

Books of the Week

For the editorial information of our readers, books received for review since last week's issue are listed. For convenient purchase of any U. S. book in print, send a remittance to cover retail price (postage will be paid) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY—Henry Welch and Charles N. Lewis—*Medical Encyclopedia*, 562 p., illus., \$10.00. Telling something of the history of the development of this new class of remedies and of the men who discovered them, and summarizing their uses and side effects.

AVIATION TOXICOLOGY: An Introduction to the Subject and a Handbook of Data—Committee on Aviation Toxicology, Aero Medical Association—*Blakiston*, 120 p., \$4.00. Containing information regarding the concentrations tolerated in the confinement of airplanes and descriptions of the physiological effects.

DIALOGUE ON THE GREAT WORLD SYSTEMS: In the Salusbury Translation—Galileo Galilei, edited by Giorgio de Santillana—*Univ. of Chicago Press*, 506 p., illus., \$12.50. This is the first new translation, in nearly 300 years, of Galileo's great philosophical work, one for which Galileo was imprisoned by the Inquisition because he stated that the earth moves around the sun.

ENDOCRINOLOGY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE—Gilbert S. Gordan and H. Lissner, Eds.—*Year Book Publishers*, 407 p., illus., \$10.50. To furnish to the practicing physician a digest of the material he needs for diagnosis and treatment of endocrine disorders.

A FORGOTTEN KINGDOM: Being a Record of the Results Obtained from the Excavation of Two Mounds Atchana and Al Mina, in the Turkish Hatay—Sir Leonard Woolley—*Penguin*, 191 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. First published report on seven seasons of digging that have made it possible to trace cultural connections between the Middle East and the Aegean.

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 1952—*General Education Board*, 86 p., illus., paper, free upon request directly to the publisher, 49 West 49th Street, New York, N. Y. This foundation appropriated \$4,804,939 in 1952 and, except for administrative expenses, all of it went to advance higher education in the southern states.

GMELIN'S HANDBUCH DER ANORGANISCHEN CHEMIE: System Nummer 9, Schwefel Teil A, Lieferung 2—Gmelin Institut—*Verlag Chemie (Walter I. Johnson)*, 450 p., paper, \$35.30. This volume of the classical German reference work on inorganic chemistry contains a review and critical analysis of our knowledge of sulfur and sulfur compounds.

GMELIN'S HANDBUCH DER ANORGANISCHEN CHEMIE: System Nummer 9 Schwefel, Teil B, Lieferung 1—Gmelin Institut—*Verlag Chemie (Walter I. Johnson)*, 372 p., paper, \$29.40. This volume covers the compounds of sulfur, the sulfur hydrides and oxides.

HEALTH AND HUMAN RELATIONS: Report of a Conference on Health and Human Relations Held at Hiddesen near Detmold, Germany, August 2-7, 1951—Sponsored by The Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation—*Blakiston*, 192 p., \$4.00. Emphasis of the conference was on the importance of human relations in insuring mental health, and special attention was given to the problems of post-war Germany. Reports of

previous conferences in the U. S. are available from the Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation.

HOMO SAPIENS AUDUBONIENSIS: A Tribute to Walter Van Dyke Bingham—Walter Van Dyke Bingham and Millicent Todd Bingham—*National Audubon Society*, 39 p., illus., \$1.10. Published in honor of the memory of the psychologist, Dr. Bingham, this slim volume contains his own analysis of the traits of a naturalist as well as a character study of him by his wife.

HOUSING AND BUILDING IN HOT-HUMID AND HOT-DRY CLIMATES—W. R. Woolrich, Conference Chairman—*Building Research Advisory Board*, Research Conference Report No. 5, 177 p., illus., paper, \$6.00. Within the United States, 30 to 40 million people of the blond races have learned to live energetic lives near the equator. The problem of building comfortable homes and work places for them is discussed.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR WORK—Neville M. Goodman—*Blakiston*, 327 p., \$6.50. Describing the attempts of governments to work together to solve health problems, from the first quarantine meetings in 1851 to the Third World Health Assembly in 1950.

MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY IN AMERICAN CULTURE—Andrew G. Truxal and Francis E. Merrill—*Prentice-Hall*, Rev. ed., 587 p., \$7.65. This edition has been revised to include a new section on the preliminaries to marriage and another on marital relationships.

MODERN HOME MEDICAL ADVISER: Your Health and How to Preserve It—Morris Fishbein, Ed.—*Garden City*, rev. ed., 902 p., illus., \$4.95. Prepared by 25 specialists, this answers the questions that arise in every family about the human body and its ills.

A NEW AND PRIMITIVE EARLY OLIGOCENE HORSE FROM TRANS-PECOS, TEXAS—Paul O. McGrew—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 5 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Description of a new and very interesting form.

NEW BIOLOGY 14—M. L. Johnson and Michael Abercrombie, Eds.—*Penguin*, 128 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. One of the articles in this volume makes the suggestion that instead of saying of fighting people that they "live like cat and dog," we should say they "live like cock robins in the spring."

PHILHARMONIC: A Future for the Symphony Orchestra—Thomas Russell—*Penguin*, 208 p., paper, 50 cents. A book about symphony orchestras by a man who has played in them and has managed one of them, The London Philharmonic. He has a faith in the capacity of the "man in the street" to appreciate the best in music.

PLANTS OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK—Ruth Ashton Nelson—*Govt. Printing Office*, 201 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. All lovers of flowers will take delight in this beautifully illustrated book. Visitors to the park, particularly, will

appreciate its aid in identifying the flowers they see there.

PROCEEDINGS OF NATIONAL FOOD AND NUTRITION INSTITUTE—Staff, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics—*Govt. Printing Office*, Agriculture Handbook No. 56, 161 p., illus., paper, 65 cents. The institute was organized to make possible a sort of stock-taking on the national food supply and discussion of food problems throughout the nation.

RIVER BASIN SURVEYS PAPERS: Inter-Agency Archaeological Salvage Program Numbers 1-6—Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr. and others—*Govt. Printing Office*, 336 p., illus., paper, \$1.75. Reports of what has been done to salvage archaeological treasures in advance of the flooding waters.

SUGGESTIONS ON THE ORGANIZING OF INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES—*Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences*, 31 p., paper, 40 cents. Very helpful hints for those planning international meetings. Appendices furnish guidance to authors of papers and models for rules governing subventions.

SUMMER COMFORT—Small Homes Council—*University of Illinois*, Bulletin, Volume 50, Number 79, 8 p., illus., paper, 10 cents. Timely hints on how to keep your house cool on these scorching days. (See p. 85.)

WORD PERCEPTION AND RECOGNITION—Emmett Albert Betts—*Reading Clinic, Temple University*, 8 p., paper, 50 cents. Discussing the mental processes involved in the perception and later recognition of printed words.

YOU AND SPACE NEIGHBORS—John Lewellen—*Children's Press*, 58 p., illus., \$1.50. To acquaint young people with the universe, which is not really as small and available to travel as the television might make it seem.

Science News Letter, August 8, 1953

TECHNOLOGY

Threaded Nail Superior For Fastening Flooring

➤ A FLOORING nail with a threaded shank has proved that it is highly superior to ordinary flooring nails, and to "cut nails" with square-shaped shanks.

The threaded nail is lighter and cheaper than cut nails, drives into the wood with less effort, cuts the danger of splitting the flooring during nailing, assures tighter fastening and eliminates loose, squeaky, springy or buckled flooring under normal service conditions.

Dr. E. George Stern, director of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute Wood Research Laboratory, Blacksburg, found in year-long tests that the threaded nail was 53% to 570% more efficient than plain-shanked brads, and 15% to 301% more efficient than cut nails.

The threaded fastener was tested under rigorous conditions in wood samples that were systematically soaked in water, then dried to various degrees.

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If a cure can be found for atomic defects of metal crystals, it may be possible to increase some metal strengths 1,000 times.