture course with demonstrations and visual aids.

MEETING DEFENSE GOALS, A MUST FOR EVERYONE: Second Quarterly Report to the President—Charles E. Wilson—*Govt. Printing Office*, 48 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. A report on the defense mobilization of the United States and on the progress of building defensive strength throughout the free world.

THE MENEHUNE OF POLYNESIA AND OTHER MYTHICAL LITTLE PEOPLE OF OCEANIA—Katharine Luomala—*Bernice P. Bishop Museum*, Bulletin 203, 95 p., paper, \$1.50. Belief in these night-working dwarfs persists in Hawaii even past the age when belief in Santa Claus is given up. In recent years the folklore is being commercialized.

POPULATION ON THE LOOSE—Elmer Pendell—*Funk*, 398 p., illus., \$3.75. Discussing an urgent current problem.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL TO THE ASSEMBLY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION IN 1950—*International Civil Aviation Organization*, 154 p., paper, 50 cents. The supporting documentation for the 5th session of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

SCIENCE NEWS 20—A. W. Haslett—*Penguin Books*, 128 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. This volume includes articles on The Control of Insect Populations, Colors of Stars, Photogeology, and The Origin Of Language.

SCIENCE: SENSE AND NONSENSE—J. L. Synge—*Norton*, 156 p., \$2.75. A discussion of the philosophy of science enlivened by a blend of levity and seriousness and the use of meaningful anecdotes.

A TEXTBOOK OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR PHYSIOTHERAPISTS—Joan E. Cash—*Lippincott*, 348 p., illus., \$5.00. British author explains some of the medical conditions most often seen in a "department of physical medicine."

TWILIGHT IN SOUTH AFRICA—Henry Gibbs—*Philosophical Library*, 288 p., illus., \$4.50. A study of South Africa as it is today including discussion of health and living conditions and chapters on the race, nationalist and communist problems.

UNITED STATES CIVIL DEFENSE: POLICE SERVICES—Federal Civil Defense Administration—*Govt. Printing Office*, 46 p., paper, 20 cents. This administrative guide suggests methods and techniques for assisting police officials responsible for organizing or directing police civil defense services.

Science News Letter, July 28, 1951

● RADIO

Saturday, Aug. 4, 1951, 3:15-3:30 p. m. EDT
"Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Dr. Carl Taylor, medical missionary connected with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, discusses "Exploration in the Little-Known Kingdom of Nepal."

PUBLIC HEALTH

Best Advice to Beat Chiggers: Avoid Them

► **BEST THING** to do about chiggers is to avoid them. If you are going to be in a heavily infested area, you can use one of the new insect repellants. (See SNL, July 21, p. 40.) These are for putting on yourself and your clothing. Chiggers can also be controlled by spraying infested grounds. Sulfur formerly was used for this and for personal protection. The new sprays are said to be better and sulfur is reported in short supply this year because of defense needs for it.

Contrary to popular belief, chiggers do not burrow into the skin and stay there. They attack like ticks, usually in skin depressions at the base of hair. They usually attack the legs and accumulate in regions where bands, such as belts and girdles, bar their movement. After they have fed, they back off and drop off. The poison they secrete, which is what causes the intense itching and irritation, stays for some time. Besides the itching, there is danger of infection from scratching.

People have used everything from kerosene to chloroform to stop the itching of chigger bites. Authorities do not advise either kerosene or chloroform, however. Neither is safe unless very carefully used. Washing with soap and water or with plain water or salt water are advised. This should be done as soon as possible after getting into a chigger infested area. Just brushing with a cloth or towel will get the chiggers off.

Chiggers are most often found in low, damp places well covered with vegetation, such as margins of lakes and streams, shaded woods, high grass or weeds, fruit orchards and berry patches. They may also be found on lawns, golf courses and parks. A simple way to locate possible chigger areas is to put a piece of black cardboard edgewise on the ground and watch it for a few minutes. If you see small yellowish or pinkish mites moving rapidly over the cardboard and accumulating on the upper edge, you have located a chigger area.

For information on chlordane, toxaphene and lindane dusts or sprays for the ground, write the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., for leaflet 302 on chigger control. (See page 62.)

If the itching from chiggers is intense, ask your doctor about some of the new itch remedies, such as antihistamines.

Science News Letter, July 28, 1951