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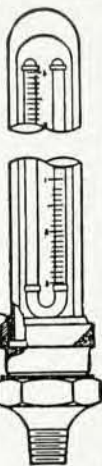
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science is producing a better world, although the progress is slow.

The essays are quite argumentative and many statements are made, without support, that are open to exception.

William E. Forsythe
Smithsonian Institution

THE PHILOSOPHICAL MAGAZINE, Natural Philosophy through the Eighteenth Century and Allied Topics. Edited by Allan Ferguson. Commemoration number to mark the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the magazine. 164 pp. Taylor and Francis Ltd., London, 1948. 15 shillings.

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Philosophical Magazine, the editors have devoted a commemorative number to a discussion of the history of the enterprise and the state of the science the journal represented at the time of its foundation. In contrast to many other journals, this is independently owned and not the organ of any institution or scientific body.

The topics discussed are astronomy, physics, chemistry, mathematics, engineering, and scientific instruments in the eighteenth century, by Sir H. Spencer-Jones, Herbert Dingle, J. R. Partington, J. F. Scott, Edgar C. Smith, and Robert S. Whipple, respectively. To round out the picture, there are two articles by Douglas McKie on the scientific societies, and one by F. Sherwood Taylor on the teaching of physical sciences during the same period. These well-written articles should appeal to all physicists who are interested in the development of physical science during the century after Newton.

I. Bernard Cohen
Managing Editor of *Isis*

MENDELEYEV: THE STORY OF A GREAT SCIENTIST. By Daniel Q. Posin. 345 pp. Whittlesey House, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$4.50.

This is the story rather than the formal biography of Dmitri Ivanovitch Mendeleyev (1834-1907), the great Russian chemist, best known for his periodic table of the elements. It is told in an informal narrative style with some admittedly fictional characters and happenings assisting its continuity and its background of Siberian and Russian life. Some scientists may object to these extra characters and events, to the extensive use of imagined conversations, and to the complete absence of specific footnote references. The book is not, however, intended principally for them but for the nonscientist, and accordingly performs the great service of presenting a master scientist as a human being interacting with the people and the civilization about him. This humanization, as opposed to the deification, of science and scientists in the mind of the layman is a matter so significant for the future as to demand every assistance available.

The book is one of those receiving honorable mention in the Whittlesey House-Science Illustrated Science Fellowship Contest for scientific books written for the layman. The author was formerly chairman of the department of physics at the University of Panama and staff member at the Radiation Laboratory and is now chairman of the department of physics at North Dakota State College.

Born in Russia and able to go directly to Russian source material, Posin has both the geographic and the scientific background to write such a book.

George H. Burnham
Norwich University

Books Received

MICROWAVES AND RADAR ELECTRONICS. By Ernest C. Polard and Julian M. Sturtevant. 426 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$5.00.

SUPERSONIC FLOW AND SHOCK WAVES. By R. Courant and K. O. Friedrichs. 464 pp. Interscience Publishers, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$7.00.

WEATHER FORECASTING. By S. W. C. Pack. 192 pp. Longmans, Green and Company, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$6.00.

GAS TABLES. By Joseph H. Keenan and Joseph Kaye. 238 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$5.00.

RADIO ENGINEERING. By E. K. Sandeman. 775 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City.

FOURIER TECHNIQUE IN X-RAY ORGANIC STRUCTURE ANALYSIS. By A. D. Booth. 106 pp. Cambridge University Press, The Macmillan Company, New York City, 1948. \$2.75.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTRIC WAVES. Second edition. By Hugh Hildreth Skilling. 245 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$4.00.

VACUUM MANIPULATION OF VOLATILE COMPOUNDS. By R. T. Sanderson. 162 pp. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York City, 1948. \$3.00.

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS CIRCULARS. Available from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Circular 460, Publications of the National Bureau of Standards 1901 to June 30, 1947. 375 pp. Seventy-five cents.

Circular 470, Precision Resistors and Their Measurement. By James L. Thomas. 32 pp. Twenty cents.

Circular 473, Measurement of Radioactive Isotopes. By Leon F. Curtiss. 12 pp. Five cents.

OFFICE OF TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORTS. May be ordered from the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C., with check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

German Wartime Developments in Infrared, PB 95308. 45 pp. \$3.00.

History of Radar (Four parts). Prepared under the direction of Henry E. Guerlac. 1,300 pp. Prices for photostat and microfilm copies: PB 93618 \$53.75 and \$9.00; PB 93619 \$55.00 and \$9.00; PB 93620 \$43.75 and \$9.00; PB 93621 \$13.75 and \$4.50.

Handbook of Radioactivity and Tracer Methodology, PB 93615. About 900 pp. \$20.00.

List of recent scientific and technical publications of British government agencies. Available without charge.

Late Notice!

Applications for National Research Fellowships in the natural sciences for 1949-50 (stipends from \$1,500 to \$5,000 plus tuition and fees) must be submitted before February 1 to the Fellowship Office, NRC, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington 25, D. C.

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