

mia is a team of well-trained emergency medical technicians, who begin treatment within minutes of the cardiac event. Scientists are working on an implantable defibrillator which some predict will eradicate sudden death by arrhythmia. Noted is the rise of self-induced arrhythmias caused by cocaine abuse, such as the tragic case of college basketball star Len Bias. An excellent account of a lethal disease.—*Robert Schmid, L.R.C., Univ. of Health Sciences/Chicago Medical Sch., North Chicago*

Samuels, Mike & Nancy Samuels. *The Well Adult: The Complete Guide to Protecting and Improving Your Health.*

Summit Bks., dist. by S. & S. 1988. c.830p. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 0-671-62540-3. \$22.95; pap. ISBN 0-671-66952-4. \$14.95. MED

Many Americans today realize that health in mid-adulthood comes as much through good habits as through medical conquests of disease. For these people, this book is a welcome guide, because it emphasizes both disease prevention and treatment. The first part discusses health promotion, through good habits including proper nutrition and sufficient exercise; the second deals with diseases and disorders and their prevention. The clear, timely, and informative text assumes some knowledge and motivation by the reader, but, within this context, it strikes the right balance between understandable language and thorough coverage. Recommended.—*Margery C. Coombs, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst*

Home Economics

Alvino, James & *Gifted Children Monthly* Eds. *Parents' Guide to Raising a Gifted Toddler: Recognizing and Developing the Potential of Your Child from Birth to Five Years.*

Little. Feb. 1989. c.300p. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 0-316-03636-6. \$19.95.

CHILD REARING

A sequel and companion to *Parents' Guide to Raising a Gifted Child (LJ 8/85)*, this too is a digest of articles, research reports, and advice from *Gifted Children Monthly*. The new guide, however, contains original work by Alvino on emotional needs, perfectionism and the superbaby scourge, and gender-specific issues, and essays by Dr. David Elkind and Fred Rogers of *Mister Roger's Neighborhood*. Topics include stress management for children. Games, projects, and puzzles for home use, suggestions for enriching museum visits and introducing mathematics, science, and logic, and descriptions of resource materials are provided. Parents and preschool teachers will find much help here. [Literary Guild alternate.]—*Shirley L. Hopkinson, California State Univ., San Jose*

Sciences

Gibbons, Felton & Deborah Strom. *Neighbors to the Birds: A History of Birdwatching in America.*

Norton. 1988. c.285p. illus. index. LC 88-1567. ISBN 0-393-02606-X. \$18.95.

NAT HIST

This literate and detailed yet popular account by historians documents Americans' interest in wild birds. Strom is author of *Birdwatching with American Women (LJ 4/1/86)*. In this book, the two authors stress historical development, with chapters on the work of early colonial naturalists, as well as on Audubon, Muir, etc. Other chapters deal with artists, equipment, conservation movements, literature, women, and the sport today. The authors excel when they bring their historians' approach into play; they are less cogent and somewhat out of touch when covering contemporary themes. Nevertheless, this is an important and useful record of an increasingly popular area; it covers especially well the colonial period, and the time leading to the 1960s.—*Henry T. Armistead, Thomas Jefferson Univ. Lib., Philadelphia*

Latour, Bruno. *The Pasteurization of France.*

Harvard Univ. Pr. 1988. c.266p. tr. by Alan Sheridan & John Law. bibliog. index. ISBN 0-674-65760-8. \$30.

SCI

In examining Pasteur's influence on the history and sociology of medicine, Latour focuses on the phenomenon of a theory becoming reality because it's time had come. He observes that as Napoleon and Kutuzov were not the central characters of Tolstoy's masterpiece, neither is Pasteur a central figure in his particular work. Latour contends that the work of early "Hygienists" paved the path for Pasteur's microbiology, and that his studies gained global acceptance in spite of resistance from traditionalists. Based on detailed examination of major contemporary journals, this particular translation is difficult to read, but it will prove stimulating to those who've enjoyed Latour's other controversial books—*Laboratory Life (Sage, 1979)*, and *Science in Action (Harvard, 1987)*.—*Mary Hemmings, Health Sciences Lib., McGill Univ., Montreal*

MacLeish, William H. *The Stream: The Domain of the Great Blue God.*

Houghton. 1989. c.233p. illus. bibliog. index. LC 88-8317. ISBN 0-395-40621-8. \$19.95.

SCI

Presented here is a well-written, intriguing look at a natural phenomenon that is at once poorly, and, yet, well understood. MacLeish describes the gulf current's physics in lay terms. He weaves into an engrossing web, science, history, and folklore of the Gulf Stream as well

as his personal experiences. He is at his best when relating the historical facts pertaining to the Gulf Stream. This book does not offer a treatment of strange sightings and disappearances à la the Bermuda Triangle. A selected bibliography of lay literature relating to the Gulf Stream is included. Recommended for general collections.—*Mary J. Nickum, Fish & Wildlife Reference Svce., Bethesda, Md.*

Technology

Boyne, Walter J. *Power Behind The Wheel: Creativity and the Evolution of the Automobile.*

Stewart, Tabori, & Chang. 1988. 240p. photogs. index. ISBN 1-55670-042-3. \$35. MFG

Presented here is a well-organized book that begins with a concise but perceptive history of the automobile and its impact on the 20th century. Individual chapters trace the evolution of the engines, the chassis, and the body styling over the past century. A section on some of the bizarre automotive creations is amusing. The author closes with his predictions on the car of the 21st century, the Centurion, a lightweight vehicle with an electric motor, a top speed of 45 mph, and a \$6500 price tag. The book is enhanced with superb photos by Lucinda Lewis and some rare black-and-white photos. Recommended for anyone interested in cars or fine photography.—*Jack F. Perretti, Northwestern Connecticut Community Coll., Winsted*

Penzias, Arno. *Ideas and Information: Managing in a Hi-Tech World.*

Norton. Feb. 1989. c.224p. index. LC 88-14180. ISBN 0-393-02649-3. \$17.95.

TECH

This is a positive, readable book about computers and people, not as in Sherry Turkle's best-selling *The Second Self (LJ 6/15/84)*, but told historically, and through anecdote. The author, a Nobel Prize winner and Bell Labs vice president, reveals the most through the insightful and diverse examples he gives. He talks about the computer's origins, workings, applications, limitations, management, artificial intelligence, and super capabilities. Penzias emphasizes that "the world's most powerful information tool will continue to be the human mind." This is a rare title to be enjoyed by the technical and nontechnical reader alike.—*Janice Dunham, John Jay Coll. Lib., New York*

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