

Books of the Week

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THE ASSESSMENT OF SCIENTIFIC SPECULATION: A Survey of Certain Current Views—R. A. R. Tricker—Am. Elsevier Pub. Co., 200 p., illus., \$6. Concerned with various views on the nature of science.

ATOMIC PHYSICS TODAY—Otto R. Frisch—Fawcett, 176 p., diagrams, paper, 60¢. Reprint (1961), collection of self-contained articles dealing with the atom, its structure and energy.

CHEMICAL PHYSICS OF SEMICONDUCTORS—J. P. Suchet, transl. by E. Heasell—Van Nostrand, 197 p., diagrams, \$8.50. Presents recent work in the fields of interactions between impurities and the prediction of semiconducting properties.

CONCEPTS OF ENGINEERING SYSTEM DESIGN—Warren E. Wilson—McGraw, 255 p., diagrams, \$7.50. Introductory course, with emphasis on the fact that engineering problems are open-ended, have many solutions, and the engineers' task is to select solutions that are optimum with respect to established criteria.

DAY OF TRINITY—Lansing Lamont—Athenum, 333 p., photographs, maps, \$6.95. The story of the explosion of the first atomic bomb and of the scientists involved in the Manhattan Project.

A DICTIONARY OF SCIENCE TERMS—G. E. Speck and Bernard Jaffe, Eds.—Hawthorn Bks., 272 p., illus., \$4.50. Portable dictionary explaining some 3,000 terms, from Aberration to Zymase.

THE ENVIRONMENT IN MODERN PHYSICS: A Study in Relativistic Mechanics—C. W. Kilmister—Am. Elsevier Pub. Co., 134 p., illus., \$5. Presents a novel approach to special relativity and its applications, especially to elementary particles.

THE EVOLUTION OF GENETICS—Arnold W. Ravin—Academic Press, 216 p., illus., \$6; paper, \$2.95. Covers the field from classical genetics to the unsolved problems of genetics, thoroughly discussing DNA, mutation and recombination, and heterocatalytic function of genetic material.

GENERAL CHEMISTRY WORKBOOK: How to Solve Chemistry Problems—Conway Pierce and R. Nelson Smith—Freeman, 3rd ed., 264 p., diagrams,

paper, \$2. Emphasizes the mathematical side of problem solving.

HIGHER EDUCATION, BASIC STUDENT CHARGES 1963-64: Tuition and Fees, Board and Room—Louis D'Amico—OE (GPO), 58 p., paper, 40¢. Comparative data for public and private institutions of higher learning.

INTERM—Doctor X—Harper, 404 p., \$5.95. The diary of a young American doctor during his year of hospital internship.

THE LASER—Leon Goldman and Joseph Weber, Eds.—N.Y. Acad. of Sciences, Annals, Vol. 122, Art. 2, 263 p., illus., paper, \$7. Conference papers and discussions of existing theory, new advances, practical applications and biological aspects of lasers.

MANUAL OF TIDE OBSERVATIONS—Coast and Geodetic Survey, H. Arnold Karo, Dir.—GPO, rev. ed., 72 p., illus., \$2. Instructions for observing and recording tides, and for making the necessary reductions to determine the datum planes and nonharmonic quantities published in the Tide Tables.

MATHEMATICAL PUZZLES AND PASTIMES—Aaron Baks—Van Nostrand, 2nd ed., 242 p., diagrams, \$5.50. Puzzles stressing the mathematical approach to situations that involve the strange and often seemingly impossible.

MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT—Eugene Bell, Ed.—Harper, 525 p., illus., \$10.75. Recent research papers focusing on such central problems of development biology as cell association, chromosome differentiation, and cell-virus interaction.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF FLIES—Harold Oldroyd—Norton, 324 p., 32 plates, illus., maps, \$8.50. Book discusses 16 groups of flies in ascending order of evolution, reviews impact of flies on man, and speculates about the future of flies.

PENGUIN SCIENCE SURVEY, B: Biology, Medicine, Psychology and Physiology—S. A. Barnett and Anne McLaren, Eds.—Penguin, 246 p., plates, illus., paper, \$1.95. Articles range over discussion of convergent and divergent intelligence, dreams during orthodox and during paradoxical sleep, the yeasts of wine, and penicillinase.

RHINOS BELONG TO EVERYBODY—Bernhard Grzimek, transl. from German by Oliver Coburn—Hill & Wang, 207 p., 135 photographs (60 full color), maps, \$12.50. Superb photography and interesting facts about African wildlife.

SOVIET RESEARCH IN NEW SEMICONDUCTOR MATERIALS—D. N. Nasledov and N. A. Goryunova, transl. from Russian by A. Tybulewicz—Consultants, 121 p., illus., paper, \$17.50. Research reports on subjects such as diamond-like defect semiconductors, microhardness anisotropy of bismuth, and crystallization of semiconductors from a molten solution.

URANIUM CARBIDES, NITRIDES AND SILICIDES: Bibliography—Vladimir Maximov—IAEA

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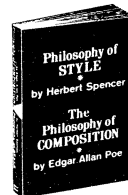
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(Internat'l Publications, N.Y.), 174 p., paper, \$4. 790 references presented alphabetically by author, titles and abstracts given in English.

WANDERERS IN THE SKY: The Motions of Planets and Space Probes—Thornton Page and Lou Williams Page, Eds.—Macmillan, 338 p., 100 illus., \$7.95. A collection of articles from Sky and Telescope, organized to reflect the changing concepts, new facts and reinterpretations in the light of new ideas by astronomers within the last three decades.

ZOOLOGY—E. Lendell Cockrum and William J. McCauley—Saunders, 705 p., illus., \$9. Introductory text, attempts to maintain balance between morphology and biochemistry at a level compatible with the varied science backgrounds of the students.

• Science News Letter, 88:44 July 17, 1965

ASTRONOMY

Automatic Star Gazer Speeds Data Collecting

► A NEW AUTOMATIC star gazer soon will enable scientists to compile more data on the universe in a few days than they could in several lifetimes of human calculations.

The Royal Observatory in Edinburgh, Scotland, is developing the new machine, "Galaxy," which will automatically examine stars on photographic plates which search for and record them.

Galaxy will then go back to each star and automatically measure the position of each one and record its brightness at various light wave lengths. Then the information will be punched out on paper tape by computer.

When complete, this computerized observation post will be able within a few days to provide astronomers all over the world with data on various kinds of stars.

• Science News Letter, 88:44 July 17, 1965

Nature Note

Aardvark

► HERE'S A pig-like mammal with a long snout, a long tongue coiled like a watch spring and so many other peculiarities that scientists only recently created a special order for it — the Tubulidentata (Tubule-Toothed). Known as ant-bear, earth hog and Isambane, the aardvark holds special place in almost all dictionaries—its name is the first multi-lettered word.

The aardvark resembles a medium- to large-sized pig and is rather timid. It seems awkward yet is extremely powerful and can dig into the ground with amazing speed to escape enemies such as lions, leopards, pythons and man. Native to most of the African continent south of the Sahara and Sudan, these animals are diminishing in numbers. Zoos and animal farms are trying to perpetuate the species.

The aardvark's special long sticky tongue, which coils up when not in use, is well adapted to scooping out termites from inside their many-chambered nests. The aardvark also feeds on ants, locusts and other insects. It has a very keen sense of smell and sensitive hearing, and has a scientific reputation of being able to find a column of termites by tracking down the sound of thousands of tiny footfalls as the termites march through the forests.

• Science News Letter, 88:44 July 17, 1965