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# **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.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE: Vol. XIII. No. 50-British Association for the Advancement of Science, 145 p., illus., paper, 7s 6d. Including the address of Sir Raymond Priestley "Twentieth-Century Man Against Antarctica," given at the Sheffield meeting in August.

THE CONSTITUTION OF MATTER-Robert Oppenheimer-Oregon State System of Higher Education, Condon Lectures, 37 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Lectures given by the director of the

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Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J., intended as an introduction for the layman to a rather unfamiliar field.

Jules Verne-Marguerite Allotte de la Fuye, Translated by Erik de Mauny-Coward-McCann, 222 p., \$3.95. Considering Verne both as a writer and a prophet of the new scientific age.

THE KING'S DAY: A Day in the Life of an African King-Margaret Plass-Chicago Natural History Museum, 22 p., 10 plates, paper, 35 cents. Based on the exhibits in the Cameroons King's House of the Museum.

My Experiments With Volcanoes—Thomas A. Jaggar-Hawaiian Volcano Research Association (Bishop Museum), 198 p., illus., \$4.00. The author, famous volcanologist, spent the last years of his life writing this history of his 60 years of intensive, rugged and hazardous scientific achievements, which included experiments on the active Hawaiian volcano, Kilauea.

Science Clubs of America Sponsor Handвоок—Margaret E. Patterson, Ed.—Science Service, 1957 ed., 64 р., illus., paper, \$1.00. Useful information for science clubs. A new feature is the index to "Free and Low Cost Materials."

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF ARCHAEOLOGY-Ronald Jessup-Garden City Books, 69 p., illus., \$2.95. Telling for children, the story of archaeological finds around the world and under the

Science News Letter, November 10, 1956

### 60-Piece Set Wire Gauge **Chrome Vanadium Drills**



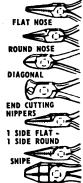
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Dept. 2412, 611 Broadway, New York 12, N. Y.

# 16-Year-Old Boy Designs Computer

A sixteen-year-old Pittsburgh boy has designed a special computer that composes musical tunes. Making use of a GENIAC electric brain construction kit and his own stochastic analysis of frequency of certain notes in simple melodies, he was able to devise a method for generating new melodic elements which retained a likeness to common patterns while sounding different.

The new design, stimulated by the annual contest sponsored by Oliver Garfield Co., originators of the GENIAC kit, has demonstrated in a striking fashion the utility of GENIACS in encouraging thinking about computers. At the present time hundreds of schools and colleges have introduced GENIACS into their curricula to extend their pupils knowledge of computer circuitry.

Since so much of contemporary computer circuitry makes use of relatively simple electrical ideas which are recombined into a variety of intricate networks, it has been possible to present over forty basic computer circuits which can be built with the specially designed multi-deck switches of the GENIAC kit. The completed machines are all powered by one flashlight battery.

GENIAC circuits are ingenious, frequently requiring Game theory for their conception but are simply constructed. The machines encompass Tic Tac Toe and Nim, analyze actuarial problems, reason in syllogisms, test your intelligence, and generally start youngsters and adults thinking in terms of problem-solving equipment.

The components are so versatile that larger industrial firms buy them as supplementary desk calculators for solving recombination problems and exercises in symbolic logic.

The entire kit, consisting of over four hundred parts and components plus a complete course (with seven manuals) in basic circuit design, is available directly from the manufacturers, Oliver Garfield Company, Department SL 56, 126 Lexington Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. The price is \$19.95, with a seven-day return guarantee.