

Books of the Week

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ANALYSIS OF TEMPERATURE, PRESSURE AND DENSITY OF THE ATMOSPHERE EXTENDING TO EXTREME ALTITUDES—G. Grimminger—*Rand Corporation*, 149 p., illus., paper, \$2.85. A technical book prepared under sponsorship of the United States Air Force with important implications in connection with rocket and other very high altitude flight.

ANALYTIC GEOMETRY—Charles H. Sisam—*Holt*, rev. ed., 304 p., illus., \$2.40. Includes special exercises for superior students.

THE CHEMISTRY AND UTILIZATION OF BARK—*Northeastern Wood Utilization Council*, 133 p., paper, \$3.00. A group of papers concerned with the utilization of the millions of tons of bark now wasted or destroyed annually.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA—Edward A. Cameron and Edward T. Browne—*Holt*, 406 p., illus., \$3.00. For college freshmen.

COLLEGE GEOGRAPHY—Earl C. Case and Daniel R. Bergsmark—*Wiley*, 3rd ed., 790 p., illus., \$5.00. Rewritten in the light of events since 1940. It also contains a new chapter on tropical and semi-tropical islands of the Pacific.

COMPONENTS HANDBOOK—John F. Blackburn, Ed.—*McGraw-Hill*, 626 p., illus., \$8.00. Principally of interest to the designer of receiving and testing electronic equipment.

THE DISPLACED PERSONS COMMISSION: Six Months of Operation—Ugo Carusi, Edward M. O'Connor, and Harry N. Rosenfield—*Govt. Printing Office*, 56 p., paper, 15 cents.

FIFTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION—Atomic Energy Commission—*Govt. Printing Office*, 213 p., illus., paper, 45 cents.

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF COLLEGE CHEMISTRY—G. Brooks King and William E. Caldwell—*American*, 536 p., illus., \$4.00. Especially for students who do not plan to specialize in chemistry.

A HOME MADE WOOD BURNING FURNACE—*Northeastern Wood Utilization Council*, 11 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. Directions and drawings to enable you to build it.

THE HOSPITAL IN CONTEMPORARY LIFE—Nathaniel W. Faxon, Ed.—*Harvard University Press*, 288 p., illus., \$5.00. To give you an understanding of the organization and function of hospitals before you learn by being a patient in one.

THE ORIGIN OF GENIUS—Alfred Hock—*Alfred Hock*, 62 p., paper, \$1.80. A theoretical discussion based on a study of biographies, pathographies, diaries, memoirs, letters, confessions, and similar evidences of how the mind of a genius works. Translated from the German by John Gutman.

AN OUTLINE OF PSYCHOANALYSIS—Sigmund Freud—*Norton*, 127 p., \$2.00. An attempt by the famous author to state the doctrines of psychoanalysis in concise and dogmatic form rather than to present arguments for them. Hitherto unpublished in English.

PSYCHODYNAMICS AND THE ALLERGIC PATIENT—Harold A. Abramson—*Bruce Publishing Co.*,

81 p., illus., \$2.50. An official publication of the American College of Allergists.

QUIZ ON RAILROADS AND RAILROADING—*Association of American Railroads*, illus., paper, free on request to publishers at Transportation Building, Washington 6, D. C. A well illustrated booklet containing a great variety of information in question and answer form.

Science News Letter, March 5, 1949

ENTOMOLOGY

Sahara Desert Beetles Found South of Equator

➤ BEETLES of a kind hitherto known only from the Sahara and Gobi deserts have been found near the southwest coast of Africa by entomologists with the University of California Expedition. They constitute evidence of a time when the Sahara may have covered practically the whole of Africa, states Wendell Phillips, leader of the expedition, who is at present in this country.

The beetles belong to an ancient and primitive group known technically as the Calognathini, and have never before been reported from south of the equator. The 97 specimens now in the expedition's collections were captured by Dr. Karl Koch, an Austrian entomologist, and Dr. G. Van Son of the Transvaal Museum.

In all, the two entomologists have collected more than 10,000 specimens of insects, among which are over 100 new species of beetles.

Science News Letter, March 5, 1949

VETERINARY MEDICINE

Antimalarial Drug Found Effective for Fowl Disease

➤ A SYNTHETIC drug that was used during the war in combatting malarial and other human parasites has been found useful in the treatment of coccidiosis, one of the most destructive of the diseases that attack chickens, turkey and other fowl. Its name is mepacrine hydrochloride, and its new usefulness is reported in the British science journal, *Nature* (Feb. 12), by Dr. J. E. Wilson of the veterinary laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

In one experiment, 80 ten-day-old chicks were infected with the organism of the disease. Forty of them were given the drug in their drinking-water, while the remaining 40, as a control group, received no medication. Twenty-six of the untreated control group died, as against only seven out of the 40 receiving the drug. Essentially similar results were obtained in a second experiment in which three-week-old chicks were used.

At present, the principal medications

used against fowl coccidiosis are some of the sulfonamides. Dr. Wilson suggests that since mepacrine hydrochloride treatment is easily used and comparatively inexpensive it may at least supplement the sulfa drugs, especially if strains of the disease organism resistant to sulfa action should develop.

Science News Letter, March 5, 1949

Word in Science— ANTU

➤ IN the course of an experiment on animals' sense of taste, the experimental rats died after eating what for other animals generally is a harmless substance. This unexpected result led to the discovery of the important new rat killer, ANTU. This is pronounced Ann-too, with the emphasis on Ann.

It is a very thorough killer, although if carefully used does not endanger pets or humans as do other potent poisons. Chemical name is alpha-naphthyl thiourea. It was one of the hush-hush military secrets during the war, and now promises to be an effective arm against world-wide hunger by reducing the enormous food consumption of rodents.

Science News Letter, March 5, 1949

A useful work of reference for all users of timber, containing detailed descriptions of nearly 200 different timbers, with microscopic identifications of the woods in more common use.

A Concise Encyclopedia of WORLD TIMBERS

By F. H. ITMUSS

THE science of timber technology first came into prominence largely as a result of the investigations made by American research workers in the early years of the first World War. Before this time the normal wood consumer's knowledge of his material was chiefly empirical, and the results achieved by the scientists were neither appreciated nor fully understood by the practical man.

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