

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

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