

# Books of the Week

For the editorial information of our readers, books received for review since last week's issue are listed. For convenient purchase of any U. S. book in print, send a remittance to cover retail price (postage will be paid) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

**THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE:** Vol. XIII, No. 53, June 1957—H. Hamshaw Thomas and others, Eds.—*British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 144 p., illus., paper, 7 s. 6 d. Recent scientific reports on topics of timely interest.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY ON SOUTHWESTERN ASIA:** IV, A Fourth Compilation—Henry Field—*University of Miami Press*, 464 p., paper, \$12.00. A listing of selected titles, especially those published in 1956, for the specialist and student of this area which includes Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and other potential trouble spots.

**BIOCHEMICAL DISORDERS IN HUMAN DISEASE—**R. H. S. Thompson and E. J. King, Eds.—*Academic*, 843 p., illus., \$12.60. For many diseases, pathology is now passing from the stage of morbid histology to that of morbid biochemistry.

**CHEMISTRY—**Michell J. Sienko and Robert A. Plane—*McGraw-Hill*, 621 p., illus., \$6.75. Based on the lectures given in the introductory chemistry course at Cornell University. Great emphasis is placed on the principles sometimes at the expense of descriptive details.

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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Theory, History, Policy—Gerald M. Meier and Robert E. Baldwin—*Wiley*, 588 p., diagrams, \$8.50. Discussing the problems of accelerating development in poor countries and maintaining development in rich countries. Intended especially for college students majoring in economics.

**FOOD FACTS TALK BACK:** Food Information, Fallacies and Facts—*American Dietetic Association*, 32 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Do you believe that eating raw potatoes will cause worms or that white eggs are more nutritious than brown? This little book tells the facts about these and many other common food beliefs.

**FOOT TROUBLES—**T. T. Stamm—*Philosophical Library*, 122 p., illus., \$4.75. You should get about 250,000 miles out of your feet during a lifetime. This little book tells how to avoid many foot discomforts and how others can be cured.

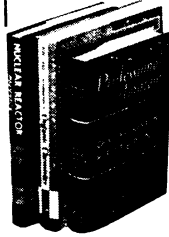
**FRONTIERS OF ASTRONOMY—**Fred Hoyle—*New American Library*, 317 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Inexpensive paper edition of a book originally published by Harper in 1955. Includes the "steady-state" theory, supported by the author and Drs. H. Bondi and T. Gold.

**THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS OF THE NEW AND OLD WORLD HYSTRICOMORPH RODENTS—**Stuart O. Landry, Jr.—*University of California Press*, Univ. of C. Publications in Zoology, Volume 56, No. 1, 117 p., illus., \$2.50. Discussing the evolution that moved the biting power of the jaw forward to the front of the jaw with its chisellike, ever-growing incisors, and the distribution of the Hystricomorpha in South America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

**MICROWAVE MEASUREMENTS—**Edward L. Ginzton—*McGraw-Hill*, 515 p., illus., \$12.00. A basic text for graduate students and a reference work for those working in the field.

**PHYSICS FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING—**Robert L. Weber, Marsh W. White and Kenneth V. Manning—*McGraw-Hill*, 618 p., illus., \$8.00. Introducing basic concepts and principles of general physics at the university level and designed especially for students of science and engineering.

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**RESEARCH ON FIRE:** A Description of the Facilities, Personnel and Management of Agencies Engaged in Research on Fire—Horatio Bond, Ed.—*National Fire Protection Association*, 184 p., illus., \$5.00. Two of the founders of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were pioneers in the study of fire protection, and the study of fire was one of the original purposes of MIT.

**STATE CONTROL AND ADMINISTRATION OF ATOMIC RADIATION—**William C. Ellet—*Institute of Public Affairs, State University of Iowa*, 48 p., paper, \$1.00. Private ownership of atomic materials and production facilities makes the hazards of radiation a concern of state governments as protectors of public health and safety.

**SYMPOSIUM ON NUTRITION AND BEHAVIOR—**Josef Brozek, Guest Ed.—*National Vitamin Foundation*, 124 p., illus., paper, \$2.50. Proceedings of a symposium devoted to a topic of interest to many professions.

**TIDAL MARSHES OF THE GULF AND ATLANTIC COASTS OF NORTHERN FLORIDA AND CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA—**Herman Kurz and Kenneth Wagner—*Florida State University*, 168 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Report of an investigation made of the principal factors in the dynamics of the encroaching sea made before the activities of man should have complicated the problem.

**THE WORLD OF THE DINOSAURS—**David H. Dunkle—*Smithsonian*, 22 p., illus., paper, 50 cents. Dinosaurs first appeared on earth about 200,000,000 years ago and persisted for some 130,000,000 years. This booklet shows the conception of scientists of how they looked and acted.

Science News Letter, August 3, 1957

## PUBLIC HEALTH

### Stigma of Leprosy Kept Alive by Writers

► CURRENT STORIES, articles and novels are keeping alive the stigma of Hansen's disease, or leprosy, even though patients can now be treated successfully and returned to their homes. An appeal to writers to eliminate such clichés as "He treated me as if I had leprosy," "The man is a moral leper—stay away from him," and the like, has been made by Dr. Ira D. Hirschy of the Department of Health, Honolulu, Hawaii.

These phrases are written without any intent to harm, but they strike a disastrous blow to the morale of former patients who have had the disease, been treated, and then returned home as noninfectious.

Hansen's disease can now be successfully treated with sulfone drugs if it is diagnosed and treated promptly. But all too often former patients meet such ostracism they cannot get a job or be accepted by the community. This happens both to patients discharged from Kalaupapa in Hawaii and from Carville, La.

One type of Hansen's disease is not even infectious, but the patient is shunned as if he were a source of contagion.

The stigma attached to the disease has existed for centuries and is kept alive, in part, by the publication of phrases which link the disease to horror, fear and ostracism.

"Authors have a real opportunity to help simply by avoiding destructive comparisons and by writing of Hansen's disease as it now is, an illness which can be treated," Dr. Hirschy reported.

Science News Letter, August 3, 1957

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