

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.

BIOCHEMICAL INDIVIDUALITY: The Basis for the Genetotropic Concept—Roger J. Williams—Wiley, 214 p., illus., \$5.75. Reason for writing this book, the author explains, is the need in human biology and medicine for more attention to variability and individuality at the physiological and biochemical levels.

BREADS, WHITE AND BROWN: Their Place in Thought and Social History—R. A. McCance and E. M. Widdowson—Lippincott, 174 p., illus., \$5.00. Starting with an investigation into the nutritive value of various kinds of dark and white bread, the authors have traced the history of the use of the "staff of life" from the times of the pyramids to 1950.

THE CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: A Reference Book and School Companion for Boys and Girls—F. G. W. Knowles and others—Philosophical Library, 480 p., illus., \$4.95. Having a section on nature and one on scientific data, constants and formulae.

CONCRETE CONTROL AND CONSTRUCTION—Glenway Maxon and others—Highway Research Board, Bulletin 132, 34 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. For those concerned with the construction of concrete highways.

EDWARD PALMER: Plant Explorer of the American West—Rogers McVaugh—University of Oklahoma Press, 430 p., illus., \$6.00. The nomenclature of an estimated 2,000 species of plants has been based upon specimens collected by Edward Palmer. He was the first to call attention to the destructive habits of the cotton boll weevil.

FATIGUE IN AIRCRAFT STRUCTURES: Proceedings of the International Conference Held at Columbia University, January 30-February 1, 1956—Alfred M. Freudenthal, Ed.—Academic, 456 p., illus., \$12.00. Discussing an increasingly critical aspect of airplane design now that so much more is expected of aircraft due to high speeds and maneuverability.

FLEXIBLE PAVEMENT DESIGN CORRELATION STUDY—A. C. Benkelman, Chairman—Highway Research Board, Bulletin 133, 38 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. Details on how 19 different state highway departments and other agencies, all using the same construction materials, would design pavements for a given set of conditions as to climate and traffic.

GAS DYNAMICS—Klaus Oswatitsch, English version by Gustav Kuerti—Academic, Applied Mathematics and Mechanics, Volume I, 610 p.,

illus., \$12.00. The emphasis is on a clear and intuitively meaningful presentation of the physical and technical problems of gas dynamics, supplemented by the consideration of some of the fundamental experimental results.

A HITTITE CEMETERY AT GORDION—Machteld J. Mellink—University Museum, 60 p., 30 pl., paper, \$2.50. Describing graves and the touching mementoes buried with the dead, dating back to the second millennium, over which Phrygian settlers built their houses.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION AND POLITICAL OPINION: A Guide to the Literature—Bruce Lannes Smith and Chitra M. Smith—Princeton University Press, prepared for the Rand Corporation by the Bureau of Social Science Research, 325 p., \$6.00. An annotated bibliography of about 2,600 carefully selected items.

NUCLEAR REACTORS: A Basic Guide—Industrial Division, Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co., 7 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, Wayne and Windrim Aves., Philadelphia 44, Pa. Brief descriptions of the various types of reactors.

SAY IT IN GREEK—George Pappageotes—Dover, 128 p., paper, 60 cents. Modern Greek phrase book for travelers.

TINPLATE HANDBOOK: Facts About Tinplate for Buyers and Users—W. E. Hoare—Tin Research Institute, 3d ed., 44 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 492 West Sixth Ave., Columbus 1, Ohio. Contains an extensive glossary of terms used in the tinplate industry in four languages.

THE WALT DISNEY STORY OF OUR FRIEND THE ATOM—Heinz Haber—Simon and Schuster, 165 p., illus., \$4.95. Beautiful color pictures illustrate this story of atomic power as originally brought together for an exhibit in "Tomorrow Land" and for a motion picture. The author is a research physicist.

YOU AND YOUR OPERATION—Benjamin R. Reiter—Macmillan, 150 p., illus., \$3.50. An attempt to provide answers to some of the many questions that arise in the mind of a person who must consider or undergo surgery.

YOUR WORLD AND MINE: Essays on Human Relations—Halbert L. Dunn—Exposition Press, 94 p., \$3.00. A readable book to help you adjust to living with yourself and your associates.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1957

ENTOMOLOGY

Flies Survive Ten Days Without Water

► **HOUSE FLIES** can go ten days without water, but they need a food supply, such as dry cane sugar, to survive that long. Dr. Bernard Greenberg of the University of Illinois college of pharmacy reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in New York.

He found that flies burn themselves out before they die of desiccation. Heretofore, it was thought that flies could not live without water more than 48 hours.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1957

GEOPHYSICS

Expert Named Director Of Antarctic Program

► **A VETERAN** of Antarctic exploration, Dr. Laurence McKinley Gould, has been appointed director of the United States Antarctic program for the International Geophysical Year, or IGY.

Dr. Gould, president of Carleton College and a distinguished geologist, was second in command of the 1928-1930 Byrd Antarctic Expedition. His appointment was announced by Dr. Detlev W. Bronk, president of the National Academy of Sciences, and Dr. Joseph Kaplan, chairman of the U. S. National Committee for the IGY.

As director of the U. S. IGY program in Antarctica, Dr. Gould will be responsible for directing scientific observations at a network of six stations: Little America, Byrd, Pole, Weddell, Knox and Adare. The Adare Station is jointly manned by New Zealand and the U. S.

Dr. Gould will also coordinate the U. S. program with those of the 11 other nations conducting research in the Antarctic during the IGY, which lasts for 18 months starting next July 1.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1957

TECHNOLOGY

Electronic "Brain" Writes Routine Reports

► **NOW COMPUTERS**, or electronic "brains," are writing routine scientific reports.

At the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in New York, a team from Monsanto Chemical Company reported how the results of routine testing of chemical compounds for specific use are fed directly into a computer that then converts the coded results into an intelligible screening report.

"Such a reporting system not only releases technical manpower for more productive work but reduces total cost of processing a large volume of routine screening reports," said the report by R. S. Gordon, J. D. Porter and W. H. Waldo, which was not presented to the meeting by the computer.

Science News Letter, January 5, 1957

Understanding Yourself

By Dr. Ernest R. Groves

This inspirational book, now in its well-merited 8th printing, has helped thousands to live more wisely, more fully, more happily, more effectively—in the best sense, more profitably; for a thorough understanding of self is the very bedrock foundation on which to build for peace of mind and sound mental health.

"The attempt of the book is to provide means by which the reader can come to a better understanding of himself. All emphasis is on the utilization of one's mental and physical equipment in such a way that happiness and efficiency may be realized."

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