

Books of the Week

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1951—*Govt. Printing Office*, 190 p., illus., paper, 60 cents. State and local authorities in the Valley and the people they represent are participating and assuming responsibility to a greater extent than ever. This is regarded as a sign that the region is growing stronger year by year.

THE ARMY AIR FORCES IN WORLD WAR II: Volume III, Europe: Argument to V-E Day, January 1944 to May 1945—Wesley Frank Craven, James Lea Cate, Wilfred J. Paul and Albert F. Simpson, Eds.—*University of Chicago Press*, 948 p., illus., \$8.50.

THE BENLD METEORITE—Sharat Kumar Roy and Robert Kriss Wyant—*Field Museum of Natural History*, 12 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. Only a dozen of the nearly 1400 meteorites known to have fallen on the earth have struck and damaged property; this one came through the roof of a garage in Benld, Illinois, in 1938.

ELEMENTS OF PHYSICAL METALLURGY—Albert G. Guy—*Addison-Wesley*, 293 p., illus., \$6.50. A new introductory textbook for students with a general background in chemistry, physics, and mathematics.

FLASH DISTILLATION OF AN INDEFINITE NUMBER OF COMPONENTS—John R. Bowman and Wayne C. Edmister—*Mellon Institute of Industrial Research*, 4 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Reprinted from *Industrial and Engineering Chemistry*, November, 1951.

HANDBOOK OF GEM IDENTIFICATION—Richard T. Liddicoat, Jr.—*Gemological Institute of America*, 3rd ed., 350 p., illus., \$5.00. One major change in this edition is the new chapter describing in detail all the important and many of the minor gemstones.

HOW TO PROTECT AND PATENT YOUR INVENTION—Irving Mandell—*Oceana*, 80 p., paper, \$1.00 (cloth, \$2.00). Another in the Legal Almanac series, for the layman or inventor not versed in patent law.

INVENTORIES OF APPARATUS AND MATERIALS FOR TEACHING SCIENCE: Volume III, Technical Colleges; Part 3, Agricultural Sciences—*UNESCO*, 139 p., paper, \$2.50. The lists, related to the corresponding curricula, will be of help to teachers in selecting equipment and are part of the program to help schools in war-damaged and underdeveloped areas.

KEYSTONES OF GOOD STAFF RELATIONSHIPS—Ellsworth Tompkins—*Govt. Printing Office*, Office of Education Miscellaneous No. 13, 16 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Although the personality of the principal is the most important element, that only in a very small school do good relationships among teachers develop without conscious attention to certain basic rules, is the main theme of this publication.

MAGIC OIL: Servant of the World—Alfred M. Leeston—*Juan Pablos Books*, 237 p., illus., \$3.75. Stressing the political and economic aspects of the petroleum industry here and

abroad, the author in this non-technical survey attributes the industry's success to the operation of competitive free enterprise.

A MASTODONT TOOTH FROM SZECHWAN, CHINA—Dirk A. Hooijer and Edwin H. Colbert—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 6 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. This fossilized tooth is the first one of the genus *Synconolophus* to be found outside of India.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL ENGINEERING RESEARCH—Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Advisory Council—*His Majesty's Stationery Office*, 36 p., paper, 40 cents. British needs for chemical engineering research cannot be met by existing facilities, the committee finds. Two things they feel would help are a central organization to acquire data needed to improve existing facilities, and better collection and interpretation of information.

SOMETHING CAN BE DONE ABOUT CHRONIC ILLNESS—Herbert Yahraes—*Public Affairs Committee*, 32 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Prepared in cooperation with the Commission on Chronic Illness and the U. S. Public Health Service, this booklet is designed to give the layman an understanding of the problems of prevention, treatment, and care that are common to most chronic diseases.

THE STORY OF THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION—Raymond B. Fosdick—*Harper*, 336 p., illus., \$4.50. Dr. Fosdick, who was president of the Foundation for twelve years, here tells the history of its nearly 40 years of large-scale philanthropy.

A SURVEY OF FARM MEAT-CURING METHODS—C. F. Dunker and O. G. Hankins—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Circular No. 894, 10 p., illus., paper, 10 cents. This study of the curing methods of more than 1300 farmers indicates a great variety of curing methods which may account for reported differences in quality.

Science News Letter, January 19, 1952

INVENTION

Rotted Tree Trunks Provide Wallboard Bonding Agent

➤ ROTTED TRUNKS of fallen trees in the forest are used to provide a bonding agent for wood fiber wallboard in a process on which a patent has been issued.

Wood decayed by brown rot is the type used. Brown-rot-producing fungi feed on the cellulose and non-lignin content of wood until only the lignin is left. In making the sheetwood suitable for use as lumber, the rotted wood and waste wood from the sawmill are passed together through machines which convert the material to fiber form.

Inventor is Worth C. Goss, Seattle, Wash. His award was patent 2,581,652. Rights are assigned to United States Sheetwood Company of the same city.

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RADIO

Saturday, Jan. 26, 1952, 3:15-3:30 p.m. EST

"Adventures in Science," with Watson Davis, director of Science Service, over Columbia Broadcasting System.

Thomas H. Wickenden, vice-president of the International Nickel Company, Inc. and manager of its development and research division, discusses "Use of Nickel."

TECHNOLOGY

Hormone Spray Keeps Lemons Fresh in Storage

➤ FOR LEMONADE drinkers or lemon pie addicts: The life of lemons after they reach the packing houses has been increased up to 50% in the last two years by use of hormone sprays in the packing process.

Developed by scientists at the University of California's Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside, methods of treating with 2,4-D, or the closely related and more active hormone spray, 2,4,5-T, are now fairly generally used for reducing loss of lemons in storage.

The effect, explained Dr. Louis C. Erickson, is to keep the stem end, or button, of the lemon alive and green and prevent internal changes which accompany aging of the fruit.

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MEDICINE

Baby Born With Only One Lung Lives Nine Months

➤ A CASE rare in medical annals, that of a baby born with only one lung, is reported to fellow physicians by Drs. Saul Smoller and Reuben Steinholz of Harlem Hospital of New York City.

In the past 50 years less than 75 cases of this kind have been reported, the doctors found in searching medical records.

The baby, a Negro boy, was brought to the hospital at the age of nine months because of a bad nose and throat infection which had been getting worse. The baby died two weeks later, primarily because of a narrowed, swollen windpipe which created "an insurmountable problem" in treatment and also prohibited the doctors from diagnosing the real state of affairs while the infant was living.

After death the baby was found to have no left lung and only a short stump of bronchial tube on the left side. The right lung was enlarged and had ruptured into the left side of the chest. The heart was displaced into the left half of the chest and lying on top of it was an enlarged thymus gland. Blood vessels to the right lung were normal, but there were no lung blood vessels on the left side.

Details of the case are given in a report in the BULLETIN OF THE HARLEM HOSPITAL CLINICAL SOCIETY (Dec. 1951).

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