

# 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 organization.

AMPHIBIANS OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA—Robert C. Stebbins—*University of California Press*, 539 p., illus., \$7.50. Answering the questions of students about newts, frogs, toads and salamanders. The amphibians constitute a small class although some species are abundant as individuals. Some resemble plants in their sedentary nature and dependence on soil moisture.

THE BASIC PHILOSOPHY OF STANDARDS—George D. Beal—*Mellon Institute*, 4 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

THE BATTLE FOR PRODUCTION: Fourth Quarterly Report to the President by the Director of Defense Mobilization—Charles E. Wilson—*Govt. Printing Office*, 52 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. Charts and graphs help show the extent of our progress over the past year; next year, says the report, may be the most difficult one.

BUILDING HAPPY, USEFUL LIVES FOR THE HANDICAPPED—*National Society for Crippled Children and Adults*, 117 p., illus., paper, \$1.25. Reports to the 1950 convention of the Easter Seal Agency.

CHARCOAL PRODUCTION AND USES—*Northeastern Wood Utilization Council*, 101 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Charcoal is now a main product rather than a by-product as wood distillation plants have gone out of business. Here are a group of papers presented at a conference devoted to the problem of relieving the shortage of charcoal.

CHIPPEWA CHILD LIFE AND ITS CULTURAL BACKGROUND—Sister M. Inez Hilger—*Govt. Printing Office*, Smithsonian BAE Bulletin 146, 204 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. Recording the customs and beliefs of an important tribe of American Indians.

DIETETICS AS A PROFESSION—*American Dietetic Association*, 32 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Giving authoritative information about the opportunities and training required in this field of work.

THE EDISON EFFECT—Harold G. Bowen—*Thomas Alva Edison Foundation*, 71 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Telling the history of one of Edison's discoveries which now makes possible the whole family of vacuum tubes.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR THE FARMSTEAD—Elizabeth Beveridge and Albert V. Krewatch—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Farmers' Bulletin No. 1838, rev. ed., 47 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Revision brings up to date this bulletin telling how to achieve good lighting in various rooms as well as in barns and other farm buildings.

ELIAS E. RIES, INVENTOR—Estelle H. Ries—*Philosophical Library*, 367 p., illus., \$4.75. His daughter writes the story of the life of this inventor and tells how he made basic inventions in the field of electric welding and riveting as well as photography of sound on film.

ENGINEERS' ILLUSTRATED THESAURUS—Herbert Herkimer—*Chemical Publishing Co.*, 572 p., illus., \$6.00. Over 8,000 machine elements and assembled machines are illustrated and identified.

THE FACTS OF LIFE: From Birth to Death—Louis I. Dublin and Mortimer Spiegelman—*Macmillan*, 461 p., \$4.95. The result of research by the statistical staff of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, these statistical facts are organized in question-and-answer form according to subject-matter; an index and selected reference list are included.

FRENCH-ENGLISH SCIENCE DICTIONARY: For Students in Agricultural, Biological and Physical Sciences With a Supplement of Terms in Aeronautics, Electronics, Radar, Radio, Television—Louis De Vries—*McGraw-Hill*, 2d ed. 596 p., \$6.50. There is a useful list of abbreviations at the back.

GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND GROUND-WATER RESOURCES OF CHASE COUNTY, KANSAS—Raymond C. Moore and others—*University of Kansas*, 49 p., illus., paper, 40 cents. Three large maps, showing the geology and ground-water and mineral resources, are included.

INFANT DEVELOPMENT: The Embryology of Early Human Behavior—Arnold Gesell—*Harper*, 108 p., illus., \$3.50. Dealing with the concepts of growth and illustrated by photographs taken of infants before and after birth.

THE LEMON FRUIT: Its Composition, Physiology, and Products—Elbert T. Bartholomew and Walton B. Sinclair—*University of California Press*, 163 p., illus., \$4.50. Of interest to growers and to the many who use lemons industrially and in food.

NAVAHO GRAMMAR—Gladys A. Reichard—*Augustin*, 393 p., \$7.00. The author lived with a Navaho family and clerked at a trading post where almost no English was spoken, then taught some adult Navaho students to write their language and learned with them and from them the grammatical rules of this diverse and complicated language.

NO TIME TO GROW OLD—*N. Y. State Joint Legislative Committee on Problems of the Aging*, 316 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, State Senator Thomas C. Desmond, Chairman, 94 Broadway, Newburgh, N. Y. Containing articles on various phases of the problem of old age by specialists in the field.

NUTRITIVE REQUIREMENTS AND FEED FORMULAS FOR CHICKENS—H. R. Bird—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Circular No. 788, rev. ed., 28 p., illus., paper, 10 cents. The importance of this subject is shown by the fact that half of the total cost of producing eggs and poultry meat is spent for feed.

THE POLITICAL THEORY OF THE OLD AND MIDDLE STOA—Margaret E. Reesor—*Augustin*, 60 p., paper, \$1.50. Attacks on Stoic philosophy led to modification of many of their doctrines, the author says; this led to differences in political opinions not only of the philosophers but of the Roman statesmen, whose education was primarily in philosophy and rhetoric and many of whom adopted the Stoic point of view.

THE PRINCIPLES OF GENERAL BIOLOGY—Mary S. Gardiner—*Macmillan*, 657 p., illus., \$5.25.

A textbook intended not only for science students but for those who need some knowledge of biology as part of a liberal education in other fields.

PRINCIPLES OF RADIO—Keith Henney and Glen A. Richardson—*Wiley*, 6th ed., 655 p., illus., \$5.50. A new and revised edition of a text intended for those who must learn radio without the help of a teacher.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL NOISE ABATEMENT SYMPOSIUM—*Armour Research Foundation, Illinois Institute of Technology*, 108 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Papers by specialists in the field.

THE PRODUCTION OF HYBRID CORN SEED WITHOUT DETASSELING—D. F. Jones and P. C. Mangelsdorf—*Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*, 21 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, P. O. Box 1106, New Haven 4, Conn. One of the most annoying problems in raising hybrid corn seed has been the task of detasseling. At peak of the season 125,000 persons are engaged in this work.

RAINDROPS AND EROSION—H. H. Bennett, Forrest G. Bell and Bert D. Robinson—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Circular No. 895, 22 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Showing that pelting raindrops are only one of many forces responsible for erosion.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION 1951—*Smithsonian*, 160 p., illus., paper, 55 cents. Curtailment of the Government's non-defense spending since the Korean crisis has prevented the Institution from proceeding with some of its long-term programs. Reports on the progress that was achieved are presented.

REPORTS OF THE AWATOWI EXPEDITION, No. 4, Part I MAMMALS FOUND AT THE AWATOWI SITE and Part II POST-CRANIAL SKELETAL CHARACTERS OF DEER, PRONGHORN, AND SHEEP-GOAT WITH NOTES ON BOS AND BISON—Barbara Lawrence—*Peabody Museum*, 44 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Evidence concerning animals early Americans may have domesticated and eaten.

THE RETARDED CHILD: A Guide for Parents and Teachers—Herta Loewy—*Philosophical Library*, 160 p., \$3.75. A teacher of backward children passes on her experience.

SCIENCE FICTION OMNIBUS: The Best Science Fiction Stories: 1949, 1950—Everett F. Bleiler and T. E. Diky, Eds.—*Garden City*, 344 p., \$2.95. These two "bests" reprinted in one volume.

SEALING STRENGTH OF WAXED PAPERS—R. G. Capell, W. P. Ridenour and P. R. Templin—*Mellon Institute*, 5 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. The seal on bread wrapping paper must be vapor tight and hold together after passage through the wrapping machine and later handling.

SOIL ENGINEERING—Merlin Grant Spangler—*International Textbook*, 458 p., illus., \$6.50. A text for the advanced undergraduate or practicing engineer without formal training in soils.

STANDARDS FOR PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS AND CLINICS, NOVEMBER 1951—*American Psychiatric Association Mental Hospital Service*, 15 p., paper, 25 cents. For newly admitted patients, a mental hospital should have one doctor for every 30 patients and a nurse for

# • New Machines and Gadgets •

For addresses where you can get more information on the new things described here, send a three-cent stamp to SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N ST., Washington 6, D. C. and ask for Gadget Bulletin 607. To receive this Gadget Bulletin without special request each week, remit \$1.50 for one year's subscription.

⊗ **FLOATING BLANKET** for the baby's crib, which he cannot kick off while sleeping, has plastic rings near its edges which fit the slats of the crib. The rings, easily placed around the slats because they open, are attached three inches from the blanket's edge to provide a lap under the edge of the crib.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **LADY'S HANDBAG**, with a built-in flashlight inside on the top directly under its handle, has its interior illuminated, like the inside of a refrigerator, when the bag is open but dark when it is closed. A simple switch disconnects the lamp during daylight hours.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **RACHET GRIP** on a new screw driver is a scalloped-edged knob that fits the palm of the hand while the scallops on its edge fit the fingers, as shown in the photograph. The knob provides unusual leverage and



control. A lever on the underside holds the ratchet stationary or permits it to be turned.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

## Books of the Week

from page 78

every five. For patients requiring more prolonged care, there should be a doctor for every 150. No public hospital has yet achieved this.

**A TREASURY OF THE WORLD'S GREAT HEROINES**—Joanna Strong and Tom B. Leonard—*Hart*, 190 p., illus., 2.50. Stories for young girls about great women. Includes a sketch on Marie Curie.

**THE USE OF SAWDUST FOR MULCHES AND SOIL IMPROVEMENT**—F. E. Allison and M. S. Anderson—*Govt. Printing Office, USDA Circular No. 891*, 19 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Suggesting a way to put to good use the mountains of sawdust formerly wasted by burning.

**WHY SOME WOMEN STAY SINGLE**—Elizabeth Ogg—*Public Affairs Committee*, 31 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. This discussion of several case histories, showing how family life may shape a girl's attitudes toward herself and toward the opposite sex, is intended to help the single woman clarify her own thinking so that she can make realistic decisions. "Marriage should be regarded as a way of life, possibly even as a career, but surely not as a goal of life."

**THE WORLD'S FAVORITE RECIPES FROM THE UNITED NATIONS**—American Home Economics Association—*Harper*, 59 p., paper, \$1.00. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, in her foreword, indicates that "to take dishes from every country in the world into our kitchens is one of the ways to bring about better international understanding." Recipes have been adapted to American cooking methods.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

## Do You Know?

Scented bait is now used by fishermen to attract lobsters to their traps; the bait is made from fish to which perfume oils are added.

Housing the aged has become a special problem in some American cities and several low-rent housing projects exclusively for older people without children have been constructed.

Rice in cooking expands about three times in size.

The Orinoco river in Venezuela is to be dredged to accommodate American ocean vessels which will carry the rich iron ore of the Cerro Bolivar deposits to the United States.

Juice left over after cooking dried fruits is a good beverage.

Fertilizer for the lawn should be applied early in the spring so that plant food is available when the grass begins to grow.

Tomatoes, particularly small-plant varieties, can be grown as house plants during winter months and will produce ripe fruit in four to five months.

⊗ **LIGHTED OIL CAN**, a recently patented combination device with a flashlight bulb on the top whose beam is focused on the oil can spout, illuminates dark spots where oil is to be applied. The flashlight batteries are in the can's side handle and connection wiring is within the can.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **THICKNESS GAUGE**, an improved type using X-rays to measure the tin plating on sheet steel, sends a beam through the tin to the underlying steel and measures the rays emitted by the iron by Geiger counters. Their intensity is reduced to a reading on a printing register.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **SOLIDIFIED CREAM** or milk, solidified by the addition of gelatine, can be cut, wrapped or handled yet dissolves quickly in hot coffee, tea or cocoa giving no unusual taste. This product, with the consistency of the white of a hardboiled egg, can be shipped in cardboard boxes.

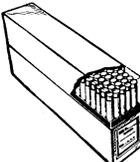
Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **SOLDERING GUN**, for the home shop, is an improved model whose transformer-type soldering device heats in a few seconds when the trigger is pressed and cools when it is released. The gun has a long tip to reach hard-to-get-at spots and a built-in light to illuminate work.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952

⊗ **MIDGET PUNCH KIT**, a home book-binding set to bind albums, papers, reports and blueprints, consists of a simple hand punch with adjustable paper margin regulator, and 150 plastic binding tubes. These tubes, inserted by hand after the material is punched, are made with a special interlocking construction.

Science News Letter, February 2, 1952



**SAMPLE STORAGE SETS**

1,000 small samples in orderly arrangement on only 3 3/4" shelf space! Also other models.

Write for leaflet SSS-SNL

**FOR MICROSCOPY**

**Shillaber's Immersion Oil**  
Numerous advantages over Cedar Oil. Used in many leading laboratories.  
Type A (low viscosity)—preferred by many.  
Type B—regular viscosity.

**COMBINATION PACKET** (1 oz. of each type) \$1  
Stock bottles: 4 oz. \$1.50 1 lb. \$4  
Order from your dealer or write us for descriptive leaflet IMO-SNL.

**R. P. Cargille** 118 Liberty Street  
New York 6, N. Y.