

Guide to Fluorescence Literature - Volume 2

By R. A. Passwater. IFI/Plenum - New York, Washington and London 1970. Bound volume with cover; 17 × 26 cm; 369 pages. Author and Subject Index. Price US \$ 22.50.

As the author points out in the Preface, "a bibliography is a collection of references, but a guide to the literature must be much more". In fact, it represents the solution of theoretical and analytical problems.

This second volume continues the scheme of Volume 1, although the various articles are now presented under six major classifications: Analytical, organic; Analytical, inorganic; Theoretical; Immunofluorescence; Phosphors; and Addendum.

The references are grouped by year, from 1964 to 1968, and arranged alphabetically by first author; the author and subject index further facilitate the location of a specific reference.

Control of Human Fertility

Edited by G.I.M. Swyer. British Medical Bulletin, 26, 1, 1970. Medical Department of the British Council, London. Paperback; 28 × 22 cm. 98 pages including numerous tables and illustrations. Price £ 2.00 (US \$ 6.00).

Introduced by Sir Alan Parkes, the following subjects are dealt with: Hypothalamus and control of ovulation (G. W. Harris and F. Naftolin); Pheromones (H. M. Bruce); Evidence for luteolysin (L.E.A. Rowson); Induction of ovulation with gonadotropins (A. C. Crooke); Clomiphene (P.M.F. Bishop); Effectiveness and risks of birth-control methods (D.M. Potts and G.I.M. Swyer); Rare adverse effects of systemic contraceptives (Richard Doll and M.P. Vessey); Developments in steroidal hormonal contraception (Arnold Klopffer); Postcoital contraception (C.W. Emmens); IUD's in women and other mammals (P. Eckstein); Surgical methods of fertility control (P.C. Steptoe); Termination of pregnancy (D. M. Potts); Immunology of conception and pregnancy (R.G. Edwards); Antispermatogetic agents (Harold Jackson); Hormone production in the mammalian testis (Dennis Lacy and A. Juliet Pettitt).

La Dyade Coniugale - Étude Sociologique (The Conjugal Dyad - A sociological study)

By Pierre de Bie, Karel Dobbelaere, Claire Leplae, Jacques Piel (Louvain). Les Editions Vie Ouvrière - Bruxelles 1968. Paperback; 18 × 24 cm; 137 pages including numerous tables. Price FB 200 (approx. US \$ 4.00).

Introduced by Reuben Hill, Director, Minnesota Family Study Center, and one of the organizers of the research reported here, this booklet is subdivided into three main parts: (1) Structure of domestic tasks and of power of decision in the conjugal dyad (by Claire Leplae); (2) Communication between husband and wife and conjugal satisfaction (by Jacques Piel); and (3) Children (by Karel Dobbelaere). A general conclusion (by Pierre de Bie) and a methodological appendix complete this research work which throws more light on the behavior of the average couple in the industrialized society.

Les Autres Mondes - Les Peuples et Leur Culture (Other Worlds - The peoples and their culture)

By M.A. Robert (pseudonym of a working group in human sciences). Les Editions Vie Ouvrière - Bruxelles 1968. Paperback; 18 × 18 cm; 216 pages + 8 tables of pictures. Price FB 220 (approx. US \$ 4.50).

The relativity of social life, in the so different behavior and mentality both among and within societies, is systematically analyzed in the light of numberless examples and with respect to (1) the basic social culture, (2) the process of acculturation and education, and (3) social and cultural changes and evolution.

Océanographie Médicale (Medical Oceanography)

By M. and J. Aubert. Gauthier-Villars - Paris 1969. Bound volume; 16 × 24 cm; 298 pages; 1 colored and 86 black-and-white illustrations; 35 tables; 3 maps. Price not indicated.

After a description of the various ecologic problems and the organization of medical oceanographic research, sea is presented from the two opposite viewpoints of its precious

nutritional and therapeutical contribution, and, on the other hand, of its pollution.

The book is aimed to provide the reader with basic notions on: (1) the physico-chemical and biological properties of the sea and the atmospheric interaction earth-sea; (2) the research organization, material and techniques in medical oceanography; (3) pollution in its chemical, radioactive, bacteriological aspects, and allergic or toxic phenomena due to sea organisms; (4) marine nutritional possibilities (from fishes to algae), and therapeutical ones (thermalism and thalassotherapy).

The advantages of a rational exploitation of the sea are pointed out.

A Manual of Style - Twelfth Edition, Revised

By the Editorial Staff of the University of Chicago Press. The University of Chicago Press - Chicago and London 1969. Bound volume with cover; 15 × 23 cm; x+546 pages, including tables and illustrations. Glossary of technical terms; Bibliography; Subject Index. Price US \$ 10.00.

“ Throughout this book it is assumed that no regulation contained therein is absolutely inviolable. Wherever the peculiar nature of the subject-matter, the desirability of throwing into relief a certain part of the argument, the reasonable preference of a writer, or a typographical contingency suggests a deviation, such deviation may legitimately be made ”.

This was said in the preface to the first edition of this Manual, appeared in 1906; and it still applies to the present twelfth edition, which appears sixty-three years later, with more than ninety percent of its material being new.

Once the above limitation made clear, i.e., once the “ philosophy ” of a style manual, the relativity of its regulations accepted, then such a manual becomes a fundamental working tool for authors and editors (and, of course, for copywriters, proofreaders, typesetters, etc.).

Unfortunately, however, authors are not yet familiar with the idea of a style manual. Most of them are not even aware of the existence of such an instrument. Generally speaking, the elementary reaction of an author is to reject the very idea of “ conformity ”. This may be partly justified. But a scientific author, as a rule, is primarily a scientist, rather

than a writer; and, as such, he must conform to a number of regulations leading him to use a basically standard, concise and lucid style: science and literature have different needs. And a style manual generally tries to meet both.

What may be desirable for the author becomes essential for the editor, for what has not been done by the former, the latter must do. It is on the basis of a style manual that the editor develops his own regulations for the journal, treatise, or book he is dealing with. His work is a very delicate one and requires both technical skill and sensitivity, in compliance with the ever valid advice of the first edition of this *Manual*: “ ... when no question of good taste or good logic is involved, deference should be shown to the expressed wishes of the author ”.

The Chicago University Press's *Manual of Style* practically meets any difficult situation an author or editor may face. A particular attention has been devoted to scientific publications.

The *Manual* has been arranged in a form that follows the entire process of creation of a book. It is divided into three parts. Part 1, *Bookmaking*, describes the parts of a book and deals with manuscript preparation, task of the author and function of the editor, proof-reading and correction, and rights and permissions (copyright, etc.). Part 2, *Style*, represents the actual core of the book, dealing with all kinds of problems (punctuation, capitalization, quotations, etc.) which may be found when trying to achieve clarity and consistency within a publication. Part 3, *Production and Printing*, is a more technical one, dealing with design and typography. The manual is completed and enriched by a glossary of technical terms, an annotated bibliography, and a subject index.

Perhaps, the only limit of this fundamental work is represented by its referring, as a rule, to the standard book, while peculiar problems, which may be found in the preparation of congress proceedings, periodicals, etc., are comparatively little dealt with. On the other hand, many apparently missing indications may easily be deduced from the existing ones. After all, a style manual is not a law code.

P. Parisi