

# 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. Ask for free publication direct from issuing organization.

**BIOLOGICAL ANTAGONISM:** The Theory of Biological Relativity—Gustav J. Martin—*Blakiston*, 516 p., \$8.50. Contributing to an understanding of chemotherapy.

**BORN OF THOSE YEARS:** An Autobiography—Perry Burgess—*Holt*, 307 p., illus., \$4.00. The president of the Leonard Wood Memorial tells of a life spent fighting leprosy all over the world.

**COME TO THE CITY:** Ruth M. Tensen—*Reilly and Lee*, 42 p., illus., \$2.00. This reader for first- and second-graders, illustrated with handsome photographs, introduces the country child to life in the city.

**CONFERENCE ON PROBLEMS OF AGING:** Nathan W. Shock, Ed.—*Macy*, 194 p., illus., \$4.00. Conference papers by specialists from widely different fields, together with the discussion following each.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO EMBRYOLOGY:** Volume XXXIV, Nos. 222 to 230—*Carnegie Institution*, 196 p., illus., paper, \$8.75 (cloth, \$9.50). Another volume of technical papers by workers in this field.

**CURARE AND ANTI-CURARE AGENTS:** K. R. Unna and others—*New York Academy of Sciences, Annals*, Vol. 54, Art. 3, 240 p., illus., paper, \$4.00. Originally an Indian arrow poison, curare is now helpful in prolonging life.

**EFFECT OF SOIL TREATMENTS WITH DDT, BENZENE HEXACHLORIDE, AND TOXAPHENE ON TOBACCO, COTTON, AND COWPEAS:** Norman Allen and others—*Govt. Printing Office, USDA Technical Bulletin* No. 1047, 22 p., illus., paper, 15 cents. These insecticides, when used too heavily or continuously, affect not only the growth of plants but sometimes the taste or other characteristics of the crops; the experiments reported here give an idea how much can be safely used.

**ESSENTIALS IN PROBLEM SOLVING:** Zuce Kogan—*Zuce Kogan*, 79 p., illus., \$3.00. Designed by the author, a consulting engineer, to provide

practical aids in solving the problems of daily life.

**FACING THE FACTS ABOUT CANCER:** Dallas Johnson—*Public Affairs Committee*, Rev. ed., 32 p., illus., paper, 20 cents. The American Cancer Society and The National Cancer Institute join to present facts everyone should know about this disease.

**HEAVENS ON EARTH:** Utopian Communities in America 1680-1880—Mark Holloway—*Library Publishers*, 240 p., illus., \$4.75. The Oneida community was far from the only attempt at a perfect society, with peculiar customs and cultures. We are still forming Utopias.

**INCENTIVE MANAGEMENT:** A New Approach to Human Relationships in Industry and Business—James F. Lincoln—*Lincoln Electric Company*, 280 p., \$1.00. Describing the author's system of rewards and penalties based on workers' records, as opposed to collective bargaining.

**LIQUID EXTRACTION:** Robert E. Treybal—*McGraw*, 415 p., illus., \$7.50. A text for self-instruction as well as for class use.

**MONKEYS AS PETS:** Leonore Brandt—*All-Pets Magazine*, 96 p., illus., \$2.00. Information about the care of these pleasant, somewhat emotional pets by the curator of the Cincinnati Children's Zoo.

**PRICES OF APPAREL WOOL:** Albert M. Hermie—*Govt. Printing Office, USDA Technical Bulletin* No. 1041, 48 p., paper, 20 cents. The world conditions of supply and demand and how they determine the price of wool in this country.

**STRUCTURE AND TAXONOMIC VALUE OF THE DEWLAP IN SUGARCANE:** Ernst Artschwager—*Govt. Printing Office, USDA Technical Bulletin* No. 1033, 12 p., illus., paper, five cents. Different types of sugarcane can be distinguished according to the shape and development of the dewlap or joint triangle.

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a representative sample of the population. In a period of one year, they point out, more men enlisted voluntarily than were drafted. Students are not in the draftee group, either, and, until recently, married men were not a part of the group.

This means, they say, that it is to be expected that a high percentage of draftees would flunk either their physical or mental tests. The standards for acceptance, they claim, are now as low as during the peak of World War II.

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## INVENTION

### Lights on Shoes for Well-Dressed Boy

► RAY GUN in hand, superman sweater on, Hopalong Cassidy pistols at the belt, atomic disintegrator slung over shoulder and Roy Rogers cowboy hat on head—all this does not by any means complete the costume of the well dressed all-American boy. Now he has to have lights on his shoes. What's more, the lights must go on and off as he walks—or more correctly—runs around.

For inventing this illuminated shoe device, Nathan Rikelman, Bronx, N. Y., received patent 2,572,760—and the gratitude of the nation's fathers and mothers.

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## RADIO

### Turn Missiles Back on Enemy Is Future Hope

► OUR AIR Force might one day be able to turn enemy guided missiles in the air and send them back to attack the enemy which directed them at our shores in the first place.

The ability to do this, if it is achieved, is based on the simple fact that guided missiles are controlled in flight by radio signals. If we can hit upon the signals used to guide the missiles, we can guide them right back where they came from.

If we cannot make boomerangs out of the missiles, we might be able to confuse them. Jamming of the radio signals used by the enemy in steering the missiles to choice American targets would do the trick and perhaps cause them to crash before they reach their intended targets.

Of course, what the enemy can do to our guided missiles is a problem to worry our scientists. ORDNANCE (Nov.-Dec.) reports that developers of our guided missiles are known to have given great attention to methods which would foil enemy attempts either to jam our signals or to take over control of our missiles in the air.

Public announcement of the "Matador," new combat guided missile, states the magazine, must mean that our Air Force has reason to believe it can foil enemy attempts at jamming or stealing our guided missiles.

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## GENERAL SCIENCE

### Some Try for Low Mark

► A "SIGNIFICANT NUMBER" of draft inductees are flunking the Armed Forces Qualification Test—the Army's mental test—but are being passed anyway. The conclusion to be drawn is that most, but not all, the inductees who flunk but are administratively passed, deliberately tried for a low mark so they would not have to serve.

The Armed Forces Examining Station Policy Board passes inductees on the basis of their background. Men who graduated from high school, for instance, are in, no matter how low a mark they get on the test.

The actual number who flunk but who are administratively passed is classified in-

formation. Efforts to have it declassified on the grounds that this had nothing to do with national security, failed.

Selective Service headquarters has claimed that a very high percentage of the men they send to Army induction centers are turned back because they fail the mental test. Gen. Lewis H. Hershey has used a percentage of 50% for those turned back for either physical or mental reasons, but can provide no breakdown into the two categories.

This information is also classified by the Army.

However, Defense Department representatives claim that draft inductees are not