

workaday world in which the covered wagons have just ground to a temporary halt along some sector of an advancing human frontier. An Englishman, faced with the same material, would—with Radcliffe-Brown—have raised the question of how society is possible at all, as if human beings were but anarchic schoolboys, to be tamed into orderly social relations by being made to choose sides on competing teams in some balanced social game.

Chapters 14 to 16 and 39 of the French edition have been omitted in this translation. Mendeleir (on page 160) should read Mendeleief. The book is well-made, but over-priced.

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## Inert Gases

**Argon, Helium, and the Rare Gases.** vol. 1, *History, Occurrence, and Properties*. The elements of the helium group. Gerhard A. Cook, Ed. Interscience, New York, 1961. xxii + 427 pp. Illus. \$17.50.

This is the first of two volumes that will deal with the chemistry, physics, and uses of the elements in group 0 of the periodic table. In explaining the title, the editor points out that argon and helium are not nearly as rare as numerous other elements. Hence, he reserves the term "rare gases" for neon, krypton, xenon, and radon. It is revealed that the amount of argon in the atmosphere is increasing as a consequence of potassium-40 decay. Helium is also formed as a product of radioactive decay, but the available supply in natural gas wells may soon be inadequate to take care of rapidly expanding scientific and industrial needs.

A fine historical chapter by Robert Havlik reviews the subject from the work of Henry Cavendish in 1784 and 1785 to the present period. Cavendish's isolation of an inert residue from air could not be adequately interpreted in its time and went largely unrecognized until the practical "discovery" of the gases by Ramsey and Rayleigh more than a century later. The work of these two investigators is treated in extensive detail. Considerable attention is also given to the development of commercial uses for argon and helium.

The following chapter, by Cook, deals with occurrence and origin of the gases. Their origin, the result of nuclear processes in stellar atmospheres, receives an up-to-date review. The earth's crust is considered, and the distribution of isotopes is correlated with nuclear decay processes in various minerals. The various proposals for determining the age of rocks by content of inert gases are evaluated, and the potassium-argon method is considered the most useful for this purpose.

The remaining chapters deal with nuclear relations, spectra, chemical properties, and liquid and solid states. A projected second volume will deal with analysis and applications. Volume 1 is well written and carefully edited. It contains an amazing amount of information about the inert gases and is impressively complete and up-to-date in its coverage of the literature.

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## New Books

### General

**Advances in Management of Southern Pine.** A. B. Crow, Ed. Louisiana State Univ. Press, Baton Rouge, 1961. 127 pp. Proceedings of the 10th annual forestry symposium sponsored by the university's School of Forestry.

**Artists of the Tundra and the Sea.** Dorothy Jean Ray. Univ. of Washington Press, Seattle, 1961. 182 pp. Illus. \$5.75.

**Christianity and Science.** Jean Abele. Translated from the French by R. F. Trevett. Hawthorn Books, New York, 1961. 140 pp. \$3.50.

**Communication in Africa.** A search for boundaries. L. B. Doob. Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Conn., 1961. 422 pp. \$7.50.

**Concise History of Logic.** Heinrich Scholz. Translated by Kurt F. Leidecker. Philosophical Library, New York, 1961. 153 pp. \$3.75.

**The Crazy Cantilever and Other Science Experiments.** Robert R. Kadesch. Harper, New York, 1961. 185 pp. Illus. \$3.95.

**Darwin and the Modern World View.** John C. Greene. Louisiana State Univ. Press, Baton Rouge, 1961. 149 pp. \$3.50.

**Eleusis and the Eleusinian Mysteries.** George E. Mylonas. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N.J., 1961. 366 pp. Illus. \$8.50.

**Encyclopedia of Russia and the Soviet Union.** Michael T. Florinsky, Ed. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1961. 638 pp. Illus. \$23.

**The Epic of Man.** By the editors of *Life*. Time, New York, 1961. 307 pp. Illus. \$13.50.

**Experimental Science for the Blind.** An instruction manual. A. Wexler. Pergamon, New York, 1961. 108 pp. Illus. \$5.

**Explorations in Science.** A book of basic experiments. Harry Milgrom. Dutton, New York, 1961. 127 pp. \$3.

**Exploring for Fun.** A young explorer's handbook. William A. Burns. Dutton, New York, 1961. 127 pp. Illus. \$3.

**Express to the Stars.** Rockets in action. Homer E. Newell. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1961. 336 pp. Illus. \$5.75.

**Foresight and Understanding.** An enquiry into the aims of science. Stephen Toulmin. Indiana Univ. Press, Bloomington, 1961. 115 pp. \$3.

**Human Values and Science, Art and Mathematics.** Lillian R. Lieber. Norton, New York, 1961. 149 pp. Illus. \$3.95.

**The Idea of Freedom.** vol. 2, *A Dialectical Examination of the Controversies about Freedom*. Mortimer J. Adler. Doubleday, Garden City, N.Y., 1961. 764 pp. \$7.50.

**I.G.Y.** The year of the new moons. J. Tuzo Wilson. Knopf, New York, 1961. 371 pp. Illus. \$5.95.

**Look at the Sky.** Eric Sloane. Duell, Sloan, and Pearce, New York, 1961. 92 pp. Illus. + plates. \$3.95.

**Man's New Image of Man.** Oliver L. Reiser. Boxwood Press, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1961. 182 pp. \$3.50.

**Media for the Millions.** The process of mass communication. Robert C. O'Hara. Random House, New York, 1961. 439 pp.

**Megalopolis.** The urbanized northeastern seaboard of the United States. Jean Gottmann. Twentieth Century Fund, New York, 1961. 821 pp. Illus. \$10.

**Mohave Ethnopsychiatry and Suicide.** The psychiatric knowledge and the psychic disturbances of an Indian tribe. G. Devereux. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1961 (order from Superintendent of Documents, GPO, Washington 25). 592 pp. Plates. \$3.25.

**The Natural Philosophy of Time.** G. J. Whitrow. Nelson, London, 1961. 335 pp. Illus. 42s.

**Peacetime Uses of Outer Space.** Simon Ramo, Ed. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1961. 286 pp. Illus. \$6.95.

**Proceedings First International Symposium on Military Psychology.** Frank A. Geldard and Marilyn C. Lee, Eds. Natl. Acad. of Sciences—Natl. Research Council, Washington, D.C., 1961. 236 pp. Illus.

**Reflections on Human Nature.** A. O. Lovejoy. Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, Md., 1961. 282 pp. \$4.75.

**Report Writers' Handbook.** Charles E. Van Hagan. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1961. 287 pp. Illus. \$6.75.

**Science and Technology Stocks.** A guide for investors. Grant Jeffery. World, New York, 1961. 352 pp. Paper, \$1.95; cloth, \$3.95.

**Science Today.** Talks by 15 outstanding scientists. Criterion Books, New York, 1960. 192 pp. \$3.95.

**Successful Communication in Science and Industry.** Writing, reading, and speaking. Robert L. Zetler and W. George Crouch. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1961. 296 pp. \$5.75.

**Trailblazer of American Science.** The life of Joseph Henry. Sarah R. Riedman. Rand McNally, Chicago, Ill., 1961. 224 pp. Illus. \$3.50 (juvenile book).