

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.

ACCULTURATION IN THE AMERICAS: Proceedings and Selected Papers of the XXIXth International Congress of Americanists—Sol Tax—*University of Chicago Press*, 339 p., illus., paper, \$7.50. An anthropological analysis of the problems of mixtures of cultures originating in Europe, Africa and aboriginal America.

THE ACTION OF HORMONES IN PLANTS AND INVERTEBRATES—Kenneth V. Thimann, Ed.—*Academic Press*, 228 p., illus., \$5.80. A separate publication of chapters from "The Hormones" which cannot be incorporated into Endocrinology.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI ALLUVIAL VALLEY, 1940-1947—Philip Phillips, James A. Ford and James B. Griffin—*Peabody Museum*, 472 p., illus., paper, \$8.50.

BIOLOGY OF THE WHITE CRAPPIE IN ILLINOIS—Donald F. Hansen—*Illinois Natural History Survey*, 54 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, Urbana, Ill. Information important to anglers about the sport fish.

BIRDS FROM LIBERIA—With a Discussion of Barriers Between Upper and Lower Guinea Subspecies—Austin L. Rand—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 92 p., paper, \$1.00.

BUSINESS ORGANIZATION AND COMBINATION—Richard Norman Owens—*Prentice-Hall*, 4th ed., 562 p., \$6.65. This new edition has been revised to take into account the changes in business organization due to the war.

THE CHEMISTRY OF LIGNIN—Friedrich Emil Brauns—*Academic Press*, 808 p., illus., \$14.50.

Bringing together the contents of the voluminous literature of the past 20 years in this country and abroad for use of chemists and students.

THE CHEMISTRY OF SYNTHETIC DYES, VOL. I—K. Venkataraman—*Academic Press*, 704 p., illus., \$14.50. A chemist of Bombay, India, writes this comprehensive survey from the standpoint of modern organic chemistry.

COMMERCIAL AND SPORT FISHES OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER: Between Caruthersville, Missouri and Dubuque, Iowa—Paul G. Barnickol and William C. Starrett—*Illinois Natural History Survey*, 78 p., illus., paper; free upon request to publisher, Urbana, Ill.

COMPENDIUM OF METEOROLOGY—Thomas F. Malone, Ed.—*American Meteorological Society*, 1334 p., illus., \$12.00. Articles by 102 authors, each article containing a separate bibliography. The work summarizes what is known about weather science.

THE COST OF SICKNESS AND THE PRICE OF HEALTH—C. E. A. Winslow—*World Health Organization*, 106 p., paper, \$1.50. "Prevention," it is concluded, "is not only better than cure, it is also cheaper."

DESCRIPTIONS OF AND KEY TO AMERICAN POTATO VARIETIES—C. F. Clark and P. M. Lombard—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Circular No. 741, 57 p., illus., paper, 60 cents. To aid the grower in correctly identifying his seed.

DETERMINATION OF PHENOLS IN AQUEOUS WASTES FROM COKE PLANTS—Joseph A. Shaw—*Mellon Institute*, 5 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 13, Pa. The delicacy of the method described in this reprint is about 20 parts per billion.

ELEMENTS OF CERAMICS—F. H. Norton—*Addison-Wesley*, 246 p., illus., \$6.50. A technical book for use as a text in college classes.

ESTIMATION OF OXYGEN CONSUMING VALUE OF COKE-PLANT AQUEOUS WASTES—Joseph A. Shaw—*Mellon Institute*, 4 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

FACTS FROM FIGURES—M. J. Moroney—*Penguin*, 472 p., illus., paper, \$1.25. Intended to make the general reader better able to understand statistics and not to be misled by them.

FINISHING MATERIALS AND METHODS—George A. Soderberg—*McKnight*, 320 p., illus., \$4.00. A high-school text on wood and metal finishing.

THE FIRST BOOK OF SNAKES—John Hoke—*Franklin Watts*, 69 p., illus., \$1.75. A delightful book telling how to recognize common snakes and something of their habits and the myths that are believed of them.

GEOLOGIC GUIDEBOOK OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY COUNTIES—Olaf P. Jenkins, Ed.—*California Division of Mines*, 392 p., illus., \$2.50. Perhaps nowhere as much as in California has the wealth of natural resources shaped the trend of history.

HEREDITY IN UTERINE CANCER—Douglas P. Murphy—*Harvard University Press*, 128 p., \$2.50. The results of this careful statistical study show that inheritance plays a part in cancer of the uterus.

HOW TO MAKE AN ATOMIC BOMB IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN (WELL, PRACTICALLY!)—Bob Hale—*Fell*, 191 p., \$2.00. A breezy book about a serious subject.

THE HUMAN FRAME — Giovanna Lawford—*Duell, and Little, Brown*, 95 p., illus., \$3.00. "Beauty," the author contends, "is more than skin-deep." This she demonstrates in these attractive drawings of bones.

ILLINOIS WILD FLOWERS—John Voss and Virginia S. Eifert—*Illinois State Museum*, 256 p., illus., paper, \$2.25. A lovely collection of photographs of representative wild flowers arranged according to season from the early opening skunk cabbage to the late-blooming New England aster.

JOINT, CRACK, AND UNDERSEALING MATERIALS—Annotated by C. W. Lovell, Jr.—*Highway Research Board*, 22 p., paper, 45 cents. An annotated bibliography.

LATE DEVONIAN FRESH-WATER FISHES FROM THE WESTERN UNITED STATES—Robert H. Denison—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 40 p., illus., paper, 75 cents.

MODERN TRENDS IN PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY: Woods Hole Lectures Dedicated to the Memory of Leonor Michaelis—E. S. Guzman Barron, Ed.—*Academic Press*, 538 p., illus., \$8.50. Lectures delivered at seminars intended to celebrate the 75th birthday of Prof. Michaelis, but which became a memorial to his memory.

A NEW SPECIES OF ANT-BIRD (PHLEGOPHIS) FROM COLOMBIA—Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee—*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*, 3 p., paper, 25 cents.

NUTTALL'S TRAVELS INTO THE OLD NORTHWEST: An Unpublished 1810 Diary—Jeannette E. Graustein, Ed.—*Chronica Botanica*, 86 p., illus., paper, \$3.00. Nineteenth century America seen through the eyes of a famous naturalist.

PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATIONS—George E. Crossen and Karl J. Goldner—*Lea & Febiger*, 3d ed., 265 p., \$4.00. A carefully revised edition of this text for pharmacy students.

PLANE TABLE MAPPING—Julian W. Low—*Harper*, 365 p., illus., \$5.00. This practical volume was the outgrowth of a company manual written for the California Company.

PRIMER OF ATOMIC ENERGY—John Lewellen—*Science Research Associates*, 48 p., illus., paper, 40 cents. Information for young people about the atomic bomb as well as the peaceful uses for atomic energy.

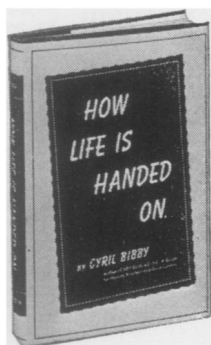
PRINCIPLES OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGY—James Bonner and Arthur W. Galston—*Freeman*, 499 p., illus., \$5.50. An elementary text.

RADIATION AND MONITORING FUNDAMENTALS FOR THE FIRE SERVICE: Nuclear Theory, Atomic Explosion Effects, Monitoring Instrumentation, Protective Safeguards—*International Association of Fire Chiefs*, 42 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. Telling the fire fighter what he needs to know in order to understand the hazards and reduce the devastation of an atomic attack.

"The entire process of reproduction, together with the attitudes inculcated by tradition, education, and social standards, is described clearly for children and younger adolescents." — *Science News Letter*.

"There is a great need for a book just like this." — *Quarterly Review of Biology*.

"The casual and delightful storytelling art of the author turns this segment of natural history into an enjoyable, as well as an educational, adventure for young readers." — *Bulletin of the National Assn. of Secondary-School Principals*.



HOW LIFE IS HANDED ON

By Cyril Bibby

"Recommend this book as an intelligent, practical, sound discussion of sex education for parents, teachers and youth." — *Parents' Magazine*.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

Venezuelan Bat God

► BLACK WINGS of the bat god hovered over America's ancient civilization in Venezuela.

The significant part this deity played before white men first came to the New World is revealed from study of over 2,000 artifacts, stone tools, and fragments of pottery, just received by the Smithsonian Institution from Col. Berkeley R. Lewis. The specimens were gathered while Col. Lewis was a member of a military mission in Venezuela.

The Lewis collection, which includes artifacts from sites along the Orinoco, the Venezuelan North Coast, the shores of Lake Valencia and the Andean regions of Trujillo and Lara, as well as many other sites, shows that throughout Venezuela many different aboriginal groups thrived. In much dry, uncultivated land, large amounts of pottery are found suggesting aboriginal vil-

lage sites of some size, whose people made a living by irrigation agriculture.

Dr. Clifford Evans, of the U. S. National Museum staff, indicates that one of the most important points shown is the great regional specialization of cultures, each with different traits, employing unrelated art motifs, and making pottery of different shapes. Some of the materials received in the Lewis collection are from regions heretofore unrepresented in American collections.

Compared to Peruvian archaeology, little is known about the ancient Venezuelans. Their artifacts show that they evidently were quite an energetic and artistic people with a complex society, who made contacts in every direction and who were quick to grasp new ideas, but did not develop anything like the high civilizations of the Mayas and Incas.

In spite of certain features of the pottery, such as tripod bowls and polychrome painting, showing exchange of ideas with Central America, much of these aboriginal Venezuelan culture traits are unique, the result of the local development of the aboriginal inhabitants.

A bat god seems to have played a prominent part in their lives. The figure appears, in highly stylized form, in their pottery, their stone carving, and shell work.

Science News Letter, February 16, 1952

On This Week's Cover

► PHILLY, THE baby Grevy's Zebra and the first of her kind to be born in the Philadelphia Zoo, is shown with her mother on the cover of this week's SCIENCE NEWS LETTER. Like most hoofed animals she was walking around under her own power within just a few hours after birth.

Grevy's is the largest and most handsome species of the zebras. It was named in honor of M. Paul Jules Grevy, who served as President of France from 1879 to 1887.

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Books of the Week

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RADIO AND TELEVISION RECEIVER TROUBLESHOOTING AND REPAIR—Alfred A. Ghirardi and J. Richard Johnson—*Rinehart*, 822 p., illus., \$6.75. Giving the service technician practical troubleshooting procedures.

RANGE MANAGEMENT: Principles and Practices—Arthur W. Sampson—*Wiley*, 570 p., illus., \$7.50. Useful to stockmen and range administrators as well as to students.

REPORT ON THE PACIFIC SCIENCE ASSOCIATION—Secretariat of the Pacific Science Council—*Bernice P. Bishop Museum*, Special Publication 41, 115 p., paper, free upon request to author, care of the publisher, Honolulu 17, Hawaii, by those whose field of work is in the Pacific.

A REVISION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN STAPHYLINID BEETLES OF THE SUBTRIBE GYROPHAENAE (ALEOCHARINAE, BOLITOCARINI)—Charles H. Seevers—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 105 p., illus., paper, \$1.25.

SEPTIC TANKS—THEIR USE IN SEWAGE DISPOSAL—*Housing and Home Finance Agency*, 16 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Some 17,000,000 persons in the United States must use septic tanks. This is a report summarizing results of a program of research to improve such systems.

THEORETICAL PETROLOGY: A Textbook on the Origin and the Evolution of Rocks—Tom F. W. Barth—*Wiley*, 387 p., illus., \$6.50. "Petrology," the author points out, "has become physico-chemistry applied to the crust of the earth."

THE TRUTH ABOUT SNAKE STORIES—Karl P. Schmidt—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 22 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. If you believe that the milk snake steals milk from Bossie, that the hoop snake takes his tail in his mouth and rolls along or that the mother snake swallows her young for their protection, then you will want to read the truth about these yarns.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR MIGRAINE HEADACHE—Caro W. Lippman and Margaret Lippman—*Greenberg*, 150 p., \$2.50. This writing team consists of a physician and his wife who suffers from migraine.

WILD WINGS—Frank S. Stuart—*McGraw-Hill*, 222 p., \$3.50. Presenting the beauty of wild ducks on the wing in their migratory flights.

WOOD TECHNOLOGY: Constitution, Properties and Uses—Harry Donald Tiemann—*Pitman*, 3d ed., 396 p., illus., \$6.00. Of interest to all of us who use wood.

THE ZOOLOGY OF TAPEWORMS—Robert A. Wardle and James Archie McLeod—*University of Minnesota Press*, 780 p., illus., \$12.50. Describing these parasites of man, livestock, game animals, birds, and fishes. Includes a bibliography.

Science News Letter, February 16, 1952

SELLS FIRST STORY AT 60



"Since I am crowding threescore, my objective in taking the N.I.A. course was not to become a professional writer. However, while still taking the course, I sent an article to *St. Joseph Magazine*. It was immediately accepted. Encouraged, I wrote others. 'Our Navy' accepted them and asked for more. All thanks to N.I.A.'"—Albert M. Hinman, 1937 East Silver Street, Tucson, Arizona.

To People who want to write but can't get started

DO YOU have that constant urge to write but fear that a beginner hasn't a chance? Here is what the former editor of *Liberty* said:—"There is more room for newcomers in writing than ever before. Some of the greatest of writing men and women have passed from the scene in recent years. Who will take their places? Fame, riches and the happiness of achievement await the new men and women of power."

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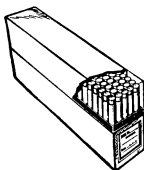
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