

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.

ALCOHOLISM AS A MEDICAL PROBLEM—H. D. Kruse, Ed.—*Hoeber-Harper*, 102 p., \$3.00. A record of a conference held under the auspices of the Committee on Public Health of the New York Academy of Medicine and the New York State Mental Health Commission.

FOREST RANGER—John J. Floherty—*Lippincott*, 143 p., illus., \$2.75. Telling young people the story of men who guard the forests of our country.

THE GREAT PHYSIODYNAMIC THERAPIES IN PSYCHIATRY: An Historical Reappraisal—Arthur M. Sackler and others, Eds.—*Hoeber-Harper*, 190 p., illus., \$5.75. Each of the contributors relates the historical development of the method associated with his work, and evaluates it in the light of present knowledge.

GREEN DARNER: The Story of a Dragonfly—Robert M. McClung—*Morrow*, 48 p., illus., \$2.00. A child's story of the life cycle of the dragonfly.

INSECTS AND THEIR WORLD—Carroll Lane Fenton and Dorothy Constance Pallas—*Day*, 95 p., illus., \$2.95. Telling for children many fascinating facts about the largest group of fauna that lives on our earth.

LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS IN GENERAL CHEMISTRY—G. Brooks King and William E. Caldwell—*American Book Co.*, 324 p., illus.,

paper, \$3.25. The experiments are arranged to accompany the authors' text, "The Fundamentals of College Chemistry."

LATEX: Natural and Synthetic—Philip G. Cook—*Reinhold*, 231 p., illus., \$3.50. Showing how both natural and synthetic types of rubber latex are produced, modified and finally converted into useful products.

LITTLE KITTEN, BIG WORLD—Victor and Jeanne Baldwin—*Morrow*, 30 p., illus., \$2.00. The picture story of a Siamese kitten's first venture into the out-of-doors.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY FOR THE HOME LAB—Burton L. Hawk—*Science Service*. Chemistry Series, 96 p., illus., \$2.00. Experiments for the "part time" chemist to perform, most of which can be done with ordinary equipment and reagents available from laboratory supply houses.

RESEARCH TECHNIQUES IN SCHIZOPHRENIA—Jacques S. Gottlieb and others, Eds.—*American Psychiatric Association*, Psychiatric Research Reports 5, 153 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Five papers plus discussion presented at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Research Conference, March, 1956.

SATELLITE!—Erik Bergaust and William Belter, with foreword by Hermann Oberth—*Hanover House*, 287 p., illus., \$3.95. A timely book explaining for the layman the earth satellites to be launched during the International Geophysical Year and the knowledge that can be gained from these spinning moonlets, as well as presenting the possibilities and the problems of larger space satellites and, finally, space travel.

THE STARS: Steppingstones into Space—Irving Adler—*Day*, 128 p., illus., \$2.95. Explaining astronomy for young people and laymen who wish to learn about the properties and behavior of stars.

STATISTICAL MECHANICS: Principles and Selected Applications—Terrell L. Hill—*McGraw-Hill*, 432 p., illus., \$9.00. Written for students and research workers in chemistry, physics and biology who have already some acquaintance with statistical mechanics.

WHAT MAN MAY BE: The Human Side of Science—George Russell Harrison—*Morrow*, 278 p., \$4.00. Observing the effects of science on other fields of human affairs and exploring the impact of science on the entire man.

Science News Letter, September 15, 1956

ZOOLOGY

Dancing Honeybees Act As Real Estate Agents

➤ DANCING HONEYBEES serve as real estate agents for their swarm bent on finding a new home, the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Sheffield, England, was told.

How bees determine whether to take a hollow tree, a barn or a hole in the ground for a new dwelling place was reported by Dr. M. Lindauer of the Zoological Institute, Munich, Germany.

When a newly formed swarm wants to relocate from the older colony, scouting bees are dispatched from the swarm. Soon after, the scouts return and dance before the swarm.

The dances, Dr. Lindauer said, not only tell the thousands of bees in the swarm the exact location of a new nesting place, but "they also give exact details about its quality."

Several groups report to the swarm at once, each group trying to sell the swarm on the choice piece of real estate it has found. Over a period of several days, the zoologist reported, the dancing bees change their step and, gradually, there is a unanimous decision to move to one spot. Not until this decision is reached does the swarm move out.

Careful study of bee swarms shows that the scouts are capable of conveying whether or not the nesting place they have found is a "first, second or third class" domicile.

"When a first class nesting site has been found," Dr. Lindauer said, "the scouting bees begin a very long dance with great vivacity that can last an hour or even longer."

A fairly suitable home, on the other hand, is announced by a modest and lazy dance that stops in a few seconds.

A typical report transmitted to the swarm by dancing scouts might communicate, according to Dr. Lindauer, the fact that there is a good hole in a tree, 2,625 feet to the north.

The scouts, Dr. Lindauer found, are recruited from the swarm from old and experienced forager bees, noted for their dancing ability.

Science News Letter, September 15, 1956

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