

direct to publisher, Time-Life Bldg., Chicago, Ill. 60611. Colorful picture-essay presentation of mathematics and its applications.

THE NATURAL GEOGRAPHY OF PLANTS—Henry A. Gleason and Arthur Cronquist—Columbia Univ. Press, 420 p., photographs, \$10. Describes the factors involved in plant distribution, the conditions on which plant migration and habitat depend, and discusses common species and plant communities of the ten floristic provinces of North America.

NEW HANDBOOK OF THE HEAVENS—Herbert J. Bernhard, Dorothy A. Bennett and Hugh S. Rice—McGraw, rev. ed., 360 p., illus., paper, \$2.75. For the beginner and the more advanced amateur, includes carefully prepared lists of good celestial objects and the best nights for their observation.

NONFICTION: From Idea to Published Book—Harry Edward Neal—Funk, 236 p., \$3.95. A most readable and practical guide to writing and selling the nonfiction article and book.

POPULATION, EVOLUTION, BIRTH CONTROL: A Collage of Controversial Readings—Garrett Hardin—Freeman, 341 p., \$4.50; paper, \$2. A representative selection of short articles from the population literature, with teaching notes.

PROTEIN METABOLISM IN THE PLANT—Albert Charles Chibnall, new foreword by H. B. Vickery—Yale Univ. Press, 306 p., illus., \$6.50; paper, \$1.95. Expanded version of the Silliman Lectures (1939), a book long out of print which has become a classic on plant biochemistry.

PROVING GROUND: An Account of the Radiobiological Studies in the Pacific, 1946-1961—Neal O. Hines—Univ. of Wash. Press, 366 p., photographs, maps, \$6.75. Interim report based on findings of the Laboratory of Radiation Biology, presents scientific interpretation and synthesis of the environmental investigations conducted in the Pacific for the Atomic Energy Commission.

150 PUZZLES IN CRYPT-ARITHMETIC—Maxey Brooke—Dover, 72 p., paper, \$1. Arithmetical puzzles that are solved by examination of the number relations between the various groups and symbols.

RECREATIONS IN THE THEORY OF NUMBERS: The Queen of Mathematics Entertains—Albert H. Beiler—Dover, 349 p., diagrams, paper, \$2. New book dealing exclusively with the recreational aspect of such subjects as perfect numbers, divisors, scales of notation, oddities about squares, and endless decimals.

SCIENCE AND POLITICS—Quintin McGarel Hogg, formerly Viscount Hailsham—Encyclopedia Britannica Press, 110 p., \$2.95. Britain's first Minister for Science discusses the relationship between science and government in a free society.

SOVIET EDUCATION—Nigel Grant—Penguin, 190 p., map, paper, 95¢. Describes the different types of schools and colleges in the U.S.S.R., and examines the system as a whole against its geographical, historical and political background.

A STUDY OF CHARACTERISTICS AND METHODS OF DETECTION OF FOOD POISONING MICROORGANISMS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON CLOSTRIDIUM PERFRINGENS—John E. Despaul—Defense Supply Agency, Lab. Div. Dir. of Tech. Operations, 156 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 1819 W. Pershing Rd., Chicago 9, Ill. Reports on research at the Universities of Kentucky and of Cambridge, and on methods studied at the Food Hygiene Laboratory in London, England.

STUDY OF THE PLANETS BY MEANS OF THE POLARIZATION OF THEIR LIGHT—Audouin Dollfus, transl. from French—NASA (OTS), 133 p., illus., paper, \$2.75. Analysis of weakly polarized light resulting in new data on the physical conditions of the visible surface of Mercury, Venus, Jupiter and Mars.

THEORIES OF MOTIVATION IN LEARNING: An Enduring Problem in Psychology. Selected Readings—Richard C. Teevan and Robert C. Birney, Eds.—Van Nostrand, 215 p., diagrams, paper, \$1.75. Collection of readings on topics such as primary motivation, concept of acquired drives, and stimulus-response theory of drive.

THEORY OF THE INTEGRAL—Stanislaw Saks, transl. from French edition, notes by Stefan Banach—Dover, 2nd rev. ed., 343 p., paper, \$2.25. Reprint (1937).

THESAURUS OF ENGINEERING TERMS—Eugene Wall, Ed.—Engineers Joint Council, 319 p., paper, \$16.50. A list of engineering terms and their relationship for use in vocabulary control in indexing and retrieving engineering information, worked out under the general guidance of the EJC Information Systems Committee.

THE THEORY OF GROUP REPRESENTATIONS—Francis D. Murnighan—Dover, 369 p., paper, \$2.35. Unabridged and corrected republication of work first published in 1938.

THIRTY-THREE TROUBLESOME CHILDREN—D. H. Stott—Nat'l Children's Home, 134 p., charts, \$1.50 direct to publisher, Highbury Park, London, N.5, England. Studies the causes of maladjustment from the angle of the family situation, chronic ailments, and neurological impairments.

TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES IN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE, Vols. I and II—FAO Commodity Review 1964, B. R. Sen, Dir.-Gen.—FAO (Int'l Doc.

Service, N.Y.), 103 p., 196 p., paper, \$7. Reviews trends in agricultural exports from developing countries, prospects and problems for different commodities, and presents detailed statistical data.

A TREE IS BORN—J. M. Guilcher and R. H. Noailles—Sterling, 100 p., 127 photographs, \$2.99. Handsome little book showing the stage-by-stage development of the horse chestnut, oak, walnut and pine tree.

THE TYRANNY OF SCHOOLING: An Inquiry into the Problem of "Stupidity"—Lewis Anthony Dexter—Basic Bks., 182 p., \$4.50. Some very controversial thoughts on the subject of the slow learner and below-average graduate of the U.S. public school system.

THIRD ANNUAL AEROSPACE RELIABILITY AND MAINTAINABILITY CONFERENCE, June 29-July 1, 1964—John de S. Coutinho, Chmn.—Soc. of Automotive Engineers, 658 p., illus., paper, \$15.50. Conference was cosponsored by SAE, ASME and AIAA for the professional reliability/maintainability engineer and his management.

THIS AWESOME CHALLENGE: The Hundred Days of Lyndon Johnson—Michael Amrine—Putnam, 283 p., \$4.95. The behind-the-scenes story of the critical hours and days when a man unknown to most of the world inherited the most powerful and demanding office in the world.

ULTRASONIC THERAPY: A Textbook for Physiotherapists—W. Sumner and Margaret K. Patrick—Elsevier Pub. Co. (N.Y.), 163 p., illus., \$5. Treats the physics of ultrasound and discusses the principles of ultrasonic therapy, including the techniques, effects, uses and contra-indications involved.

WHAT ARE THE FACTS ABOUT THE POPULATION CRISIS?—National Health Education Committee, 17 p., ill., paper, single copies free upon request direct to publisher, 135 E. 42nd Street, New York 17, N.Y. Popular summary of research findings.

ZEPHYR—Charlotte Truepenney—Scribner, 190 p., photographs, drawings, \$3.95. Story about a pet Vervet monkey on an African bush farm.

• Science News Letter, 86:156 Sept. 5, 1964

Nature Note

Poison Ivy

► Every Monday morning, during the summer, countless Americans wake up with an itch, and became sadly aware that they have an unwanted souvenir of their weekend picnic—poison ivy rash.

This unpleasant affliction is caused by contact with the poison ivy plant, *Toxicodendron radicans*, and may consist of anything from a slight itch to severe inflammation and blistering. The rash usually appears 24 to 48 hours after contact.

The poison ivy plant is common throughout most of eastern North America, and is easily recognized by its clusters of three scalloped leaves. These leaves, which are shiny when young, contain the irritant urushiol, a yellowish oil. It is this oil which causes the rash.

Sensitivity to poison ivy is acquired—most people become sensitive through early contact in childhood, but become less sensitive with age. Once sensitivity decreases, it rarely increases again.

The poison ivy plant is related to poison oak and poison sumac, and all three produce similar reactions. Poison ivy oil retains its potency on clothes and other items for a year or more, and will cause reaction in highly sensitive subjects even when diluted 50 million times. The rash can also be acquired by contact with smoke from burning poison ivy plants.

Most commercial preventatives or cures are less than 100% effective, but the rash can be prevented by washing in a five percent solution of ferric chloride in alcohol and water, either immediately before or after contact with the plant. Immunizing pills and shots are also available.

• Science News Letter, 86:157 Sept. 5, 1964

LEARN MODERN MATH!

Stumped by references to cybernetics, game theory? Confused by relativity? Brilliant new book by remarkable expositor makes these & other important new fields crystal-clear to laymen, students. "Great Ideas of Modern Mathematics," J. Singh, 213pp. \$1.55 + 10¢ postage. Money-back guarantee. Dept. SNL, Dover, 180 Varick St., N.Y. 14, N.Y.



New Products Magazine

"IT'S NEW" Magazine brings you More Fun, Profit & Enjoyment. Illustrates & describes thousands of new things from all over the world. Gadgets, novelties, gifts, time-savers, household & office things, housewares, appliances. Money makers, money savers, toys, auto field, tools, hobbies, photo, records, sports, books, clothes, drugs, movies. Travel ideas, personal things, ideas, facts, Appraisals, source, price. Beautifully printed. Fun to read. Valuable for men, students, offices, experimenters, shops, etc. Be first to know WHAT'S NEW each month. SPECIAL: 12 issues \$2.00 (\$4.20 value). Money back anytime if not pleased. IT'S NEW, DEPT. 150 • ST. CLAIR SHORES, MICH.

Doctors Trim 2 Inches Off Flabby Waists!

German doctors at the famous Max-Planck Institute have discovered an instant-workout method that can reduce waistlines in 30 days. Called "Isometric Contractions," one 60-second daily workout can reduce waistline fast. 10 simple exercises can put the whole family in shape fast. No sweat, strain or tiring repetition. Acclaimed internationally by physiologists, coaches, athletes. Results guaranteed. Free, illustrated information. Write AWARD-WINNING ISOMETRICS, Minute Home-Gym, Inc., Dept. B, 37 Centuck Station, Yonkers, N. Y. 10710.

How Fast Can You Read?

A noted publisher in Chicago reports there is a simple technique of rapid reading which should enable you to double your reading speed by this simple, proven method and yet retain much more. Most people do not realize how much they could increase their pleasure, success and income through reading faster, easier, more accurately.

According to this publisher, anyone, regardless of his present reading habits and reading speed, can use this simple technique to improve his reading ability and develop it to a remarkable degree. Whether reading stories, textbooks, technical matter, it becomes possible to read sentences at a glance and entire pages in seconds by following this method.

To acquaint the readers of this publication with the easy-to-follow rules for developing rapid reading skill, the company has printed full details of their interesting self-training method in a new book, "Adventures in Reading Improvement," which will be mailed free to anyone who requests it. No obligation. Simply send your request to: Reading Improvement Program, 835 Diversey Parkway, Dept. 2646, Chicago, Illinois 60614. A postcard will do.