
Sciences in Communist China. *Sidney H. Gould*, Editor. Pub. No. 68 of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. 1961. xii+872 pp. \$14.00.

This book is the report of a symposium held December 26 to 27, 1960, in New York City. It has sections devoted to Science and Society, Biological and Medical Sciences, Atmospheric and Earth Sciences, Mathematics and the Physical Sciences, and Engineering Sciences and Electronics. Each section comprises a series of papers by individual authors.

The authors were supplied photo-print copies of recent papers in their respective fields with which to make their appraisals. Most of the papers came out of libraries at Washington, and the copying was done by M. I. T., with a generous grant from the National Science Foundation.

The "Organization and Development of Science," by Harvard Professor J. M. H. Lindbeck, outlines the recent history of the efforts of the Communist leaders of China to build an organization of scientists who would quickly supply the basis for the industrial development of China. This has focused efforts upon engineering and the applied sciences, and it has almost prohibited basic research. Foreign-trained scientists, except those from Russia, have been handicapped, and the need has become apparent for more time in which to produce more red-loyal scientists than was envisioned in the 12-year plan of 1947.

Each of the authors of papers presents about the same appraisal—much progress to date, in spite of the limitations imposed (loyalty to Marxist-Leninist *science*, and results quickly usable), more progress to be expected in the next few years, but sympathy for scientists who are working under the existing pressures.

American scientists will find much of interest in the one or more papers which deal with their specific field of effort.

THOMAS H. LANGLOIS

The Shell-Bearing Land Snails of Ohio. *Celeste Taft*. O.S.U. Press, Ohio Biol. Surv. Bull. 1961. Paper-bound. xi+108 pp. \$2.00.

This book is a contribution to knowledge of the distribution of these snails, made by the assembly of the records of other scientists and by the addition of many records made by the author. It is designed also to help the beginning collector, with suggestions for finding, cleaning, storing, and identifying the shells, and for recording the facts about each collection.

There are keys to families, and keys to genera and species. There is a brief description and an excellent drawing or two of each species, and there is an Ohio map, spotted to show where each species has been recorded. There is a list of snail records of the state, county by county, showing areas of adequacy as well as inadequacy of effort. There is a good index to round up this fine example of a scientist carrying her hobby to the point where it constitutes a real contribution to science.

THOMAS H. LANGLOIS