

Stereochemist

Alfred Werner. Founder of Coordination Chemistry. GEORGE B. KAUFFMAN. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1966. 143 pp., illus. Paper, DM. 24.

This is a pleasant, brief, and somewhat unconventional biography of one of the world's greatest stereochemists. Werner was one of Arthur Hantzsch's earliest students (1885–1890). Having myself studied with Hantzsch in his last year of teaching (1926–1927), I am led to the realization that much of the real advance in chemistry has taken place in the past century. Last year's centennial of Werner's birth led to a number of seminars and special meetings on coordination chemistry, and hence it is fitting that a nontechnical biography should be made available to inform scientists and the public as to the individual. Much has been included here to portray his personal reactions and way of life, and there are a bibliography of his works and a list of his various honors, which included the first Nobel prize to be awarded to a Swiss chemist. The result is a most satisfactory nonscientific biography.

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An Arctic Species

The World of the Polar Bear. RICHARD PERRY. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 207 pp., illus. \$4.95.

A need has long existed for a definitive work on the polar bear. Unfortunately, *The World of the Polar Bear* falls far short of filling this need or the author's stated intention of bringing together from the literature all that is known of the species. The book is, in fact, largely a recitation of tales of redoubtable explorers, whalers, sealers and the like, with at best sketchy reference to the scientific literature on the polar bear. The American and Norwegian literature is especially neglected, and those references that are made are seemingly secondhand, as evidenced in at least one instance by repetition of an error from another reference. The book is further fraught with inaccuracies and naiveté. Consider, for example, reference to dentition: "—and shear-like premolars capable of biting in two an iron lance half an inch in diameter." In actuality the premolar teeth are little more than degenerate vestiges over half

of which are normally missing in adult polar bears.

The author presents the view that the species is much reduced over former times and is in possible danger of extinction. Completely disregarded is a convincing body of evidence which suggests that the polar bear is not endangered and may, in fact, be underexploited. Also not mentioned is the fact that polar bears are exacting a significant toll on certain diminishing seal stocks of great economic value.

Though generally quite readable, the book drags at points. One of the photographs of a group of bears (pp. 75–76) is an apparent fabrication. The anthropomorphic presentation may also prove an irritant to the technical reader.

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Books Received

The Adrenal Cortex. Albert B. Eisenstein, Ed. Little, Brown, Boston, 1967. 701 pp. Illus. \$22.50. Sixteen papers.

Advances in Heterocyclic Chemistry. Vol. 7. A. R. Katritzky and A. J. Boulton, Eds. Academic Press, New York, 1966. 525 pp. Illus. \$22. Seven papers.

Advances in Lipid Research. Vol. 4. Rodolfo Paoletti and David Kritchevsky, Eds. Academic Press, New York, 1966. 319 pp. Illus. \$14.50. Seven papers.

Advances in Magnetic Resonance. Vol. 2. John S. Waugh, Ed. Academic Press, New York, 1966. 283 pp. Illus. \$12. Four papers.

American Society for Testing and Materials Proceedings. Vol. 66. American Soc. for Testing and Materials, Philadelphia, 1966. 597 pp. Illus. \$12.

Analysis of Copper and Its Alloys. W. T. Elwell and I. R. Scholes. Pergamon, New York, 1967. 197 pp. Illus. \$8.

L'Animal de Laboratoire dans la Recherche Biologique et Médicale. Michel Sabourdy. Presses Universitaires de France, Paris, 1967. 246 pp. Illus. Paper, F. 18. La Science Vivante Series.

Anthropology. Samuel Rapport and Helen Wright, Eds. New York Univ. Press, New York, 1967. 352 pp. \$4.95. New York University Library of Science. Twenty papers.

Applied Differential Equations. Murray R. Spiegel. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., ed. 2, 1967. 426 pp. Illus. \$8.50. Prentice-Hall series in Mathematics.

Applied Kinematics. Kurt Hain. Translated from the German by D. P. Adams, Thomas P. Goodman, and others. McGraw-Hill, New York, ed. 2, 1967. 751 pp. Illus. \$25.

Basic Mathematics for Electronics. Frank L. Juszli, Norman Mahler, and James M. Reid. Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 1967. 464 pp. Illus. \$12. Prentice-Hall Series in Technical Mathematics.

Biology: An Inquiry into the Nature of Life. *Teachers' Handbook* (446 pp.); *Laboratory Manual* (93 pp.); *Tests* (unpaged). Stanley L. Weinberg and Abraham Kalish. Allyn and Bacon, Boston, 1966. Illus. Paper, \$6.56.

Biometeorology. Vol. 2, pts. 1 and 2. Proceedings of the Third Biometeorological Congress (Pau, France), September 1963. S. W. Tromp and W. H. Weihe, Eds. Pergamon, New York, 1967. Pt. 1, 552 pp.; pt. 2, 640 pp. Illus. \$35 per set. There are 196 papers, in English, German, or French.

Biometrische Methoden in der Tierproduktion. Alfred Haiger. Bayerischer Landwirtschaftsverlag, Munich, Germany, 1967. 119 pp. Illus. Paper, DM. 14.

The Blood Morphology of Laboratory Animals. Siegmund Schermer. Translated from the third German edition by Excerpta Medica Foundation. Th. van Winsen, Translation Ed. Davis, Philadelphia, 1967. 212 pp. Illus. \$9.

Book of ASTM Standards, with Related Material. Pt. 1, *Steel Piping, Tubing, and Fittings* (680 pp. \$10); pt. 2, *Ferrous Castings* (432 pp. \$8); pt. 3, *Steel Sheet, Strip, Bar, Rod, Wire, Chain, and Spring; Wrought Iron Bar and Sheet; Metallic Coated Products; Ferrous Surgical Implant Materials* (856 pp. \$14); pt. 4, *Structural Steel; Concrete Reinforcing Steel; Boiler and Pressure Vessel Plate; Steel Rails, Wheels, and Tires; Bearing Steel; Steel Forgings; Ferrous Filler Metal; Ferro-Alloys* (942 pp. \$16). American Soc. for Testing and Materials, Philadelphia, 1967. Illus.

Calculus: An Intuitive and Physical Approach. Pt. 2. Morris Kline. Wiley, New York, 1967. 429 pp. Illus. \$8.75.

Changing Identity of Graduate Earth Science Education. Proceedings of a conference (Atlanta, Ga.), January 1965. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Charles E. Weaver, Ed. Georgia Inst. of Technology, Atlanta, 1967. 184 pp. Paper. Twelve papers.

College Women and Fertility Values. Charles F. Westoff and Raymond H. Potvin. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, N.J., 1967. 257 pp. Illus. \$7.50.

Comprehensive Mental Health Services for the Deaf. John D. Rainer and Kenneth Z. Altshuler. Department of Medical Genetics, New York State Psychiatric Institute, New York, 1966. 205 pp. Illus. \$1.

Computer Programming and Computer Systems. Anthony Hassitt. Academic Press, New York, 1967. 384 pp. Illus. \$10.75. Academic Press Textbooks in the Computer Sciences.

A Cooperative Plan in Geophysical Education. The GSI Student Cooperative Plan: the first fifteen summer programs, 1951–1965. Robert R. Shrock. Geophysical Service, Dallas, Texas, 1966. 143 pp. Illus.

The Co-ordination and Regulation of Movements. N. Bernstein. Translated from the Russian and German. Pergamon, New York, 1967. 208 pp. Illus. \$8.

The Development of Marriage and Kinship. C. Staniland Wake. Edited with an introduction by Rodney Needham. Univ. of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1967. 566 pp. Illus. \$12.50. Originally published in 1889. Classics in Anthropology Series.