

Books of the Week

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AIRCRAFT STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS—G. N. Mangurian and Norman M. Johnston, Eds.—*Prentice-Hall*, 418 p., illus., \$8.00. Prepared by the engineering staff of the Glenn L. Martin Company.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE: A Study in National Character—Geoffrey Gorer—*Norton*, 246 p., \$3.00. A way of seeing ourselves as others see us—this time through the eyes of a British anthropologist.

THE ARCHITECTS MANUAL OF ENGINEERED SOUND SYSTEMS—*Radio Corporation of America*, 288 p., illus., loose-leaf with tab index, \$5.00. Including sound symbols, definitions and specifications with suggested applications of sound systems and typical layouts.

CHEMISTRY AT WORK—William McPherson, William Edwards Henderson and George Winegar Fowler—*Ginn*, rev. ed., 676 p., illus., \$2.88. An abundantly illustrated high-school text that is both attractive and interesting.

CHEMISTRY IN THE SERVICE OF MAN—Alexander Findlay—*Longmans, Green*, 7th ed., 390 p., illus., \$3.50. Giving the general reader an understanding of the implications and usefulness of modern advances in chemical science.

CHRISTIAN HUYGENS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY—A. E. Bell—*Longmans, Green*, 220 p., illus., \$4.50. The biography of a great scientist one of whose achievements was the discovery of the rings of Saturn.

COMPENDIO Y DESCRIPCION DE LAS INDIAS OCCIDENTALES—Antonio Vazquez de Espinosa, transcribed from the original manuscript by Charles Upson Clark—*Smithsonian Institution*, 801 p., paper. A very ancient work about the Americas rediscovered in the library of the Vatican. In Spanish.

THE CONTROL OF ATOMIC ENERGY: A Study of Its Social, Economic, and Political Implications—James R. Newman and Byron S. Miller—*McGraw-Hill*, 434 p., \$5. The senior author has acted as White House adviser on science and atomic energy legislation. A "must" book on the atomic energy shelf.

ELEMENTS OF NOMOGRAPHY—Raymond D. Douglass and Douglas P. Adams—*McGraw-Hill*, 209 p., illus., \$3.50. Although written especially for students of mathematics, it will interest all those concerned with putting mathematical or statistical facts in graphic form.

EMANUEL SWEDENBORG—Signe Toksvig—*Yale University Press*, 389 p., illus., \$5.00. This biography was made possible by a Guggenheim fellowship. The life of Swedenborg had many facets, one of which was science.

ENERGY SPECTRA OF SOME OF THE BRIGHTER STARS—C. G. Abbot and L. B. Aldrich—*Smithsonian Institution*, 9 p., illus., paper, 15 cents.

THE ESSENTIAL OILS: Vol. 1, History, Origin in Plants, Production, Analysis—Ernest Guenther—*Van Nostrand*, 427 p., illus., \$6.00. A systematic survey.

HANDBOOK ON INSECT ENEMIES OF FLOW-

ERS AND SHRUBS—C. A. Weigel and L. G. Baumhofer—*Govt. Printing Office*, 115 p., illus., paper, 35 cents. With an appendix on DDT.

THE HOUSE FOR YOU TO BUILD, BUY, OR RENT—Catherine Sleeper and Harold R. Sleeper—*Wiley*, 313 p., illus., \$5.00. About picking the site, planning the home, and understanding the mechanical features and the quality and cost of materials.

HEALTH OF ARC WELDERS IN STEEL SHIP CONSTRUCTION—Waldemar C. Dresen and others—*Govt. Printing Office*, 200 p., illus., paper, 55 cents. A survey made by the U. S. Public Health Service in cooperation with United States Maritime Commission and United States Navy.

HIROSHIMA—John Hersey—*Bantam*, 116 p., paper, 25 cents. A reprint of a best-selling story of five survivors of an atomic bombing; it originally appeared in the *New Yorker*.

MENTAL HEALTH IN MODERN SOCIETY—Thomas A. C. Rennie and Luther E. Woodward—*Commonwealth Fund*, 424 p., \$4.00. "War," say the authors, "warps the emotions and personalities of many who wage it and of many who watch." This book describes experience in re-building mental health.

MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE UNITED STATES—Bureau of Mines and Geological Survey—*Public Affairs Press*, 212 p., illus., \$5.00.

MODERN PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY—A. E. Bell—*Longmans, Green*, 224 p., illus., \$2.00. A text prepared for British students.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY—Ray Q. Brewster—*Prentice-Hall*, 840 p., illus., \$7.35. An outgrowth of experience in teaching organic chemistry to undergraduates in terms of the electronic and resonance theories.

OUR PLUNDERED PLANET—Fairfield Osborn—*Little, Brown*, 217 p., \$2.50. Having to do with the heedless destruction of natural resources.

PSYCHOSOCIAL MEDICINE: A Study of the Sick Society—James L. Halliday—*Norton*, 278 p., \$3.50. The author points out that the nation or the community, like the individual, has its physical ills linked with psychological sickness.

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICE—Frank G. Davis, Ed.—*International Textbook Company*, 638 p., \$3.75. Designed to aid counselors, school administrators and others in making education more personalized.

RESEARCH IN INDUSTRY: Its Organization and Management—C. C. Furnas, Ed.—*Van Nostrand*, 574 p., illus., \$6.50. Prepared by the Industrial Research Institute, Inc., for those interested in organizing or administering industrial research facilities.

SCIENCE YEAR BOOK OF 1948—J. D. Ratcliff, Ed.—*Doubleday*, 243 p., \$3.00. Articles selected from various popular magazines.

YOU CAN BE THIN! Slenderness Through Psychology—Herman Friedel—*Caxton House*, 117 p., \$2.00. Some points on the psychology of obesity with more on diet.

Science News Letter, March 27, 1948

ENGINEERING

Pacific Tides at Panama Higher than Atlantic

➤ THE average tidal range on the Pacific side of the Panama canal for years of record is 12.6 feet, it is stated in a prewar publication distributed by the Chief of Office, The Panama Canal. The greatest range recorded for successive tides is 21.6 feet.

On the Atlantic side, the average range is less than a foot, the leaflet states, while the greatest range recorded is 2.21 feet. Figures in the report of the Governor of the Panama Canal to the Secretary of War for the year ended June 30, 1946, show that during the year absolute tidal ranges at canal terminals were 21.5 feet on the Pacific coast and 2.46 feet on the Atlantic side.

These figures are given to correct an error in the *SCIENCE NEWS LETTER* for February 7, 1948, in which it was said that a proposed sealevel canal would be lockless except for one low construction to handle the approximately one-foot different tide elevations of the two oceans. The one-foot difference is that of mean sealevel rather than of tide elevations.

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ANYONE CAN USE A SLIDE RULE

Absolutely no math background needed if you have the **PRACTICAL SLIDE RULE MANUAL** by J. M. Klock, formerly Mathematician for the U. S. Navy and instructor in the Detroit Public Evening Schools. An absolutely non-technical explanation of how to use a slide rule for the fundamental math calculations. **STUDENTS** of all math, science, and technical subjects will find the use of a slide rule to be a great aid in their work. **SHOP AND TECHNICIANS:** special applications made to formulae from mathematics, engineering, aeronautics, air navigation, etc. The slide rule gives rapid solutions to all the basic formulae. **OFFICE:** and business administration applications are numerous. The slide rule is especially valuable in per cent and interest work, and cost accounting. The booklet includes chapters on these subjects. The slide rule is also a valuable rapid estimator.

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