

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.

BYWAYS IN HAND-WEAVING—Mary Meigs Atwater—*Macmillan*, 128 p., illus., \$8.50. Instructions for a craft that has been practiced since prehistoric times.

CHEESE VARIETIES AND DESCRIPTIONS—George P. Sanders—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Agricultural Handbook No. 54, 151 p., paper, 45 cents. Cheese descriptions arranged alphabetically from Abertam, made from ewe's milk in region of Carlsbad, Bohemia, to Zomma, made in Turkey.

CULVERT HYDRAULICS—Roy H. Shoemaker, Jr. and others—*Highway Research Board*, Research Report 15-B, 71 p., illus., paper, \$1.05. Calling attention to some common causes of inefficient hydraulic performance of culverts.

ELEVEN BLUE MEN: And Other Narratives of Medical Detection—Berton Roueche—*Little, Brown*, 215 p., \$3.50. The criminals in these "Whodunits," first published in the *New Yorker*, are not homicidal humans but germs.

EXPERIMENTAL INORGANIC CHEMISTRY—W. G. Palmer—*Cambridge University Press*, 578 p., illus., \$9.00. With a novel method of presentation, prefacing each chapter with the background and reason for the following experiments.

GREENHEAD—Louis Darling—*Morrow*, 95 p., illus., \$3.00. The story of mallard ducks, told for young people and illustrated by a profusion of charming drawings by the author.

INTO MANHOOD—Roy E. Dickerson—*Association Press*, 118 p., illus., \$2.00. The executive director of the Cincinnati Social Hygiene Society presents advice and sex information to young boys.

A NEW MELISSOMIMETIC FLY OF THE GENUS MICRODON (DIPTERA, SYRPHIDAE)—George C. Steyskal—*University of Michigan Press*, Occasional Papers of the Museum of Zoology Number 551, 4 p., illus., paper, 10 cents. A remarkable large shining jet-black fly from Panama.

A NEW SPECIES OF HYDROCANTHUS FROM FLORIDA, WITH NOTES ON OTHER SPECIES OF THE GENUS (COLEOPTERA: NOTERIDAE)—Frank N. Young—*University of Michigan Press*, Occasional Papers of the Museum of Zoology, Number 549, 6 p., paper, 15 cents. This new species of water beetle is larger and darker than those previously reported.

NO OTHER GODS—Wilder Penfield—*Little, Brown*, 340 p., illus., \$3.50. A first novel by a well known brain surgeon, this book has a back-

ground based on archaeological discoveries in the ancient cities of Iraq.

MAN, ROCKETS AND SPACE—Burt W. Leyson—*Dutton*, 188 p., illus., \$3.50. Presenting both optimistic and pessimistic views of the possibility of space travel, and suggesting some of the problems that must be mastered by any space traveler.

MUSIC THERAPY—Edward Podolsky, Ed.—*Philosophical Library*, 335 p., illus., \$6.00. A collection of articles on the relaxing and healing effects of music.

POLITICAL SYSTEMS OF HIGHLAND BURMA: A Study of Kachin Social Structure—E. R. Leach with a foreword by Raymond Firth—*Harvard University Press* for the *London School of Economics and Political Science*, 324 p., illus., \$7.00. Not intended as an ethnographic description but as a contribution to anthropological theory, this book is concerned with the Kachin and Shan population of North-East Burma.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1953 NORTHWEST CONFERENCE ON ROAD BUILDING—*Oregon State Engineering Experiment Station*, 116 p., illus., paper, 60 cents.

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S HANDBOOK—Headquarters Staff, American Radio Relay League—*American Radio Relay League*, 31st ed., 800 p., illus., paper, \$3.00 in U. S., \$3.50 in U. S. Possessions and Canada, \$4.00 elsewhere. Among the new features in this edition are a section on semiconductor devices and five chapters on the widening fields of v.h.f. and u.h.f.

SOME NEW AND LITTLE-KNOWN AMERICAN HEMIPTERA—Roland F. Hussey—*University of Michigan Press*, Occasional Papers of the Museum of Zoology, Number 550, 12 p., illus., paper, 15 cents.

THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE—Herbert S. Zim—*Morrow*, 32 p., illus., \$1.75. Explaining for children the workings of such common (to adults) devices as the doorbell, electric light bulb, furnace and gas range. Cutaway drawings make everything clear.

WHAT EDUCATIONAL TV OFFERS YOU—Jack Mabley—*Public Affairs Committee*, Pamphlet No. 203, 28 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Discussing the opportunities and problems of this new medium of adult and child education.

WORLD DIRECTORY OF GEOGRAPHERS—Ethel J. Horton—*International Geographical Union (American Geographical Society)*, 167 p., paper, \$5.00. Listing 3,517 geographers of whom nearly half are in Europe. None are listed from USSR.

ANNUAL REPORTS—Free upon request direct to institution, unless otherwise stated.

ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION, 1952-1953, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N. Y., 86 p., illus., paper. Reporting grants made for the support of approved projects administered by educational, scientific and charitable institutions. More than 30% goes for medical research.

FIFTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION—*Government Printing Office*, 151 p., illus., paper, 45 cents. Among the significant developments of the six months reported was the start of a project for the design and construction of the nation's first full-scale industrial nuclear power plant.

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL, 230 Park Ave., New York 17, N. Y. 78 p., paper. In-

cluding reports of many special committees of the Council.

THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM, (SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION), Washington 25, D. C. 97 p., paper. Containing brief reviews of research programs carried out or furthered during the year ending June 30, 1953.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1954

MEDICINE

Plan Two Ways to Test Polio Vaccine

► THE LARGE scale polio vaccine trials scheduled to start late in March or early April will be made in two ways, Dr. Hart E. Van Riper, medical director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has announced.

In some states, half the school children in the first, second and third grades in selected counties will be given the trial vaccine and the other half will be given an ineffective substance. In other states, children in the second grade only will receive the vaccine, with the first and third grade pupils acting as statistical controls.

The combination of these two plans will assure a valid evaluation of the trial vaccine, he said in making public a letter from the National Foundation's Advisory Committee on Vaccination to the editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

In case the amount of trial vaccine available is less than that originally contemplated, the Committee recommended that by far the larger part of it be used in areas where the first plan can be properly administered.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1954

AGRICULTURE

Lone Venezuelan Plant Starts New Cash Crop

► ONE UNUSUAL Venezuelan sesame plant will be the foundation of a new cash crop for many farmers, predicts J. A. Martin, associate horticulturalist at the South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, Clemson, S. C.

Sesame plants have not been grown in the past due to fragile seed pods. The Venezuelan plant found by Dr. D. G. Langham, U. S. geneticist, had tough pods and a new variety has been developed from this plant.

Seeds of sesame plants produce a high quality oil which is used by the confectionary industry and in shortenings, soaps and other products. After the oil is removed, the seed pulp makes a good livestock feed with high protein content.

Older varieties required slow and costly harvesting by hand to prevent injury to the seed pod. The new variety with tough pods can be harvested with a standard grain combine, Mr. Martin said. It has not been introduced to farms yet, but Mr. Martin and his associates hope to have enough seeds available so that they may be used for general planting by 1956.

Science News Letter, February 27, 1954

Samples in DisOrder?

Write for three good ideas about keeping small samples in order.

Just ask for leaflets X-SNL

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A new reagent for low concentrations of water, with possibilities of usefulness in many fields.

Write for Data Sheet RG-SNL

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