

# Books of the Week

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**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ON TAIWAN SINCE WORLD WAR II**—T. H. Shen—Comstock Pub. (Cornell Univ. Press), 399 p., maps, \$7.50. Detailed study of a record of economic and social improvement through technological development and intensive cultivation under tropical and subtropical conditions.

**ALL ABOUT FIRE**—Raymond Holden—Random House, 141 p., photographs, illus. by Clifford Stead, Jr., \$1.95. Tells boys and girls about important U.S. fires and man's techniques for using and fighting fire.

**ALONE THROUGH THE DARK SEA**—Thomas Whiteside—Braziller, 174 p., \$5. Three stories centering around the behavior of voyagers in isolation, including a step-by-step account of the unmanned spacecraft Mariner 2.

**ANALYTICAL MECHANICS OF GEARS**—Earle Buckingham—Dover, 546 p., diagrams, paper, \$2.75. Unabridged republication of work first published in 1949.

**THE ARABS: A Narrative History from Mohammed to the Present**—Anthony Nutting—Potter, Clarkson N., 424 p., maps, \$6.50. An absorbing tale of the personalities that made Arab history, written by an English diplomat.

**THE BARK CANOES AND SKIN BOATS OF NORTH AMERICA**—Edwin Tappan Adney and Howard I. Chapelle—Smithsonian Inst. (GPO), 242 p., illus., \$3.25. History and construction of early American canoes, region by region.

**BIRDS OF THE NEW YORK AREA**—John Bull, foreword by Roger Tory Peterson—Harper, 540 p., illus., maps, \$8.95. Provides annotated reports on more than 400 species with information on ecology, breeding, migration, and distribution trends.

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\$7.50. Winner of the John Burroughs Award, first published in 1948, presents the well-known ornithologist's observations and adventures while watching and photographing birds in many parts of the country.

**CASEBOOK ON INTERPERSONAL BEHAVIOR IN ORGANIZATIONS**—Abraham Zalesnik and David Moment—Wiley, 587 p., \$7.95. These case studies, describing what individuals and groups do and say at work, provide a wide variety of material analyzing behavior by means of behavioral scientific concepts.

**COMMON TREES OF PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**—Elbert L. Little, Jr. and Frank H. Wadsworth—Forest Service (GPO), 548 p., illus., \$4.25. Nontechnical reference book, describes in detail 250 of the more important tree species and identifies an additional 130 species.

**CORN AMONG THE INDIANS OF THE UPPER MISSOURI**—George F. Will and George E. Hyde—Univ. of Neb. Press, 323 p., illus., paper, \$1.60. Reprint (1917).

**THE DYNAMICS OF INTERPERSONAL BEHAVIOR**—Abraham Zalesnik and David Moment—Wiley, 520 p., \$7.95. Concluding that technical, social and organizational environments are products of what man experiences internally, the authors analyze interpersonal relations as aspects of individual motivation and development in relation to environment.

**THE FIRST BOOK OF HOSPITALS**—Harold Coy—Watts, F., 81 p., photographs, \$2.65. A look at the complex of units and services that make up the modern hospital, with glossary and career information.

**FIRST COURSE IN MATHEMATICAL LOGIC**—Patrick Suppes and Shirley Hill—Blaisdell, 274 p., \$6.50. Introduces the student to the concept of axioms and the derivation of theorems from axioms, though rigorous this treatment has been used in classes of selected elementary school students and college students.

**FUNDAMENTAL PHENOMENA IN THE MATERIAL SCIENCES, Vol. 1: Sintering and Plastic Deformation**—L. J. Bonis and H. H. Hausner, Eds.—Plenum Press, 134 p., illus., \$9.50. Up-to-date information for practicing engineers and research workers.

**GEMS, MINERALS, CRYSTALS AND ORES: The Collector's Encyclopedia**—Richard M. Pearl—Odyssey Press, 320 p., color photographs, illus., \$6.95. An authoritative handbook for the gem cutter, collector and hobbyist.

**GENETICS**—H. Kalmus—Doubleday, rev. ed., 268 p., illus., paper, \$1.45. Covers the science of genetics from the basic concepts of genes and chromosomes to the more complicated questions of radiation genetics, mutations and eugenics.

**GOOD DIGGING: The Story of Archaeology**—Dorothy and Joseph Samachson—Rand McNally, 224 p., photographs, maps, paper, \$1.65. Unabridged reprint (1960).

**THE GREAT IDEAS TODAY, 1964**—Robert M. Hutchins and Mortimer J. Adler, Eds.-in-Chief; Otto Bird, Exec. Ed.—Encyclopaedia Britannica (Atheneum), 580 p., photographs, \$10. Relates outstanding

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ing events of contemporary life and thought to the accumulated wisdom of the past with emphasis in this volume on the relation between the United States and Europe.

**HEALTH ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING**—Gordon M. Dunning—U.S. AEC (GPO), 56 p., illus., paper, 25¢. Brings together the highlights of what is known about radiations and other health aspects of nuclear testing in the atmosphere.

**HOW NATIONS NEGOTIATE**—Fred Charles Ikle—Harper, 274 p., \$5.95. Systematic study of the tactics and strategies of negotiation, shows how nations negotiate for side-effects, the ways they are steered by pressure groups within their own countries and how they come eventually to terms.

**THE NATURE AND CHEMISTRY OF HIGH POLYMERS**—Kenneth F. O'Driscoll—Reinhold, 111 p., diagrams, paper, \$1.95. Addressed to chemists, students and graduates who have not had formal training in the subject.

**NOT UNDER OATH: Recollections and Reflections**—John Kieran—Houghton, 282 p., photographs, \$5. Autobiographical remembrances of a naturalist, columnist and gifted writer.

**ORBITAL SPACE FLIGHTS: The Physics of Satellite Motion**—Howard S. Seifert and Mary Harris Seifert—Holt, 138 p., illus., \$2.50; paper, \$1.28. Discusses fundamental physical ideas such as momentum and energy, and illustrates them with numerical examples from space applications, physics of launchings, re-entry and orbiting.

**SEA OF THE BEAR: Journal of a Voyage to Alaska and the Arctic, 1921**—M. A. Ransom with Eloise Katherine Engle—U.S. Naval Institute, 119 p., photographs, maps, \$5. Young Coast Guardsman's diary giving an account of Bering Sea Patrol duty nearly half a century ago.

**THE SPACE AROUND US**—A. Edward Tyler—Harper, 239 p., photographs, diagrams, \$4.95. A simply written, comprehensive survey of what we know about the geography and climate in the oceans of space around us, about natural and artificial orbiting bodies, communication and tracking, and the tools for space exploration, including space log of all launchings to mid-May 1964.

**THE TUAREG: Nomads and Warriors of the Sahara**—Sonia Bleeker—Morrow, 158 p., illus. by Kisa N. Sasaki, \$2.75. About the history and customs of an ancient people in West Africa, for boys and girls.

• Science News Letter, 86:268 October 24, 1964

## Nature Note

### Rosary Pea

► BEWARE of a bright red pea bearing a jet black cap. It looks beautiful, but it is deadly poisonous.

The bright shiny shells of the rosary or jequirity pea, also known as crabs-eye, hide the deadly poison abrin, one of the most potent toxic poisons known. Once the pea is chewed and swallowed, the abrin slowly spreads and causes nausea, vomiting, weakness, trembling and sometimes death.

A single pea when chewed thoroughly can release enough poison to kill an adult. From two to four ounces of seeds can be fatal to a horse. Cattle, goats and dogs are more resistant to the lethal effects. The toxic dose of the seed depends on whether it is first chewed before swallowed. If unbroken, the seed coat is hard enough to keep the poison from spreading.

Rosary peas grow in flat, brown pods on perennial woody vines which can twist and climb on other plants to a height of 20 feet. The seeds are about a quarter of an inch long and are ovoid in shape.

This attractive member of the bean family grows in the tropics and subtropics. It was introduced into Florida and grown for the bright seeds which are often strung together to make necklaces, bead jewelry and rosaries, hence the name. Children often gather the pretty seeds for playing games, unaware of the hidden death inside.

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