

ISOTOPIC TRACERS IN BIOLOGY: An Introduction to Tracer Methodology—Martin D. Kamen—*Academic*, Volume 1 of Organic and Biological Chemistry, 3d ed., 474 p., illus., \$9.50. Since publication of the first edition, use of tracers in biological laboratories has become commonplace. Stable isotopes are now included and the chapters on nuclear physics and chemistry have been rewritten.

PURDUE RESEARCH FOUNDATION ANNUAL RESEARCH REPORT 1956—Frederick L. Hovde, president—*Purdue Research Foundation*, 32 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, Lafayette, Ind. Containing the annual report and a bibliography of publications of the Foundation staff.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRANSLATING AND OTHER ASPECTS OF THE LANGUAGE PROBLEM—J. E. Holmstrom—*UNESCO (UNESCO Publications)*, 282 p., diagrams, paper, \$4.00. This discussion covers not only the problems of translators but that of scientists in learning languages other than their own and the need for publication in commonly read languages. There is a special discussion of auxiliary languages, including Interlingua.

SPELEO DIGEST 1956—John R. Dunn, William B. White, and H. Russell Howard, Eds.—*Pittsburgh Grotto Press, (National Speleological Society)*, illus., paper, \$2.00. A compilation of the most interesting articles from the newsletters of chapters of the National Speleological Society—news of new caves and new data on old caves and activities of spelunkers.

SPHEROIDAL WAVE FUNCTIONS—Carson Flammer—*Stanford University Press, Stanford Research Institute Monograph*, 220 p., \$8.50. Intended to facilitate the use and calculation of spheroidal wave functions by the presentation of a detailed and unified account of the properties of these functions.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF EDUCATION 1953-54—Rose Marie Smith and W. Vance Grant—*Govt. Printing Office, Office of Education, Biennial Survey of Education, Chapter 1*, 86 p., paper, 35 cents.

THE THRIPS OF CALIFORNIA: Part 1, Suborder Terebrantia—Stanley F. Bailey—*University of California Press, Bulletin of the California Insect Survey*, Volume 4, No. 5, 78 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. Contains suggestions for collecting this tiny insect seldom collected by the average entomologist although well-known to the home gardener.

Science News Letter, August 10, 1957

GENERAL SCIENCE

Government Studies Money for Research

► THE INCREASING awareness of the importance of basic scientific research has been reflected in the increasing amount of dollars spent on it in the United States, the National Science Foundation has reported.

In a study based on the total funds expended for basic research in the physical and life sciences for 1953, the most recent period for which figures are available, the Foundation found the expenditures are "one index of the nation's scientific progress."

In 1953 a total of \$435,000,000 was spent for basic research in the natural sciences. This figure, the Foundation noted was 8% of the estimated total of \$5.4 billion for research and development or about 0.1% of the gross national product of \$363 billion.

The study also showed the following:

1. Colleges and universities performed a good share of the basic research accounting for \$205,000,000 or 47% of the total. Indus-

try followed with 39%; the Federal Government, 11%; and private foundations, health agencies and academies of science, 3%.

2. Industry and the Federal Government paid most of the basic research bill, providing \$179,000,000 (41%) and \$158,000,000 (36%) respectively.

3. Of the total amount spent in 1953, 70% went for basic research in the physical sciences.

The Foundation defined research as "basic only if its primary aim was 'fuller knowledge' rather than 'a practical application'."

Science News Letter, August 10, 1957

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