

# 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.

**ASTRONOMY**—Freeman D. Miller—*Bellman, Vocational and Professional Monographs No. 72*, 32 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. For use of counselors and for individual reference in connection with choosing a career.

**BETTER HEALTH FOR YOUR CHILDREN: A Medical Guide for Parents**—I. Newton Kugelmass—*McGraw-Hill*, 341 p., \$4.50. Alerting parents to the early deviation of their children from the norm and reassuring them as to what behavior and development is normal.

**BETTER SMALL-BOAT SAILING**—John Fisher—*Adlard Coles (John de Graff)*, 148 p., illus., \$3.00. For the small boat enthusiast.

**THE BOMB, SURVIVAL, AND YOU: Technical Supplement**—Fred N. Severud and Kurt Bernhard—*Reinhold*, 45 p., illus., paper, \$2.50. Information about the effect of atomic blast so presented as to enable the skilled engineer to develop it into a design procedure.

**BREAST CANCER: And Its Diagnosis and Treatment**—Edward F. Lewison and others—*Williams & Wilkins*, 478 p., illus., \$15.00. Discussion for physicians and medical students of what has become "an all too common universal tragedy."

**THE CHIEF WORKS OF BENEDICT DE SPINOZA**—Translated from the Latin by R. H. M. Elwes—*Dover*, 2 volumes, Vol. I, 387 p., Vol. II, 420 p., paper, \$1.50 each vol. This translation will serve to acquaint general readers and students with this remarkable philosopher.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF RADAR**—Stephen A. Knight—*Pitman*, 2d ed., 150 p., illus., \$3.00. For service men and students of radar and television.

**THE GREAT STORY OF WHALES**—Georges Blond, translated from the French by James Cleugh—*Hanover House*, 251 p., illus., \$3.95. Gone are the great sailing vessels from our oceans, but whaling still goes on, with each blue Antarctic whale captured being worth from \$4,000 to \$6,000.

**HAMSTER GUIDE**—*All-Pets*, 71 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. The first golden hamsters arrived in the United States in 1938. Now they number about 100,000 and all are descendants of a single family found near Aleppo, Syria, in 1930.

**THE IDEA OF PROGRESS: An Inquiry Into Its Origin and Growth**—J. B. Bury with introduction by Charles A. Beard—*Dover*, 357 p., paper \$1.85, cloth \$3.95. An unabridged, unaltered re-publication of a work published in 1932.

**INSULATE AND AIR CONDITION YOUR HOME**—Groff Conklin and Arthur M. Watkins—*Arco*, 143 p., illus., \$2.00. A do-it-yourself book for the home owner.

**MOGOLLON CULTURE PRIOR TO A.D. 1000**—Joe Ben Wheat—*Society for American Archaeology*, 242 p., illus., paper, \$3.25. To a certain extent all the peoples of the Southwest shared a common cultural development but, nevertheless, each area had its own history.

**OBSTETRICS**—J. P. Greenhill—*Saunders*, 11th ed., 1088 p., illus., \$14.00. Entirely re-written.

**PARROTS EXCLUSIVELY**—Karl Plath, Malcolm Davis and others—*All-Pets Books*, 2d ed., 60 p., illus., paper, \$1.25. Describing the many species and telling how to care for and train them.

**PERINATAL MORTALITY IN NEW YORK CITY,**

**RESPONSIBLE FACTORS: A Study of 955 Deaths by the Subcommittee on Neonatal Mortality, Committee on Public Health Relations, the New York Academy of Medicine**—Schuyler G. Kohl—Published for the *Commonwealth Fund by Harvard University Press*, 109 p., \$2.50. Of these deaths of babies during the first month of life, only 55% were found to be unavoidable.

**PESTICIDE HANDBOOK 1955**—Donald E. H. Frear—*College Science Publishers (Donald E. H. Frear)*, 7th ed., 208 p., paper \$1.25, cloth \$3.00. Especially for those concerned with the manufacture, sale and use of pest control chemicals.

**THE PHILOSOPHICAL WORKS OF DESCARTES**—Rendered into English by Elizabeth S. Haldane and G. R. T. Ross—*Dover*, two volumes, Vol. I, 450 p., Vol. II, 380 p., paper, \$1.95 each vol. Both paper \$3.90, cloth \$7.90. An unabridged republication of the last corrected edition of 1931.

**POLITICS AND SCIENCE**—William Esslinger with a foreword by the late Albert Einstein—*Philosophical Library*, 167 p., \$3.00. An attempt to apply to politics the kind of thinking that produced modern physical science and technology. Includes a discussion of why the League of Nations failed, attributing the failure to lack of faith.

**THE POND BOOK**—Albro Gaul—*Coward-McCann*, 136 p., illus., \$2.75. An introduction to the life one can find in and around a small pond. Illustrated with beautiful photographs taken by the author.

**PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL VIROLOGY**—F. M. Burnet—*Academic*, 486 p., illus., \$10.00. Bringing together the features common to the behavior of the viruses responsible for disease in the higher animals and man. The author is at the Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne, Australia.

**RADIOISOTOPES IN BIOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE: Principles and Practice**—C. L. Comar—*McGraw-Hill*, 481 p., illus., \$9.00. Primary purpose of this work is to bring home to the student and investigator an appreciation and understanding of how radioisotopes can fit into his program.

**SHIPS OF THE UNION-CASTLE LINE**—Laurence Dunn—*Adlard Coles (John de Graff)*, 128 p., illus., \$2.50. Describing and illustrating the ships of a large British line.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF INDUSTRIAL WASTES**—Richard D. Hoak—*Mellon Institute*, 9 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

**THE STONE AGE RACES OF NORTHWEST AFRICA**—L. Cabot Briggs—*Peabody Museum, Bulletin No. 18*, 98 p., illus., paper, \$3.00. The period covered by the material here described started perhaps 9,000 years ago and lasted roughly 4,000 years.

**A STUDY OF DUCTILE IRON AND ITS RESPONSE TO WELDING**—W. H. Rice and O. G. Paasche—*Oregon State College, Engineering Experiment Station Bulletin No. 36*, 75 p., illus., paper, 60 cents. Resulting from an Experiment Station project.

**TESTS ON LARGE CULVERT PIPE**—John G. Hendrickson Jr. and others—*Highway Research Board, Bulletin 102*, 18 p., illus., paper, 45 cents.

**WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SMOKING AND DRINKING**—W. W. Bauer and Donald A. Dukelow—*Science Research Associates, Junior Life Adjustment Booklet*, 40 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Telling of the harm the authors believe results from these two social indulgences.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1955

## MEDICINE

### Fight Infection With Vitamin-Antibiotic Dose

► GIVING AN antibiotic, or so-called mold remedy, with several vitamins and calcium all in one dose proved helpful in treating patients who had burns and broken bones complicated by severe infections, Dr. Aaron Prigot of Harlem Hospital, New York, reported at a New York Academy of Sciences Conference in New York.

The importance of vitamins in fighting infections was stressed by other scientists. Undernourishment too slight to be noticed may be enough to reduce the patient's resistance to infection, it was pointed out. Some infections will in themselves bring about a state of undernourishment. Sometimes it is hard to tell which has come first. In any case, the scientists agreed that the nutritional state must be taken care of as well as the infection.

Some antibiotics may interfere with absorption of food, thus further complicating the situation. In these cases extra vitamins given with the antibiotics might be the answer.

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## RADIO ASTRONOMY

### 38 Radio "Stars" Reliably Known

► AT LEAST 38 radio "stars" in the sky are now known to be sending out radio waves picked up on earth by giant antennas, an international committee of radio astronomers has concluded.

Their list, the first of its kind, includes only those radio sources whose existence is certain. Of the radio "stars," 17 are definitely identified with objects also radiating visible light.

For the remaining 21, only four are now thought to be associated with visible stars.

Six of the 38 sources emitting radio waves are remnants of supernova or nebulosities within the Milky Way galaxy. Another is the Andromeda Nebula, nearest pinwheel-shaped galactic neighbor of the Milky Way.

Two more, one source in Cygnus and another in Perseus, are believed to be two galaxies in collision. The rest are usually known only by their star catalogue numbers.

The list was compiled by Dr. J. L. Pawsey, president of the International Astronomical Union's commission 40, and Drs. J. G. Bolton, R. Hanbury Brown, F. G. Smith and B. Y. Mills. Radio stars discovered in the latter part of 1954 are not included, Dr. Pawsey stated in the *Astrophysical Journal* (Jan.).

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