

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) to Book Department, Science Service, 1719 N Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C. Request free publications direct from publisher, not from Science Service.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE FOUNDATION—*Mellon Institute*, 13 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Explaining the functions of this non-profit research association.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, VOL. IX, No. 34, September, 1952—*British Association for the Advancement of Science*, 163 p., illus., paper, six shillings. Containing the addresses of the president, and the presidents of the sections at the centennial meeting of the Association.

ADVANCEMENTS IN WOOD RESEARCH AND TIMBER ENGINEERING—*Timber Engineering Company*, 31 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 1319 18th St., Washington 6, D. C. Describing research in the use and treatment of wood.

THE ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1946 WITH AMENDMENTS THROUGH THE EIGHTY-SECOND CONGRESS—Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, Carl T. Durham, Chairman—*Govt. Printing Office*, 83 p., paper, free upon request to the House Document Room, U.S. Capitol, Washington 25, D. C. A collection of statutory material concerning the development and control of atomic energy.

AVON SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY READER, Volume 1, Number 1—Sol Cohen, Ed—*Avon*

Novels, 128 p., illus., paper, 35 cents, Quarterly. Containing new stories for science fiction fans.

BEEF: FACTS FOR CONSUMER EDUCATION—Irene H. Wolgamot—*Govt. Printing Office*, Agriculture Information Bulletin 84, 21 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. Useful information about the various cuts of meat, their prices, and the proportion of lean meat available.

CANCER: New Approaches, New Hope—Boris Sokoloff—*Devin-Adair*, 243 p., \$3.75. An evaluation of the newest methods of treatment, intended to dispel ignorance and unnecessary fears.

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE THEORY OF THE LIVING ORGANISM—W. E. Agar—*Melbourne University Press (Cambridge University Press)*, 2d ed., 235 p., \$3.75. Of interest to the philosophical reader concerned with biology.

EVOLUTION IN THE GENUS *DROSOPHILA*—J. T. Patterson and W. S. Stone—*Macmillan*, 610 p., illus., \$8.50. An analysis of what the fruit fly has contributed to knowledge of evolution during the present century.

FACTS ABOUT FOODS—H. J. Heinz Company—*Mellon Institute*, 16 p., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa. Contains a table showing the nutritive values of various foods.

THE FIRST BOOK OF BEES—Albert B. Tibbets—*Franklin Watts*, 69 p., illus., \$1.75. Telling children of the structure, habits and social life of these useful insects.

THE FIRST BOOK OF TRUCKS—Campbell Tatham—*Franklin Watts*, 45 p., illus., \$1.75. For children with curiosity about these giants of the highway.

THE FIRST BOOK OF WATER—Jo and Ernest Norling—*Franklin Watts*, 45 p., illus., \$1.75. Telling children what they want to know about water, not just in the drinking glass or the bathtub, but in clouds, snow and the ocean.

THE FORGOTTEN REPUBLICS—Clarence A. Manning—*Philosophical Library*, 264 p., illus., \$2.75. Pushed this way and that by the Germans on one side and the Russians on the other, the Baltic countries, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania nevertheless have kept their individuality. Here is an introduction to them.

GENERAL AND INORGANIC CHEMISTRY—P. J. Durrant—*Longmans, Green*, 2d ed., 671 p., illus., \$4.50. Important additions in this new edition are two new chapters on colloids and nuclear chemistry.

A HISTORY OF SCIENCE: Ancient Science Through the Golden Age of Greece—George Sarton—*Harvard University Press*, 646 p., illus., \$10.00. The intention of the author in this book was to reproduce not only the letter, but the spirit of his lectures which have captivated so many audiences.

THE INDIAN TRIBES OF NORTH AMERICA—John R. Swanton—*Govt. Printing Office*, 726 p.,

illus., \$3.50. Giving historical and linguistic information, origin of tribal name, location and other data.

INSECT ENEMIES OF WESTERN FORESTS—F. P. Keen—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Misc. Pub. No. 273, 280 p., illus., paper, \$1.00. Thousands of insect species are found in our forests. Some are beneficial, clearing up the debris on the forest floor. Worst of the harmful insects is the bark beetle which has killed more than 36 million trees in one national forest alone.

JOURNAL OF THE OPERATIONS RESEARCH SOCIETY OF AMERICA, VOLUME I, NUMBER 1—Thornton Page, Ed.—*Operations Research Society of America*, 32 p., paper, \$1.50, \$6.00 per year. Operations research is a new science developed during the war to handle such practical military problems as how to plan the pattern for submarine search. It now is finding non-military uses.

MANUAL OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY—George D. Whitmore and others—*American Society of Photogrammetry*, 2d ed., 876 p., illus., \$12.50. Providing in a single volume the modern American practices for professional and lay workers in photogrammetry, which is the science of obtaining reliable measurements from photographs.

MARKETING AND MANUFACTURING SERVICES AND MARGINS FOR TEXTILES—L. D. Howell—*Govt. Printing Office*, USDA Technical Bulletin No. 1062, 294 p., paper, 60 cents. Because cotton and wool grown in the United States face competition from foreign-grown and synthetic fibers, increased efficiency in the whole chain of marketing is important.

NINETEENTH-CENTURY ART GLASS—Ruth Webb Lee—*Barrows*, 128 p., illus., \$4.00. Aid in identifying and evaluating the fancy, colorful glass that was produced in the later Victorian days for ladies to place on their ornate mantels and what-nots.

THE OLDEST STORIES IN THE WORLD—translation and comments by Theodor H. Gaster—*Viking*, 238 p., illus., \$5.00. These stories were told nearly 4,000 years ago by the peoples of the Near East and were left inscribed on clay tablets.

OMNIBUS OF SCIENCE FICTION—Groff Conklin—*Crown*, 562 p., \$3.50. A big bundle of 43 stories of which two are full-length novels, including some by new writers and a few classics.

THE ORTHOPEDIC APPLIANCES PROGRAM AT MELLON INSTITUTE: The First Five Years—George H. Young—*Mellon Institute*, 13 p., illus., paper, free upon request direct to publisher, 4400 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHIATRY: Psychiatric Prolegomena—Harold Palmer—*Philosophical Library*, 70 p., \$2.75. The intention of the author is, by defining the terms he employs, to help establish a theory and practice of psychiatry which can be communicated and thus contribute to the science of ecology.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL APPROACH TO THE LOWER ANIMALS—J. A. Ramsay—*Cambridge University Press*, 148 p., illus., \$2.75. The author has restricted himself to such parts of the subject as are susceptible to broad generalization. Exceptions are omitted on the theory that students

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would know that any broad generalization must have exceptions.

PSYCHIATRY AND THE LAW—Manfred S. Guttmacher and Henry Weihofen—*Norton*, 476 p., \$7.50. The chief medical officer of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore, a psychiatrist, has joined efforts with a professor of law at the University of New Mexico to produce this practical guide on medicolegal psychiatry for students and practitioners of law and medicine.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS—William Marshall MacNevin and Thomas Richard Sweet—*Harper*, 247 p., illus., \$3.75. A short text with experiments selected for the needs of chemistry majors, and pre-medical and pre-pharmacy students.

STANDARD AIRCRAFT HANDBOOK—Stuart Leavell and Stanley Bungay, Eds.—*Aero*, 159 p., illus., paper, \$1.50. A pocket-size reference book for aircraft workers.

STUDIES IN ELASTIC STRUCTURES—A. J. S. Pippard—*Edward Arnold*, 361 p., \$11.50. Concerning the stresses in such structures as rings, wheels, bridge girders, lattice frames and arches.

THEORY OF ELECTRIC POLARISATION—C. J. F. Böttcher—*Elsevier*, 492 p., \$10.00. For advanced students and experimental workers in both chemistry and physics. Written directly in English by the professor of physical chemistry at the University of Leyden, Netherlands.

WELLSPRINGS OF DEMOCRACY: Guidance for Local Societies—John M. Brewer—*Philosophical Library*, 232 p., \$4.50. By conducting our local societies in a genuinely democratic way, we build democracy on a firm base, the author believes. Here are instructions to guide presiding officers and members.

Science News Letter, November 29, 1952

INVENTION

"Cocktail Shaker" Washes Stockings

➤ A SILK, or nylon, stocking washer, the size of a cocktail shaker, has been invented by Donald McConaughy, Darien, Conn. Vanes inside produce a whirling motion in the soapy water when the washer is shaken up and down. The stockings can be rinsed in the same container. The patent is number 2,618,143.

Science News Letter, November 29, 1952

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GEOLOGY-BOTANY

Plants Spot Uranium

The kinds of plants that grow in various regions of the western states are clues to nearby valuable deposits of uranium and vanadium.

➤ **PLANTS CAN** be used to spot deposits of uranium and vanadium in the western states, a U. S. Geological Survey scientist has revealed.

The kinds of plants growing in the area are a clue to the valuable ore deposits. Analysis of the leaves of the plants will also tell if the plant has grown in uranium or vanadium ores. Certain plants can thus be used as a guide to exploration in a particular area, Dr. Helen L. Cannon concludes after a two-year survey of the plants of the Colorado Plateau. The study was part of a long-range program to explore and investigate uranium deposits being conducted by the Atomic Energy Commission.

Commonest of the uranium-indicating plants are rabbitbrush, shadscale, mormon tea, milkvetch and grasses. Junipers, scrub oak, serviceberry and cliffrose are also indicators.

Too much uranium makes plants ill, Dr. Cannon reports. This happens mainly on disturbed ground, where the ore metals are exposed to air and rain, making them soluble and available to the plants.

"Considerable uranium and vanadium" are absorbed by the roots of plants, and some work their way to the twigs and

leaves, where they can be detected by chemical analysis. Leaves of plants rooted in ore contain two to 100 parts per million of uranium, while the normal amount in plants where there are no uranium deposits is less than one part per million.

Science News Letter, November 29, 1952

GENERAL SCIENCE

Plan World Meeting On Childlessness

➤ **MORE PEOPLE** in the United States suffer from inability to have wanted children than from cancer, tuberculosis, heart disease, diabetes, cerebral palsy and poliomyelitis combined, Dr. Abner I. Weisman of New York, associate secretary general of the International Fertility Association, declared in New York.

To help these 15,000,000 Americans who are victims of barren marriages and the 10% of the world's population similarly afflicted, his association and the American Society for the Study of Fertility will sponsor the world's first Congress on Fertility and Sterility in New York next May 26-31.

Science News Letter, November 29, 1952

CHEMISTRY for Christmas

- ★ **THE MAGAZINE GIFT** for your friends who have a keen curiosity about the *why* and *how* of the chemical world.
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