

SR's Checklist of the Week's New Books

Archeology

PREHISTORIC TECHNOLOGY. By S. A. Semenov. Barnes & Noble. \$12.50.

TEMPLES, TOMBS AND HIEROGLYPHS. By Barbara Mertz. Coward-McCann. \$6.95.

Art

AMERICAN PRIMITIVE WATERCOLORS. Edited by Mary C. Black. McGraw-Hill. \$29.50.

THE CERAMIC ART OF JAPAN: A Book for Collectors. By Hugo Munsterberg. Tuttle. \$12.50.

EARLY ITALIAN PAINTING. (Color Slide Books of the World's Art.) By Giovanni Previtali. McGraw-Hill. \$8.95.

Business

MARKETING PRACTICES IN THE TV SET INDUSTRY. By Alfred R. Oxenfeldt. Columbia Univ. Press. \$10.

Crime, Suspense

DEATH OF A TOM. By Douglas Warner. Macmillan. \$3.95.

THE YELLOW VILLA. By Suzanne Blanc. Doubleday. \$3.50.

Essays

JOHN DEWEY AND THE WORLD VIEW. Edited by Douglas and Arthur E. Lean. Southern Illinois Univ. Press. \$6.

Fiction

DIARY OF A CANDID LADY. By Francis M. Arroway. Doubleday. \$3.95.

THE HAND OF MARY CONSTABLE. By Paul Gallico. Doubleday. \$4.95.

MANGROVE TOWN. By Yael Lotan. Doubleday. \$4.95.

ONE OF THE CASUALTIES. By Weldon Hill. Doubleday. \$4.95.

History

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. By George Otto Trevelyan. Edited and abridged by Richard B. Morris. McKay. \$10.

COMINTERN AND WORLD REVOLUTION 1928-43: The Shaping of a Doctrine. By Kermit E. McKenzie. Columbia Univ. Press. \$6.50.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S GENERALS. Edited by George A. Billias. Morrow. \$6.

FROM THE ENDS OF THE EARTH: The Peoples of Israel. By Howard M. Sachar. World. \$7.95.

THE PRESIDENTS ON THE PRESIDENCY. By Arthur Bernon Tourtellot. Doubleday. \$5.95.

Literary Criticism

A GUIDE TO ORIENTAL CLASSICS. By William De Bary and Ainslie Embree. Columbia Univ. Press. Hardbound, \$6. Paperback, \$2.

HAMLET'S DIVINITY AND OTHER ESSAYS. By Christopher Devlin. Southern Illinois Univ. Press. \$5.

THE LITERARY CRITICS: A Study of English Descriptive Criticism. By George Watson. Barnes & Noble. \$4.50.

VIDA'S CHRISTIAD AND VERGILIAN EPIC. By Mario A. Di Cesare. Columbia Univ. Press. \$7.50.

Miscellany

... I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY: Children's Drawings and Poems from Theresienstadt Concentration Camp, 1942-1944. Edited by Hana Volavkova. McGraw-Hill. \$4.50.

THE LOW FAT COOKBOOK FOR GOURMETS. By Helen Belinkie. McKay. \$4.95.

MANUAL OF SAILBOAT RACING: An Encyclopedic Treatise for Small-Boat Sailors. By Thomas J. McDermott. Macmillan. \$8.75.

MAPPING. By David Greenwood. Univ. of Chicago Press. Hardbound, \$6. Paperback, \$2.95.

RACIAL PROVERBS. By Selwyn Gurney Champion. Barnes & Noble. \$12.50.

REDUCE AND STAY REDUCED ON THE PRUDENT DIET. By Norman Jolliffe, M.D. Simon & Schuster. \$4.50.

STAY WELL EVERY YEAR OF YOUR LIFE: Dr. Molner's Guide to Total Health. By Joseph Molner. Prentice-Hall. \$5.95.

THE WISDOM OF YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS MIND. By John K. Williams. Prentice-Hall. \$4.95.

Music

GLUCK AND THE BIRTH OF MODERN OPERA. By Patricia Howard. St. Martin's. \$7.50.

Personal History

CHARLES DARWIN. By Gavin de Beer. Doubleday. \$4.95.

FOUR AGAINST EVEREST. By Woodrow Wilson Sayre. Prentice-Hall. \$6.95.

GOOD EVENING! By Raymond Swing. Harcourt, Brace & World. \$5.95.

A LIFE FULL OF HOLES. By Driss ben Hamid Charhadi. Recorded and translated by Paul Bowles. Grove. \$5.

MAINE IS IN MY HEART. By William M. Clark. McKay. \$4.50.

ON A SHOESTRING AND A PRAYER. By Raymond P. Sloan. Doubleday. \$3.95.

WHAT'S PAST IS PROLOGUE. By Vincent Massey. St. Martin's. \$7.50.

WITH WALT WHITMAN IN CAMDEN, April 8 to September 14, 1889. By Horace
(Continued on page 58)

De Gaulle

Continued from page 28

warfare" techniques painfully learned in Indo-China; but he wholly accepts the fables that the FLN represented the Moslem masses (without any election and despite large-scale FLN atrocities against Moslems), that all Moslem pro-French demonstrations were staged in the manner of "Nazi and fascist rallies," and that a little FLN army valiantly held a mighty French army at bay.

Mr. Furniss invites a kick in the teeth because he is himself an angry thrower of low punches, for all his prim forest of footnotes and panoply of objective scholarship. He sneers at "politicians" like Jacques Soustelle who saw through de Gaulle's chicanery and stood up to it at risk of career and limb. He blackwashes every opponent of de Gaulle as intrinsically and totally a terrorist, and stigmatizes all the top anti-Gaullist brass as nothing better than "thugs, thieves, murderers." He hoots with derision at the Army's professed sense of commitment to the hundreds of thousands of Moslems who trustingly joined the French colors against a rebellion they despised, only to face massacre by the vengeful rebel leadership after de Gaulle handed them over. He even allows himself the obscenity of hinting that these *harki*—whose fate makes most of France blush with shame—were just foreign mercenaries who deserved what they got.

In sum, the Twentieth Century Fund's large contribution to this kind of "political science" makes small contribution to an understanding of military-civil tensions anywhere, particularly in a monarchy like de Gaulle's Fifth French Republic.

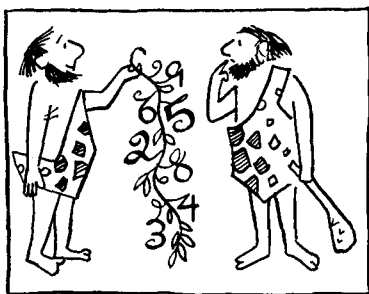
Your Literary I. Q.

Conducted by John T. Winterich

EXERCISE IN SIBILATION

Here, presented by William R. Coleman, Jr., of Telluride, Colorado, is a clutch of shortish words to each of which you are required to add (or insert) -ss as a unit (but you may twist the basic words around any way you choose). (Example: lag, glass.) Class dismissed on page 58.

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| 1. red | 9. rag |
| 2. roam | 10. rude |
| 3. mule | 11. rut |
| 4. posse | 12. aye |
| 5. arc | 13. rest |
| 6. pare | 14. rate |
| 7. rod | 15. matter |
| 8. race | 16. prime |



—Doug Anderson.

SR / Research

SCIENCE & HUMANITY



DEPARTMENTS: Research in America • Letters to the Science Editor • Personality Portrait XCIV • Science in Books • Research Frontier
ARTICLE: Navigating the Gravity Wells of Interplanetary Space

RESEARCH IN AMERICA

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE CREDIT CARD

IN the ancient book of Genesis it is written that man first appeared on earth in a garden abloom with trees. He lost the privilege of arboreal leisure because he took fruit from a tree tabooed and ate it. The fruit was the fruit of knowledge. He was punished for trying to learn too much. In other words, the original human experience was an act of carrying.

Modern books on evolution repeat the main line of this story. According to them, the ancestors of men—ancestors also of chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, gibbons, and siamangs—were tree-dwellers. They swung through the branches on their arms by day, and slept through the night in nests aloft. They lived in bands of ten to thirty, bossed by one or a very few strong males, in segregated neighborhoods of the forest.

As time passed, the climate of the planet changed, shrinking the forests into scattered clusters of trees.

Ages before, these tree-living animals' ancestors, the lung-fish, native to the sea in which all life originated, had been stranded ashore by the tidal wash of violent storms. After the earliest such experience, the lung-fish must have got back to the water by rowing through the mud on their fins. Later, the distance to the sea apparently was too great to allow a return; by that time, the fins were strong enough to serve as walking sticks. And so the family of land-living mammals had emerged.

The tree-dwelling mammals faced a somewhat similar turnabout because of the dwindling forest. They could run on their hind feet alone, but could walk only on all fours. Yet they had to spend more and more time in the tall grass as the trees grew scarcer. Naturally the remaining trees were taken over by the strongest, most vigorous climbers. The weaklings had to amble along

as best they could by holding themselves as upright as possible on the ground, finding their way by peering across the top of the grass.

That much of the tale has been repeated many times. What has been neglected is the act of carrying and its consequences.

Late in the month of March 1964 two anthropologists, Charles F. Hockett and Robert Ascher of Cornell University, published a review of man's flight from the trees in *Current Anthropology*. Their report was sufficiently entertaining and instructive to win simultaneous printing in *The American Scientist*. As they see it, the initial act of carrying was not a wilful seeking after forbidden wisdom but a simple striving to stay alive.

"We are speaking here of displacements and movements of whole bands, not of individual animals," the two professors stipulate. "There is one thing that surely accompanied any band whenever it moved: the essential geometry of its territoriality. At any halt, no matter how temporary, whether in the trees, under the trees, or in open country, some specific site became, for the nonce, 'home base'—a GHQ, a center, a focus, relative to which each member of the band oriented himself as he moved about. Headquarters was the safest place to be, if for no other reason than the safety of numbers. In a later epoch—though doubtless earlier than will ever be directly attested by archeology—headquarters among our own ancestors came to be crudely fortified, as perhaps by a piled ring of stones; it became the place where things were kept or stored; in due time it became house, village, fort, city. But earliest of all it was *home*."

Here the narrators pause for breath and ask us to accept that sometime in the interim the early animals we are

talking about progressed from hominoids to hominids, from the pre-apes to the pre-men.

"This is also the appropriate point for a warning," they say. We must not visualize this transition "as a fierce, intense, tooth-and-nail struggle. That is assuredly wrong. The typical pace of evolution is extremely leisurely."

BUT it didn't seem leisurely to the pre-men.

"It is no joke to be thrown out of one's ancestral home," anthropologists Hockett and Ascher remind us. "If the next grove is only a few miles away, in sight, then one has something to aim for; but sooner or later movements must have taken place without any such visible target. Treeless country holds discomforts and dangers. There may not be much food, at least not of a familiar sort. There may be little available water, for the trees tend to cluster where the water is more abundant. And there are fleet four-footed predators, as well as herbivorous quadrupeds big and strong enough to be dangerous at close quarters. One cannot avoid these other animals altogether, since their presence often signals the location of water, or of food fit also for hominid consumption. The quest for food must be carried on constantly, no matter how pressing may be the drive to find a new grove of trees in which to settle. It is a wonder that any of the waifs of the Miocene savannah survived at all. Enormous numbers of them must have died out.

"The trick that made survival possible for some of them was the trick of *carrying*."

The pre-apes probably carried twigs and brush to make their nests, and certainly carried infants. But in the trees, they used their hands mostly for climbing. On the ground, bipedal locomotion freed the hands of the pre-men for car-