

# Books of the Week

**TO SERVE YOU:** To get books, send us a check or money order to cover retail price. Address Book Dept., SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 1719 N St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. In the case of free publications order direct from issuing organizations.

**AMERICAN WOOL HANDBOOK:** A Practical Text and Reference Book for the Entire Wool Industry—Werner Von Bergen and Herbert R. Mauersberger—*Textile Book Publishers*, 2d ed., 1055 p., illus., \$8.00. Including history of the industry, technical information and an ample bibliography.

**BIRDS OF PREY OF NORTHEASTERN NORTH AMERICA**—Leon Augustus Hausman—*Rutgers University Press*, 164 p., illus., \$3.75. A beautiful book for bird students and bird watchers.

**CHEMISTRY:** A Course for High Schools—John C. Hogg, Otis E. Alley and Charles L. Bickel—*Van Nostrand*, 2d ed., 555 p., illus., \$2.88. The chapter on atomic structure and atomic energy is completely rewritten.

**THE CHILD IS RIGHT:** A Challenge to Parents and Other Adults—James Hemming and Josephine Balls—*Longmans, Green*, 176 p., illus., \$2.25. Written about British children but useful and interesting for American parents as well.

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES FOR NURSES**—Albert G. Bower and Edith B. Pilant—*Saunders*, 6th ed., 657 p., illus., \$4.00.

**THE CULTIVATED SPECIES OF PRIMULA**—Walter C. Blasdale—*University of California Press*, 284 p., illus., \$7.50. A book for flower lovers as well as botanists.

**DETOXICATION MECHANISMS:** The Metabolism of Drugs and Allied Organic Compounds—R. Tecwyn Williams—*Wiley*, 288 p., \$5.50. An account of the chemical changes that foreign organic compounds undergo in the animal body. Intended not only for specialists but also for students, research men and others.

**THE ESSENTIALS OF PLANT BIOLOGY**—Frank D. Kern—*Harper*, 440 p., illus., \$4.00. An account of how life—individual and racial—is maintained in plants upon which mankind is so dependent. A text in elementary botany which is very readable for the general reader.

**GOOD HEALTH IS GOOD BUSINESS**—Joint Subcommittee on Health of the NPA Agriculture, Business and Labor Committees—*National Planning Association*, 44 p., paper, 25 cents.

**INDUSTRIAL WEIGHING**—Douglas M. Conside—*Reinhold*, 553 p., illus., \$10.00. On the design, construction and operation of scales and intended especially for the users of these important instruments.

**MARRIAGE COUNSELING PRACTICE**—John F. Cuber—*Appleton*, 175 p., \$2.25. A non-technical book intended to be useful alike to counselor and to client. The limitations of marriage counseling service as well as recommended practice are discussed.

**NATURE OF LIFE:** A Study on Muscle—A. Szent-Gyorgyi—*Academic Press*, 91 p., 7 pl., \$3.00. A series of lectures written in the United States for the University of Birmingham and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**PACIFIC DISCOVERY**, Vol. 1, No. 1—Don

Greame Kelley, Ed.—*California Academy of Sciences*, 32 p., illus., bi-monthly, single copies 50 cents, \$3.00 a year. Containing beautifully illustrated articles by intellectual adventurers in many scientific fields. Order subscriptions from the California Academy, 2057 Center St., Berkeley 4, Calif.

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON TECHNICAL NEEDS IN PRESS, RADIO, FILM FOLLOWING THE SURVEY IN TWELVE WAR DEVASTATED COUNTRIES**—*United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*, 189 p., paper, \$1.20 plus postage direct from UNESCO, 19, Avenue Kleber, Paris—16, France.

**THE RUFFED GROUSE:** No. 2, 1948—*Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania*, 60 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. The second issue of a publication which first appeared in 1944, containing interesting articles not all confined to ornithology.

**SAFETY FOR THE HOUSEHOLD**—National Bureau of Standards—*Govt. Printing Office*, 190 p., illus., paper, 75 cents. Covering all sorts of hazards in the home from leaking refrigerator gas to loose button eyes on toy animals.

**TECHNIQUE OF MICROWAVE MEASUREMENT**—Carol G. Montgomery, Ed.—*McGraw-Hill*, 939 p., illus., \$10.00. The collective result of work done in many laboratories during the war by thousands of researchers as background to the development of radar.

**THEORY AND APPLICATION OF MICROWAVES**—Arthur B. Bronwell and Robert E. Beam—*McGraw-Hill*, 470 p., illus., \$6.00. Especially for engineers.

**WELDING HELPS FOR FARMERS**—James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation, 431 p., illus., \$1.00.

**YOUTH IN DESPAIR**—Ralph S. Banay—*Coward-McCann*, 239 p., \$3.00. About juvenile delinquency.

*Science News Letter, March 20, 1948*

## ENGINEERING

### Sun-caused "Snowstorm" Discovered on Television

➤ SNOWSTORMS caused by the sun are the latest difficulty encountered in television.

The "snowstorms" are a type of visual interference well known to owners of television sets. This streaking, resembling a violent snowstorm, is usually blamed on auto ignition interference.

Now, British Broadcasting Corporation engineers believe they have found a particularly violent television snowstorm caused by radio waves from the sun.

The sun-caused snowstorm was discovered last August, E. C. Drewe and D.

Maurice of the BBC research department have reported to the British journal, *Nature* (Jan. 31). It was all over in a minute, but the violent interference with a television broadcast was so impressive that the engineers set out to find the cause. The nature of the disturbance made them suspect the sun. A check with records of solar noises verified their suspicion.

*Science News Letter, March 20, 1948*

## Science Service Radio

➤ LISTEN in to the 18th anniversary of "Adventures in Science" over Columbia Broadcasting System at 3:15 p.m. EST Saturday, March 27. Dr. Warren Thompson, director of Scripps Institution for Population Research, will be the guest of Watson Davis, director of Science Service. Dr. Thompson, who launched the program in 1930, will discuss new aspects of the same talk he gave then—Our Future Population.

*Science News Letter, March 20, 1948*



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