

Books of the Week

For the editorial information of our readers, books received for review since last week's issue are listed. For convenient purchase of any U. S. books in print, send a remittance to cover retail price (postage will be paid in U. S.) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

ANTOINE LAVOISIER, SCIENTIST, ECONOMIST, SOCIAL REFORMER—Douglas McKie—*Schuman*, 440 p., illus., \$6.00. A reader in the history of science at the University of London writes this biography of the French chemist famous for finding the composition of air and for his work on explosives.

ARTHRITIS—AND THE MIRACLE DRUGS—Alton L. Blakeslee—*Public Affairs Committee*, 32 p., illus., paper, 25 cents. This new edition is revised in cooperation with the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation and the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Disease. Written for the patient and general public, this booklet is comprehensive and authoritative.

BETWEEN PACIFIC TIDES: An Account of the Habits and Habitats of Some Five Hundred of the Common, Conspicuous Seashore Invertebrates of the Pacific Coast Between Sitka, Alaska, and Northern Mexico—Edward F. Ricketts and Jack Calvin, revised by Joel W. Hedgpeth—*Stanford University Press*, 3d ed., 502 p., illus., \$6.00. John Steinbeck, in a foreword, says of this book for laymen, "It is designed more to stir curiosity than to answer questions."

CASE RECORD FROM A SONNETORIUM—Merrill Moore—*Twayne*, 56 p., illus., \$1.50. An emi-

nent psychiatrist who is the world's most indefatigable sonneteer, dissects the doctor's calling with humor and insight. His poetical case reports are illuminated by cartoons by Edward St. John Gorey. Suggested for Christmas giving.

COOKING WITH CURRY—Florence Brobeck—*Barrows*, 192 p., \$2.95. Unusual recipes calling for that Indian powder which may contain from 15 or 20 up to 40 or 50 herbs, spices and seeds. A sample of curry powder comes with the book.

DR. HOWE AND THE FORSYTH INFIRMARY—Rollo Walter Brown—*Harvard University Press*, 188 p., illus., \$3.50. The Forsyth Infirmary gives free dental service to tens of thousands of poor children; Dr. Howe did pioneering work there as chief of research.

HOW TO BUILD YOUR HOME IN THE WOODS—Bradford Angier—*Sheridan House*, 310 p., illus., \$3.50. If you have always dreamed of building your own log cabin "away from it all," this book will help you make the dreams come true with simple instructions on every step from selecting your site to furnishing and living in the completed cabin.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1951—F. J. M. Stratton, Ed.—*Cambridge University Press*, 108 p., paper, 70 cents. Annual reports of member unions.

THE MOBILITY OF PNEUMOCONIOTIC DEPOSITS—Paul Gross and Jack H. U. Brown—*Mellon Institute*, 12 p., illus., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. These deposits are the microscopic and sub-microscopic granules of inhaled foreign material.

PALEOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF EARTH PROCESSES (CONDENSED EDITION)—Ralph L. Caine—*Caine*, 89 p., illus., paper, \$2.50. The author, a lawyer and prospector, presents his somewhat unconventional theories of geology.

PERFORMANCE OF CONCRETE PAVEMENT ON GRANULAR SUBBASE—Carl E. Vogelgesang and W. E. Chastain—*Highway Research Board*, 36 p., illus., paper, 60 cents. Reports indicating that granular bases and subbases are effective in preventing pumping.

SCIENCE AND THE SOCIAL ORDER—Bernard Barber—*Free Press*, 288 p., \$4.50. Bringing together and systematizing studies that have been made on the social aspects of science and discussing the kind of political climate in which science thrives.

STARS IN THE MAKING—Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin—*Harvard University Press*, 160 p., illus., \$4.25. Describing clearly for the layman the great drama of the birth and death of the stars, a story which has taken thousands of millions of years to develop. The author is an astronomer at Harvard University.

SYSTEMATICS OF FLOWERING PLANTS: An Introduction—Patricia Mann—*Pitman*, 307 p., illus., \$4.50. To teach the student and nature

lover how to classify and identify flowering plants.

WHAT THE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION IS DOING FOR CLEANER AIR—*Mellon Institute*, 6 p., paper, free upon request to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

THE WORLD OF NATURAL HISTORY: As Revealed in the American Museum of Natural History—John Richard Saunders—*Sheridan House*, 321 p., illus., \$5.00. Takes the reader on a personally conducted trip around the museum to see the interesting exhibits and meet the staff of scientists.

Science News Letter, November 8, 1952

DENTISTRY

Early Second Teeth May Foretell Overweight

► CHILDREN WHO get their second teeth early may be destined to be fat little boys and girls and overweight men and women struggling with reducing diets.

Evidence showing a relationship between obesity in children and early or premature eruption of second teeth was reported by Drs. E. E. Hunt, P. S. Peckos and P. C. Fry of the Forsyth Dental Infirmary for Children at the Symposium on Nutrition in Boston sponsored by the Harvard School of Public Health and the New England Post-graduate Medical Assembly.

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TECHNOLOGY

Navy Process Saves Banged-up Fuel Drums

► MANY BATTERED fuel barrels destined for the scrap heap now can be made as good as new by a speedy reconditioning process operated in Norfolk, Va., by the Navy's Fuel Supply Depot.

The process, which turns out a good-as-new drum each 30 seconds, can reclaim leaky, rusty and dented barrels for only 71 cents each. New drums cost \$7 each. Over a month's time, the process saved the Navy almost \$90,000.

The battered containers first are straightened on their ends by a machine that takes the kinks out of the rims. Then a "dedenter" literally blows the dents out of the drum with high-pressure air. Diamond-shaped links in a chain scrape away rust on the inside of the barrel before a solution of hot caustic soda goes to work on it. Wire brushes flying around the outside of the drum clean off scale and loose paint. Leaks are plugged, paint is sprayed on and an infrared drying oven winds up the treatment. From start to finish the process takes about 30 minutes.

Sprayed on the inside with a fog of atomized preservative oil, the drums are sealed air-tight and then put in storage. They are protected so well by the preservative that they can be stored satisfactorily in the open for 18 months without further attention.

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