

REFERENCES TO THE TUATARA IN THE STEPHEN ISLAND LETTER BOOK—Karl P. Schmidt—*Chicago Natural History Museum*, 10 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. Notes on a lizard-like reptile, now almost extinct, and living only in New Zealand.

RENAL FUNCTION: Transactions of the Third Conference—Stanley E. Bradley—*Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation*, 210 p., illus., \$3.50. Bringing together men from various branches of science to discuss this common problem.

RESOURCES FOR FREEDOM—President's Materials Policy Commission—*Govt. Printing Office*, illus., paper, Vol. I, Foundations for Growth and Security, 184 p., \$1.25; Vol. II, The Outlook for Key Commodities, 210 p., \$1.50; Vol. III, The Outlook for Energy Sources, 43 p., 50 cents; Vol. IV, The Promise of Technology, 228 p., \$1.75; Vol. V, Selected Reports to the Commission, 154 p., \$1.25. Of great interest to those who want to know what lies ahead.

THE SCIENTIFIC PAPERS OF JAMES CLERK MAXWELL—W. D. Niven, Ed.—*Dover*, 1488 p., illus., \$10.00. This edition is complete and unabridged from the edition of 1890. Scientists and students alike will enjoy reading in Maxwell's own words accounts of the problems he solved.

TRANSACTIONS OF JOINT MEDICAL-LEGAL CONFERENCE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING: A Panel Discussion on Administration of Workmen's Compensation Laws—A. J. Lanza and others—*Industrial Hygiene Foundation*, 46 p., paper, 75 cents.

ULTRASONIC PHYSICS—E. G. Richardson—*Elsevier*, 285 p., illus., \$5.00. Telling what has been accomplished in this new science, with emphasis on the ultrasonic interferometer as a precision laboratory tool.

UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION IN THE UNITED NATIONS—Report by the President to the Congress—*Govt. Printing Office*, 324 p., paper, 65 cents. "The United Nations," says the President, "has been the mainstay of our work to build a peaceful and decent world."

VOCATIONAL SERVICES FOR PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC PATIENTS—Thomas A. C. Rennie and Mary F. Bozeman—*Harvard University Press*, 100 p., paper, \$1.25. Results of a study to determine the extent to which patients in psychiatric out-patient clinics have vocational problems. About 79 per cent do.

WOODWORK FOR THE BEGINNER—Franklin H. Gottshall—*Bruce*, 139 p., illus., \$4.00. Suitable for use in classes in woodworking, the directions for making simple articles for the home do not assume any previous experience in any of the operations involved.

WORLD NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER FOR PEACE AND PLENTY: Report of the First National Conference on International Economic and Social Development—Thomas B. Keehn, Chairman—*First National Conference*, 198 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. The purpose of this conference was to consider the challenge provided by the billion people living in underdeveloped areas and the possibilities created by Point IV.

*Science News Letter*, July 19, 1952

Untreated *pilings* in British Columbia coastal waters sometimes have been eaten through and rendered useless in a year's time by marine borers, more destructive to timbers than decay.

## AERONAUTICS

# Helicopters in Arctic

➤ THE EVER-EXPANDING field of usefulness of the helicopter will soon include rescue work in the arctic where weather and terrain make operations with ground equipment or ordinary airplanes difficult or impossible.

For this purpose, the Royal Canadian Air Force is getting six special craft built by the Helicopter Corporation of Morton, Pa.

The type ordered is the H-21A Work Horse which can operate in temperatures down to minus 65 degrees Fahrenheit, is capable of long-range operations and has space for 12 litters or 14 seats in addition to its two-man crew.

Its heating system not only keeps the cabin warm but also warms up the engine, transmission and controls. It is powered by a Wright Cyclone 9 engine, said to be the largest engine ever installed in a production model helicopter.

When the first helicopters were developed many experts saw little of practical value in them and predicted that they would not be important in aviation. But the war in Korea has proved differently. There helicopters are doing valiant work in removing wounded men to the rear, rescuing trapped men, delivering troops and equipment to forward positions and serving in reconnaissance.

Important as the helicopter has proved itself in military affairs, it will probably play an even more important part in civilian activities. It is already in successful use in delivering mail from central postoffices to others in the neighborhood.

One probable job, when more helicopters

## ENTOMOLOGY

## Coals to Newcastle— Beetle to South Pacific

➤ LIKE SHIPPING coals to Newcastle, the University of California recently airmailed 50 live *Vedalia* beetles to the Samoan Islands in the far South Pacific to fight the cottony cushion scale.

It was just 64 years ago, 1888 to be exact, that a similar scale infestation was wiped out in California when the U. S. Department of Agriculture imported the one-eighth-inch-long beetles from Australia.

At that time the cottony cushion scale was completely controlled and there has been no trouble since 1888—except in recent years following application of DDT and other new organic insecticides for control of other pests. Use of these insecticides destroys the beetles and thus permits the scale to increase to destructive levels.

The predatory beetles are sent in special, flat boxes of porous wood, so light they may be put in envelopes and air mailed readily to distant parts of the globe.

The *Vedalia* beetle has been distributed to 65 different countries and geographical areas of the world since 1890.

*Science News Letter*, July 19, 1952

are available, is to serve as feeders from neighboring cities to transcontinental and other airways and the airliners that travel these routes.

Early helicopters were one-man craft. Helicopters that carry a dozen men are now common, and ones large enough to carry twice the present passenger load are under construction.

What is reported to be the largest helicopter yet built is the jet-powered XH-17, constructed by the Howard Hughes aircraft company and now undergoing ground tests, which is designed for cargo carrying. Particularly suitable for the short-range moving of heavy military equipment, in operation it will straddle its cargo much as the lumber lift used in timber straddles a heavy log.

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