

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.

BUILDING YOUR MARRIAGE—Evelyn Millis Duvall—*Public Affairs Committee*, 31 p., illus., 20 cents. Helpful advice to young couples prepared cooperatively with the National Conference on Family Relations.

CULTURE AND ETHOS OF KASKA SOCIETY—John J. Honigmann—*Yale University Press*, 365 p., illus., paper, \$4.00. Report of research and field trips.

DYNAMICS OF VEGETATION—Frederic E. Clements—*Wilson*, 296 p., illus., \$3.75. A compilation of selected writings about plant succession as related to human problems, plant competition, and how to read the messages that vegetation presents, revealing soil conditions, climate and land use or misuse.

FARM WORK SIMPLIFICATION—Lawrence M. Vaughan and Lowell S. Hardin—*Wiley*, 145 p., illus., \$2.80. Telling the farmer how to save steps and reduce the work of his daily chores. An interesting application of time and motion study to farm work.

GEOLOGY—H. H. Read—*Oxford*, 248 p., illus., \$2.00. Methods by which the record is read are explained and a summary of the earth's history is given. Of British origin.

THE GREAT PICTURES 1949—Clifton C. Edom, Ed.—*Greenberg*, 128 p., illus., \$3.50. The finest examples of pictorial journalism in the sixth annual "News Pictures of the Year."

GODS AND MEN—Sir Richard Gregory—*Stuart and Richards*, 214 p., illus., (approx. \$3.00). A renowned scientist tells how he believes contemplation of the heavenly objects and the invisible forces controlling them has affected man's religious and philosophical thinking.

HOW TO KNOW THE IMMATURE INSECTS—H. F. Chu—*Brown*, 234 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. Insects spend more time in their immature stages than they do as adults. Identification of the larvae—maggots, worms and caterpillars—is important to the control of their destruction of crops.

HOW TO MAKE A SHIP IN A BOTTLE—Clive Monk—*Studio*, 64 p., illus., \$1.50. Detailed instruction on this inexpensive hobby, which takes skill but is not exactly a science.

HOW TO MAKE A SPEECH AND LIKE IT—Lawrence H. Moutat—*Pacific Books*, 94 p., illus., \$2.00. Basic principles of speech making. Amusingly illustrated.

MODERN WONDERS AND HOW THEY WORK—Captain Burr W. Leyson—*Dutton*, 216 p., illus., \$3.50. Explanations for the layman of modern wonders such as atomic fission, robot planes, and radar.

THE OCEAN—F. D. Ommanney—*Oxford*, 238 p., illus., \$2.00. A book of British origin about the sea and what it contains and also the life on the seashore.

PHOTOELECTRICITY AND ITS APPLICATION—V. K. Zworykin and E. G. Ramberg—*Wiley*, 494 p., illus., \$7.50. This volume, which replaces the authors' second edition of *Photocells and Their Application*, deals with the principles and preparation of photosensitive devices and their application.

THE STORY OF OUR TIME 1949—E. V. McLoughlin, Ed.-in-Chief—*Grolier Society and Richards*, 432 p., illus., \$10.00. An encyclopedia yearbook providing a review of the year's developments as seen through the eyes of more than 100 authorities. The science review and preview sections are by Watson Davis, director of Science Service.

WOODEN DOLLARS—Henry I. Baldwin—*Federal Reserve Bank of Boston*, 127 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. A report on the forest resources of New England, their condition, economic significance and potentialities.

WOODY PLANTS OF THE WESTERN NATIONAL PARKS—Virginia Long Bailey and Harold Edwards Bailey—*University of Notre Dame Press*, American Midland Naturalist Monograph No. 4, 274 p., illus., \$4.00. A guide to the plants of sixteen national parks.

YOU CAN FIND URANIUM—Joseph L. Weiss and William R. Orlandi—*Weiland*, 128 p., illus., paper, \$2.00. A pocket guide to uranium prospecting.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1949

EVOLUTION

Plants' Natural Selection A Long-Time Process

► PLANTS evolving by sudden changes of genes, or mutations, do not necessarily show the effects at once, and the process of natural selection, supposed to nip off such unpromising variants immediately, may require 50 or more generations, Prof. G. Ledyard Stebbins, Jr., of the University of California, stated at the meeting of the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia.

"Furthermore, the units selected are not mutations with conspicuous effects," he continued, "but genes which by themselves have relatively little effect on the phenotype (immediate appearance of offspring),

and act together to produce the phenomenon of multiple factor inheritance."

By controlling conditions of competition among experimental plants, Prof. Stebbins stated, it has been possible to produce situations closely simulating those supposed to take place as evolution proceeds in nature.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1949

Science Service Radio

► LISTEN in to a discussion on "Keeping America First in the Air" on "Adventures in Science" over the Columbia Broadcasting System at 3:15 p.m. EDT, Saturday, May 14. John Francis Victory, secretary of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, will be the guest of Watson Davis, director of Science Service. The research laboratories of the committee have repeatedly created revolutions in aeronautics and are largely responsible for American aviation supremacy. Mr. Victory, long a leader in this governmental organization, will tell of the latest progress. His report is timely because inspection of Langley Field laboratories will be held at this time.

Science News Letter, May 7, 1949



New Instrument Increases Reading Speed 30% to 300%

The TDC Reading Rate controller, an improved general training and remedial reading device, is now available for training children and adults to read faster and more intelligently. It increases reading rates, improves reading habits and develops flexibility of reading rates for varying purposes. The Reading Rate Controller has effected improvements in speed ranging from 30% to 300%. It is now being used by Cornell University, the University of Chicago, the National War College and many other institutions.

For a 4 page bulletin giving complete details, case histories and a list of prominent users, write Three Dimension Co., 4557 W. Addison St., Chicago 41, Illinois.

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