

# 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.

**THE ANNALS OF THE CAKCHIQUELS**—Translated from the Cakchiquel Maya by Adrian Recinos and Delia Goetz—**TITLE OF THE LORDS OF TONONICAPAN**—Translated from the Quiche text into Spanish by Dionisio Jose Chonay, English Version by Delia Goetz—*University of Oklahoma Press*, 217 p., illus., \$3.75. Two of three outstanding literary works which throw the most light on the early American people.

**APPLIED ELECTRON MICROSCOPY**—Robert B. Fischer—*Indiana University Press*, 231 p., illus., \$4.85. The first electron microscopes in this country were made only about 12 years ago. Now electron microscopy is an important phase of many sciences. Other new types of microscopes are also covered.

**AROUND THE WORLD ON \$80**—Robert Christopher as told to Erik James Martin—*Henry Holt*, 208 p., illus., \$3.00. A chatty book by a photographer who also illustrated it.

**COLLECTING COCOONS**—Lois J. Hussey and Catherine Pessino—*Crowell*, 73 p., illus., \$2.00. Instructions for a very interesting hobby for young children.

**EARTHWORMS**—Dorothy Childs Hogner—*Crowell*, 51 p., illus., \$2.00. Introducing young boys and girls to a very important tenant of the garden.

**ELECTRICAL METHODS OF BLOOD-PRESSURE RECORDING**—Frank W. Noble—*Thomas*, 56 p., illus., \$3.00. Discussing the hydraulic and electric systems which have been used in manometers of the diaphragm type.

**FILMS IN PSYCHIATRY, PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH**—Adolf Nichtenhauser, Marie L. Coleman and David S. Ruhe—*Health Education Council*, 269 p., illus., \$6.00. Motion pictures are being used more and more as auxiliary aids in treating patients and as instruments for training professionals. This book lists and reviews those available.

**FLIGHT INTO SPACE: The Facts, Fancies and Philosophy**—Jonathan Norton Leonard—*Ran-*

*dom House*, 307 p., \$3.50. The author, who is Science Editor of Time Magazine, says: "It is hard to judge at this fast-changing stage which apparent facts are fancies, and which apparent fancies are really embryonic facts."

**FLYING SAUCERS FROM OUTER SPACE**—Donald E. Keyhoe—*Holt*, 276 p., \$3.00. The author, a retired Marine Corps officer, is convinced that the "saucers" are genuine objects and may carry visitors from other worlds. Air Force officers express doubt; the book will undoubtedly be controversial.

**THE FLYING YEARS**—Lamont Buchanan—*Putnam's*, 188 p., illus., \$5.00. A history, told in photographs, of man's conquest of the air, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Wright brothers' flight.

**FUN WITH ASTRONOMY**—Mae and Ira Freeman—*Random House*, 58 p., illus., \$1.50. For young people, this book is generously illustrated with photographs by the author, using his young son as model.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF ECOLOGY**—Eugene P. Odum—*Saunders*, 384 p., illus., \$6.50. The first part lists principles and concepts, the second considers life as it exists in various types of environment.

**A HISTORY OF PSYCHOANALYSIS IN AMERICA**—C. P. Oberndorf—*Grune and Stratton*, 280 p., illus., \$5.00. A history written from the personal experience of the author who is a practicing psychiatrist.

**IS YOUR CHILD ALLERGIC?**—Herman Hirschfeld—*Nelson House*, 23 p., paper, 25 cents. Advice from a physician on how to recognize and treat the common allergies of babies, children and teenagers.

**THE LIVING U. S. CONSTITUTION**—Saul K. Padover—*New American Library*, 176 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. The story and background of this document with character sketches of the signers.

**LOOK TO THE SKY**—Frances George—*National Aviation Education Council*, 31 p., illus., paper, 30 cents. A picture book designed to introduce the principles of aviation and air travel to children in kindergarten and first grade.

**NEW FACTS FOR THE CHILDLESS**—Lawrence Galton—*Crowell*, 184 p., illus., \$2.75. Dr. Alan F. Guttmacher, in a foreword, assures us of the accuracy and understandability of this book which answers the questions of couples not blessed with children.

**NEW WORLD WRITING: Fourth Mentor Selection**—*New American Library*, 316 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Presenting what the editors consider to be a cross section of current world literature.

**OPERATIONAL PHILOSOPHY: Integrating Knowledge and Action**—Anatol Rapoport—*Harper*, 258 p., \$3.75. Intended to provide a new bridge between the problems of philosophy and scientific thinking.

**PARKING AS A FACTOR IN BUSINESS: Part I, Attitudes Toward Parking and Related Conditions in Columbus**—C. T. Jonassen—*Highway Research Board*, 50 p., illus., paper, \$1.35. A study of why people are attracted to downtown stores or suburban shopping centers.

**RENEWING OUR CITIES**—Miles L. Colean—*Twentieth Century Fund*, 181 p., illus., \$2.50. Discussing the process and effects of urban growth and decay, and suggesting ways in which we can prune out the decay and nourish the growth toward consciously planned objectives of better living.

**REPORT ON THE ATOM: What You Should Know About the Atomic Energy Program of the United States**—Gordon Dean—*Knopf*, 321 p., illus., \$5.00. An outgrowth of the author's attempt to educate himself as quickly as possible about the program when he became AEC Commissioner. Explaining the atom and fission to the adult, intelligent layman.

**REPORTS ON PROGRESS IN PHYSICS: Volume XVI (1953)**—A. C. Stickland, Executive Ed.—*The Physical Society*, 407 p., illus., \$7.15. Reports from England of current research in a form suitable for the physicist who is not a specialist in the field covered.

**REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: A Guide to Familiar American Species**—Herbert S. Zim and Hobart M. Smith—*Simon and Schuster*, 157 p., illus., \$1.50. Attractive color illustrations and clear text help young people to identify these creatures. They are not recommended as pets.

**RESEARCH OPERATIONS IN INDUSTRY: Papers Delivered at the Third Annual Conference on Industrial Research, June 1952 With Selected Papers From the First and Second Conferences**—David B. Hertz, Ed.—*King's Crown Press*, 453 p., \$8.50. Covering the philosophy, costs, personnel, planning and other aspects of research administration.

**SCIENCE IN PROGRESS**—George A. Baitzell, Ed.—*Yale University Press*, 8th Series, 285 p., illus., \$6.00. Reports of active research areas based primarily on material presented during the past two years in Sigma Xi National Lectureships.

**SPECIFICATIONS FOR CALCULATING THE MEDIAN EFFECTIVE DOSE**—Carol S. Weil—*Mellon Institute*, 7 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Based on the experience of the Mellon Institute Chemical Hygiene Fellowship.

**STANDARD METHODS OF CLINICAL CHEMISTRY: Volume I**—American Association of Clinical Chemists, Miriam Reiner, Ed.—*Academic Press*, 142 p., illus., \$4.50. Description of some of

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TEXTBOOK OF GYNECOLOGY—John I. Brewer—*Williams and Wilkins*, 532 p., illus., \$10.00. Based on the method used in instruction at Northwestern University Medical School—starting with the patient and her symptoms and progressing on to diagnosis and treatment.

THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA 1952-53—E. W. R. Steacie, president—*National Research Council of Canada*, 54 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, Ottawa 2, Canada. A review in non-technical language of the many research projects in process. In English and in French.

TIGRERO—Sasha Siemel—*Prentice-Hall*, 266 p., \$3.95. The author is said to be the only living white man who has fought jungle jaguars with only a spear. This is the romantic story of a Latvian hunter's life in the jungles of Brazil.

THE TRACK OF MAN: Adventures of an Anthropologist—Henry Field—*Doubleday*, 448 p., illus., \$5.95. The romantic autobiography of a distinguished scientist and his search since childhood for the origin of prehistoric man.

WAYS OF MAMMALS: In Fact and Fancy—Clifford B. Moore—*Ronald Press*, 273 p., \$3.50. Bringing together the most interesting and persistent myths, superstitions and misconceptions about mammals.

WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA—Paintings by Mary Vaux Walcott and Dorothy Falcon Platt, text by H. W. Rickett—*Crown*, 71 p., 400 plates, \$10.00. Lovely full-color reproductions of paintings made directly from nature by the wife of the former secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO FINANCIAL SECURITY—Joyce Clarke and Sally Dickson—*Barrows*, 185 p., \$2.75. Advice to women on how to manage their savings so as to assure the greatest future benefits.

WOOL AS AN APPAREL FIBER—Giles E. Hopkins—*Rinehart*, 110 p., illus., \$1.50. Making public the scientific findings on the complicated structure and qualities of the wool fiber.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

#### MEDICINE

### Advise Sitting Up to Give Blood for Bank

► MANY BLOOD donors prefer to sit up while their blood is being taken instead of lying down as is now customary. This donor preference, plus the saving in space when chairs are used instead of tables or beds, led Dr. R. O. Muether and his associate, B. Koster, of St. Louis to recommend the sitting up position in a report to the American Association of Blood Banks meeting in Chicago.

They found no appreciable difference in blood pressure, pulse rate or number of reactions between 85 donors who sat up and 105 who lay down while giving blood.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

#### MEDICINE

## Drug Gives Asthma Relief

New preparation related to some of the anti-malaria drugs developed during the war gave complete long-lasting relief to fourth of 285 patients.

► SUCCESS IN treating asthma with a new drug related to some of the anti-malaria drugs developed during the war was announced by Dr. Charles F. Geschickter of Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, D. C., at the meeting of the Maryland Academy of General Practice in Baltimore.

The drug was made by Dr. Leonard M. Rice, research associate at Georgetown, at Dr. Geschickter's suggestion. It is a 4-amino quinoline derivative. It has no short name as yet, though probably it will be given one when it goes on the market. So far it is not available commercially.

Dr. Geschickter has used it to treat 285 patients with bronchial asthma. One-fourth of the patients have had complete relief of symptoms for two to four years after treatment with the drug was stopped.

Results have been especially good in the 155 children. There were only 2.5% failures in this group. Among 50 young adults there were failures in 5% of the cases, and

in the group of 80 over 40 years old there were 10% failures.

The drug is both concentrated and fixed in breathing tissues where it acts both as a bronchial dilator and as an antihistamine. Observation of kind and site of action of some of the anti-malaria drugs made during the war led Dr. Geschickter to believe a similar drug could be made to bring relief to asthmatics.

In all cases the quinoline derivative is given combined with an antiallergy drug, theophylline. In acute attacks patients are also given another new drug made by Dr. Rice, theophylline diaminopropanol, which does not cause the nausea or other unpleasant side effects of theophylline itself.

The quinoline drug is usually given in capsules to be swallowed every day. Relief of symptoms in some cases comes very fast, in others the drug has to be taken for a longer period.

Dr. Rice has assigned patent rights on the new drug to the Geschickter Fund for Medical Research which is now planning for commercial production of it.

Science News Letter, October 31, 1953

## Questions

ASTRONOMY—Where will the national observatory and telescope probably be located? p. 279.

ENTOMOLOGY—How is the migration of locusts traced by scientists? p. 276.

EVOLUTION—What 300,000,000-year-old animal is at last being studied? p. 281.

MEDICINE—Should you leave a tourniquet on until the doctor comes? p. 282.

What should you do if your toes are frost-bitten? p. 277.

Who received the Nobel Prize in Medicine for 1953? p. 275.

RESOURCES—What is the cause of the nation's water shortage? p. 276.

Photographs: Cover, U. S. Navy; p. 274, Harvard University; p. 275, Harvard University and Lasker Foundation; p. 277, United Air Lines; p. 279, Cornell University; p. 283, Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corp.; p. 288, Good-year Tire and Rubber Co.

A weight saving of one pound in a jet engine's compressor rotor blade may save up to five additional pounds in supporting members.

Two gallons of modern gasoline are equivalent in power and energy to three gallons of 1925 vintage.

The axolotl, a salamander, eats more than its own weight in a single meal.

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