transl. from Russian by D. H. Jones and A. N. Schofield - Butterworths (Canada), 237 p., \$10.50. On the theory of critical equilibrium and theoretical research in problems of plastic failure.

THERMOELECTRICITY: A Report for Business—Donald Bobo and others—Thermoelectric Associates, 126 p., illus., paper, first copy \$35; each additional \$10. Summary of technology and its applications, by group of graduate students of the Harvard Business School.

Using Wayside Plants - Nelson Coon -Hearthside Press, 3rd rev. ed., 254 p., illus., \$3.95. How to identify and use wild plants for food, medicine and nature craft.

Welcome the Birds—Esme Stewart—Hurst (Sportshelf), 107 p., photographs, \$4.25. Author's experiences with birds and taking care of their needs.

YOUR SCIENCE WORLD—Arthur O. Baker, Grace C. Maddux and Helen B. Warrin—Rand McNally, 256 p., illus., \$2.80. Sixth grade science. Science News Letter, June 11, 1960

## Do You Know

Glass does not have a definite melting point and chemists define it as a supercooled liquid.

Coal derivatives are used in the preparation of medicines, such as aspirin, sulfa drugs, anesthetics and antipyretics.

**AGRICULTURE** 

### **Push-Button Feeding Given Illinois Poultry**

A COMPLETELY automatic poultry feed conveyor system has successfully passed tests in Illinois, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Operated by electric controls, the unit automatically blends, grinds, conveys, and distributes feed and maintains a constant supply in the poultry houses.

Warren T. Frye's farm in Peoria County. Ill., was used by the USDA's Agricultural Research Service at the Urbana, Ill., Experiment Station for demonstration of the pneumatic conveyor adapted and designed by Hoyle B. Puckett, a USDA engineer.

Approximately 700 tons of feed have been put through the conveyor system in the past year.

Three-way pinch valves designed by Mr. Puckett are located at several places along the pipeline to insure the success of the system.

The valves consist of metal tubes fitted with collapsible rubber inner liners, operating on a principle similar to that of a milking machine cup and liner. Compressed air is injected between the tubes and liners, forcing the liners to collapse and divert the feed to another outlet.

Science News Letter, June 11, 1960

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