

Books of the Week

TO SERVE YOU: To get books, send us a check or money order to cover retail price. Address Book Dept., SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Ask for free publications direct from issuing organizations.

CHINESE IDEAS IN THE WEST—Derk Bodde—*American Council on Education*, 42 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. An interesting introduction to the culture of a distant land. Many of our ideas were known very early in China; Cinderella (Sheh Hsien) lived there, complete with cruel stepmother, lost slipper and all.

GENERAL CYTOLOGY—E. D. P. De Robertis, W. W. Nowinski and Francisco A. Saez—*Saunders*, 345 p., illus., \$5.50. A revision of a work originally published in Argentina in 1946, translated by Warren Andrew. Brings together the most important aspects of modern cytology.

HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD—PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING: Washington, D. C., December 2-5, 1947—Roy W. Crum, Fred Burggraf and W. N. Carey, Jr., Eds.—*Highway Research Board*, 523 p., illus., \$7.50. Of interest to engineers, especially those concerned with road construction and maintenance and with soil mechanics.

THE LAND AND FRESH-WATER MOLLUSKS OF PUERTO RICO—Henry Van Der Schalie—*University of Michigan Press*, 134 p., illus., paper, \$2.50. There are about 114 species of inland molluscan fauna, but only about a dozen are fresh-water forms. Some are disappearing with the changes made by man.

MINERALOGICAL AND STRUCTURAL EVOLUTION OF THE METAMORPHIC ROCKS—Francis J. Turner—*Geological Society of America*, 342 p., \$3.00. Emphasizing the importance of regarding metamorphic, like igneous, rocks as products of chemical and physical evolution.

NEW TECHNIQUES OF HAPPINESS—Albert Edward Wiggam—*Wilfred Funk*, 352 p., \$3.75. An inspirational type of book by a popular author.

OCEANOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS ON THE "E. W. SCRIPPS" CRUISES OF 1941—H. U. Sverdrup—*University of California Press*, 407 p., paper, \$2.00. Data gathered on cruises undertaken to study hydrographic conditions and the distribution of sardine eggs and larvae off southern California.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZATIONS: A Directory of Unofficial Organizations in the Field of Public Administration in the United States and Canada, 1948—*Public Administration Clearing House*, 216 p., \$3.50. Lists nearly 2,400 organizations with addresses and other data.

RAINFALL AND RUNOFF—Edgar E. Foster—*Macmillan*, 487 p., illus., \$9.00. A comprehensive book for engineers and students of hydrology.

REPORT ON THE GREEKS: Findings of a Twentieth Century Fund Team Which Surveyed Conditions in Greece in 1947—Frank Smothers, William Hardy McNeill and Elizabeth Darbishire McNeill—*Twentieth Century Fund*, 226 p., illus., \$2.50. A first-hand account of what is happening in a land troubled by anxiety and poverty.

SELF-ANALYSIS QUIZ FOR SUPERVISORS AND EXECUTIVES—Rexford Hersey—*American Management Association*, 24 p., paper, 25 cents. Would you make a good boss? This test is

compiled by a member of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. Yes, answers are in the back of the book.

STUDENT'S HANDBOOK OF SCIENCE—Bernard Udane and Herman W. Gillary—*Ungar*, 208 p., illus., paper, 75 cents (60 cents each for ten or more). A book of useful information for high school students of science, especially members of science clubs.

VIKING FUND'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 1948—*Viking Fund*, 66 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher. Reporting on the year's activities in promotion of research in anthropology.

WHAT'S YOUR MANAGEMENT I.Q.?—Ellis H. Woolley—*American Management Association*, 12 p., paper, 20 cents. Intended to show the administrator or supervisor where he needs to strengthen his own knowledge.

Science News Letter, September 18, 1948

RADIO

Railway Coach Made into Mobile Ionospheric Lab

► A CONVERTED railway coach houses Canada's first mobile ionospheric observatory. It has just been put into operation by the Defense Research Board on the

railroad to Fort Churchill.

Future broadcasts will probably reach you more clearly because of observations made with this traveling laboratory. Studies made in Manitoba, coordinated with those obtained by 63 other stations throughout the world, will help radio broadcasters select the best frequencies to use. They will also aid in making ionospheric storm warnings.

Canada is already operating a number of ionospheric stations in the north country, but this is the first fully mobile one. The lab will operate over the Hudson's Bay Railroad between Portage La Prairie and Churchill. One round-trip will be made every three months, with week-long stops at chosen locations on the rail line.

The zone of northern lights, which covers all of northern Canada, is highly suitable for such study of ionospheric conditions. Charged particles, emanating from spots on the sun, are deflected closer to earth by the earth's magnetic field in this region.

The new mobile ionospheric station will send radio beams as high as 200 miles above the earth. These are reflected back by the ionosphere. Based on information thus obtained about conditions in the upper air, future radio transmission conditions can be predicted and suitable frequencies for long distance radio communication selected.

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PRECISION MICROSCOPE

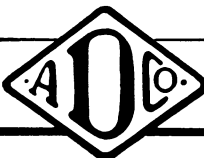
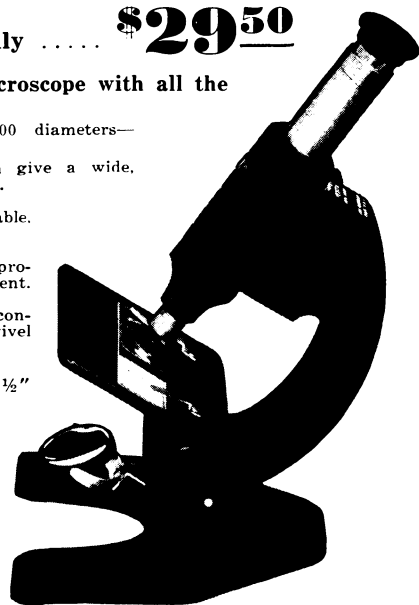
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