

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.

ATOMIC QUEST: A Personal Narrative—Arthur Holly Compton—*Oxford University Press*, 370 p., illus., \$5.00. A scientist who had a major part in the development of the atomic bomb tells the story of this achievement from his own personal viewpoint. (See p. 265.)

THE BIOLOGICAL BASIS OF HUMAN FREEDOM—Theodosius Dobzhansky—*Columbia University Press*, 139 p., \$2.95. Perhaps freedom, comments the author, is even the most important of all the specifically human attributes. Discussing the relation of evolution to man's most human characteristics.

BOOK OF STORMS—Eric Sloane—*Duell, Sloan and Pearce*, 109 p., illus., \$3.50. Helping you to understand weather in its most unpleasant aspects.

CALDER HALL: The Story of Britain's First Atomic Power Station—Kenneth Jay—*Harcourt, Brace*, 88 p., illus., \$3.00. By a member of the staff of Great Britain's atomic energy depart-

ment. Written in non-technical language, but of interest to scientist and layman alike.

DENDROCLIMATIC CHANGES IN SEMIARID AMERICA—Edmund Schulman—*University of Arizona Press*, 142 p., illus., paper, \$3.00. The "tree-ring calendar" based on the variable width of tree rings in the *Sequoia gigantea* has now been improved by discovery that certain dwarf pines show great sensitivity to fluctuations in seasonal moisture supply and live centuries beyond the normal life span of their species. It was possible to extend the span of the tree-ring calendar from 3,200 years to 4,000.

DISCOVERY OF THE ELEMENTS—Mary Elvira Weeks, edited with a chapter on elements discovered by atomic bombardment by Henry M. Leicester—*Journal of Chemical Education*, 6th ed., 910 p., illus., \$10.00. The exciting story of this series of discoveries from the gold and silver known to the ancient world to the detection of einsteinium, fermium and mendelevium in a thermonuclear explosion and in nuclear bombardment.

HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS: A Ready-Reference Book of Chemical and Physical Data—Charles D. Hodgman, Robert C. Weast and Samuel M. Selby, Eds.—*Chemical Rubber Publishing Company*, 38th ed., 3206 p., \$12.00. Important reference work for the chemist or physicist. The familiar features and scheme of arrangement have been retained in this newest edition.

LET ERMA DO IT: The Full Story of Automation—David O. Woodbury—*Harcourt, Brace*, 305 p., illus., \$5.00. You will find entertainment as well as an authoritative explanation of automation and electronic "brains" in this book.

THE ORIGINS AND PREHISTORY OF LANGUAGE—G. Révész, translated from the German by J.

Butler—*Philosophical Library*, 240 p., \$7.50. Not intended to trace the evolution of language through its entire course, but only up to the point marked by the beginning of the known historical existence of our language systems.

PROBLEMS OF ADOLESCENTS—H. Edleston—*Philosophical Library*, 174 p., \$4.75. Reporting an experiment in sex education that turned out to be exceptionally successful.

REACTOR SHIELDING DESIGN MANUAL—Theodore Rockwell III, Ed.—*McGraw-Hill*, 481 p., illus., \$6.00. To help the engineer or scientist design a practical shield by making available the techniques and data developed by the Naval Reactors Program and Pressurized Water Reactor Program.

REVIEW FOR ENGINEERING REGISTRATION: 2, Civil Engineering—Leslie A. Clayton and Marvin A. Ring Jr.—*Oregon State College*, Engineering Experiment Station, Circular No. 21, 119 p., illus., paper, \$1.25. Second in a series of circulars designed to assist the graduate engineer in reviewing subject matter to prepare for registration examinations.

SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: New Patterns of Living—Richard L. Meier—*Technology Press and Wiley*, 266 p., illus., \$6.00. Indicating how modern scientific advance may pave the way to better living.

SCIENCE LABORATORY DEMONSTRATIONS: Third Annual Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching—T. N. Campbell and others—*University of Texas*, 44 p., paper, \$1.00. Of interest to science teachers and science club sponsors.

THE SEARCH BENEATH THE SEA: The Story of the Coelacanth—J. L. B. Smith—*Holt*, 260 p., illus., \$3.95. The story of the finding in 1938 of a strange fish, previously believed to have been extinct for more than 50,000,000 years.

SOVIET AIR POWER—Richard E. Stockwell, with introduction by Gen. George C. Kenney—*Pageant*, 238 p., illus., \$7.75. A former editor of *Aviation Age* tells how in less than a decade an outdated air arm has been built into one of the world's most modern and powerful striking forces. Supplement of technical data included with the book.

UNDERSTANDING MINORITY GROUPS—Joseph B. Gittler, Ed.—*Wiley*, 139 p., \$3.25. What makes a group a minority, the editor explains, is not the number in the group but the attitude of others toward that group.

VISION: A Saga of the Sky—Harold Mansfield—*Duell, Sloan and Pearce*, 389 p., illus., \$5.00. The story of the development of American aviation and the men who made it possible, especially the history of Boeing Airplane Company.

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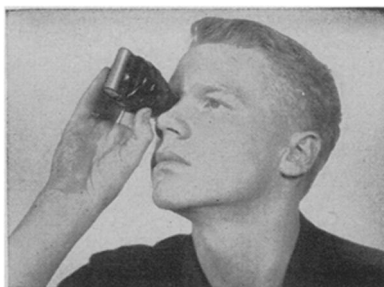
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