

# 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.

**AIRCRAFT IN DISTRESS**—Harley D. Kysor—*Chilton*, 432 p., illus., \$6.00. A practical handbook for all those who may have to do with airplanes in emergency landings, crashes or ditchings.

**ANCIENT LIFE AMONG THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIANS**—M. R. Harrington—*Southwest Museum*, Leaflets Number 26, 38 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Telling of ancient Indian traditions, ceremonies and customs.

**BACKGROUND FOR A NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP POLICY**—Elmer D. West, Ed.—*American Council on Education*, 160 p., paper, \$1.50. A national scholarship program could double the number of the most talented who go to college. (See p. 223.)

**BIRDS OF THE CHICAGO REGION**—Edward R. Ford—*Chicago Academy of Sciences*, Special Publication Number 12, 117 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. An annotated list of 382 species and subspecies of birds.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN BIOLOGY: The Challenge of the Life Sciences**—Russell B. Stevens—*Row, Peterson*, 63 p., illus., paper, 48 cents. Prepared by the National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council's Division of Biology and Agriculture in response to requests for information and guidance.

**DESERTS**—Delia Goetz—*Morrow*, 64 p., illus., \$2.00. A book for young people about the plant and animal life of these hot, dry areas of the earth.

**ENGINEERING IN HISTORY**—Richard Shelton Kirby, Sidney Withington, Arthur Burr Darling and Frederick Gridley Kilgour—*McGraw-Hill*, 530 p., illus., \$8.50. The history of famous works of engineering, from the building of the pyramids to construction of New York skyscrapers and the Holland Tunnel.

**HAWKS**—Charles L. Ripper—*Morrow*, 64 p., illus. with drawings by the author, \$2.00. Describing the life habits of this soaring bird of prey.

**HURRICANES: Their Nature and History Particularly Those of the West Indies and the Southern Coasts of the United States**—Ivan Ray Tannehill—*Princeton University Press*, 9th ed., 308 p., illus., \$4.50. Wind speeds, courses, destructive effects and other facts on hurricanes from the days of Columbus.

**I AM A MATHEMATICIAN: The Later Life of a Prodigy**—Norbert Wiener—*Doubleday*, 380 p., \$5.00. A mathematician tells of the development of ideas that led to a new science, cybernetics, and the transition from infant prodigy to scientific leader.

**INDIANS OF THE NORTHWEST COAST**—Philip Drucker—*McGraw-Hill*, Anthropological Handbook Number 10, 209 p., illus., \$5.75. Except for a few fragments of ancient cultures, the Northwest Coast culture has disappeared, engulfed by that of modern United States and Canada.

**LIFE IN FRESH WATER**—E. S. Brown—*Oxford University Press*, 64 p., illus., \$2.75. More numerous than the familiar fish, frogs and tadpoles are the more lowly creatures, such insects as the water-boatman and water beetles, water fleas and tiny mollusks.

**PARTICLE SIZE DETERMINATION**—R. D. Cadle—*Interscience*, 303 p., illus., \$5.50. Size of particles varies greatly from the tiny electron or neutron to the comparatively tremendous grain of sand. This book describes techniques of measurement.

**POLIOMYELITIS: Papers and Discussions Presented at the Third International Poliomyelitis Conference—International Poliomyelitis Congress**—*Lippincott*, 567 p., illus., \$7.50. Presenting recent advances in the treatment of this disease.

**RADIOACTIVE DEPOSITS IN CALIFORNIA**—George W. Walker, Tom G. Lovering and Hal G. Stephens—*California Division of Mines*, Special Report 49, 38 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Radioactive materials have been found in more than 92 localities in the state, but only one deposit, the Miracle mine, has shipped as much as a carload of commercial grade uranium ore up to December 1954.

**THE SKILLED WORK FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES**—Eli Ginzberg and others—*Govt. Printing Office*, U. S. Department of Labor, 30 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. Action is needed, it is concluded, by Federal, state and local governments, industry and labor, and by individuals to increase the number of those with special work skills.

**THE STORY OF OUR TIME: 1956 Encyclopedia Yearbook**—Marian Lockwood, Ed.—*The Grolier Society*, 430 p., illus., \$4.95. Accounts of the

year's events. Science highlights are contributed by the director of SCIENCE SERVICE.

**A TEXTBOOK OF GENERAL PHYSIOLOGY**—Philip H. Mitchell—*McGraw-Hill*, 5th ed., 885 p., illus., \$10.50. A new edition of a textbook that has been used by undergraduate and graduate students for more than 30 years. The author died shortly after the manuscript had been sent to the publishers.

**TRANSISTORS I: A Selection of Papers Describing Research and Development Work of the Radio Corporation of America as It Applies to the Theory, Fabrication, and Application of Transistors**—Harwick Johnson and others—*RCA Laboratories (David Sarnoff Research Center)*, 676 p., illus., paper, \$4.50.

**YOUR WORLD IN MOTION: The Story of Energy**—George Barrow—*Harcourt, Brace*, 181 p., illus., \$2.95. Describing for young people the endless activity that is going on all the time even where things appear most still.

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## ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY

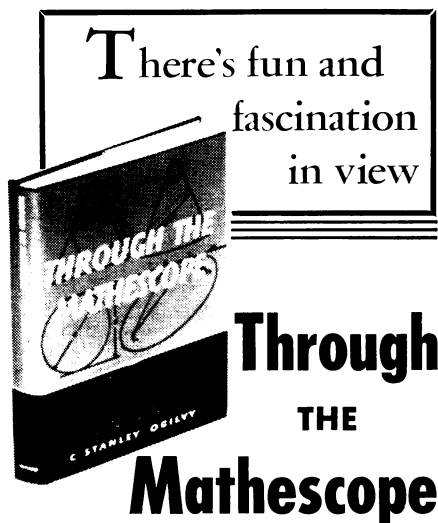
### Sopranos and Violins Wasted on Turtles

► THE "VOICE OF THE TURTLE" must be a deep voice if other turtles can hear it, a report to the Eastern Psychological Association meeting in Atlantic City, N. J., by Drs. Ernest Glen Wever and Jack A. Vernon of Princeton University indicated. They studied the hearing of turtles by measuring the electrical potential of their ears. The turtle's ear is essentially a low-frequency instrument, they found.

Its sensitivity falls off rapidly beyond 1,000 cycles or the C two octaves above middle C.

The turtle is unable to hear the highest notes of the soprano or the flute, violin or piccolo.

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