

The Nation Looks at Its Resources is a timely book in an attractive format. It should be widely read, and it should be in the personal libraries of both laymen and professionals with a special interest in the subject.

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Monomeric Acrylic Esters. Edward H. Riddle, Reinhold, New York, 1954. vii + 221 pp. Illus. \$5.

The title of this book is misleading unless the word *monomeric* is taken to imply a considerable concern with polymerization. In seven chapters, the author considers the esters of acrylic and methacrylic acids, with emphasis on their industrial importance. Fully one-half of the book is composed of two chapters entitled "Polymerization" and "Copolymerization," whereas, surprisingly, there is no chapter on "Preparation"! This subject is dealt with briefly in the introduction by a mention of the industrial processes. There is, however, a good chapter on "Reactions."

The remainder of the book is devoted to analytic methods, storage and handling, physical properties, and a delightful introductory chapter. The story of the pioneer investigations by Otto Röhm in the preparation and application of polymerized acrylate and methacrylate esters is very readable and of general interest.

The subjects of the several chapters are skillfully introduced in such a way that a reader with only slight acquaintance is first brought up to the level of the presentation. The documentation is extensive and international. This book will be useful to the academic chemist to read once, but it will be of reference value only to the industrial chemist.

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Books Reviewed in THE SCIENTIFIC MONTHLY

June

Science Awakening, B. L. Van der Waerden (Noordhoff). Reviewed by I. B. Cohen.

Galen of Pergamon, George Sarton (Univ. of Kansas Press). Reviewed by D. Fleming.

Béla Schick and the World of Children, Antoni Gronowicz (Abelard-Schuman). Reviewed by W. W. Waddell, Jr.

American Thought, Morris R. Cohen (Free Press). Reviewed by P. B. Perlman.

Psychotherapy and Personality Change, Carl R. Rogers and Rosalind F. Dymond, Eds. (Univ. of Chicago Press). Reviewed by A. T. Dittman.

Pajarito Plateau and Its Ancient People, Edgar L. Hewett; rev. by Bertha P. Dutton (Univ. of New Mexico Press). Reviewed by E. K. Reed.

Thoreau: a Century of Criticism, Walter Harding, Ed. (Southern Methodist Univ. Press). Reviewed by B. C. Hendricks.

The Microphysical World, William Wilson (Philosophical Library). Reviewed by R. B. Fischer.

Sea and Morality, Abram Kardiner (Bobbs-Merrill). Reviewed by D. W. Hastings.

Biological Applications of Freezing and Drying, R. J. C. Harris, Ed. (Academic Press). Reviewed by W. L. Simpson.

Wildcat Strike, Alvin W. Gouldner (Antioch Press). Reviewed by E. Forsey.

Coro-Coro, Paul A. Zahl (Bobbs-Merrill). Reviewed by D. Amadon.

Introduction to Atomic and Nuclear Physics, Henry Semat (Rinehart). Reviewed by W. P. Gilbert.

Atomic Science, Bombs and Power, David Dietz (Dodd, Mead). Reviewed by P. Morrison.

Art in Science: A Portfolio of 32 Paintings, Drawings and Photographs from Scientific American (Simon and Schuster). Reviewed by D. Roller.

Margins of the Sea, Maurice Burton (Harper). Reviewed by J. E. Bardach.

Modern Learning Theory, W. K. Estes, S. Koch, K. MacCorquodale, P. E. Meehl, C. G. Mueller, W. N. Schoenfeld, and W. V. Verplanck (Appleton-Century-Crofts). Reviewed by J. M. Stephens.

The Study of Personality, compiled by Howard Brand (Wiley; Chapman & Hall). Reviewed by R. H. Knapp.

Sailing Aerodynamics, John Morwood (Philosophical Library). Reviewed by S. Ober.

Practical Clinical Biochemistry, Harold Varley (Interscience; Heinemann). Reviewed by M. A. Andersch.

Our American Weather, George H. T. Kimble (McGraw-Hill). Reviewed by C. W. Thornthwaite.

Elements of Statistical Mechanics. D. ter Haar (Rinehart). Reviewed by J. Rothstein.

Numbers: Fun and Facts, J. Newton Friend (Scribner) and *Mathematical Puzzles and Pastimes*, Aaron Bakst (Van Nostrand; Macmillan). Reviewed by P. Rabino-witz.

Elements of Algebra, Howard Levi (Chelsea). Reviewed by H. L. Lee.

Pygmies and Dream Giants, Kilton Stewart (Norton). Reviewed by C. E. Snow.

Flash! Harold E. Edgerton and James R. Killian, Jr. (Branford). Reviewed by E. C. Purdy.

American Men of Science. vol. I, *The Physical Sciences*, Jacques Cattell, Ed. (Science Press).

Freaks and Marvels of Insect Life, Harold Bastin (Wyn). Reviewed by C. D. Michener.

Flowers of the South, Wilhelmina F. Greene and Hugo L. Boomquist (Univ. of North Carolina Press).

New Books

Über Sterine, Gallensäuren und verwandte Naturstoffe. Zweite, stark veränderte und erweiterte Auflage. H. Lettré, R. Tschesche, and H. Fernholz. Enke, Stuttgart, Germany, 1954. 445 pp. DM. 85.

Précis d'écologie animale. F. S. Bodenheimer. Payot, Paris, 1955. 315 pp. F. 1200.

Aux confins de la vie. Perspectives sur la biologie des virus. P. Morand. Masson, Paris, 1955. 171 pp. F. 850.

The Birth and Development of the Geological Sciences. Frank Dawson Adams. Dover, New York, ed. 2., 1955. 506 pp. Paper, \$1.95.

Traunts from Life. The rehabilitation of emotionally disturbed children. Bruno Böttelheim. Free Press, Glencoe, Ill., 1955. 511 pp. \$6.