

AN INTERESTING BOOK

A MATHEMATICAL MODEL OF LIFE AND LIVING by Li Kung Shaw, Second Edition, 1972. Paperback, good quality printing and binding, 94 pages. (Libreria Inglesa, P. O. Box 94 (Suc. 25), Buenos Aires, Argentina, \$3.00 postpaid.)

The Generalized Equation of the Golden Ratio

$$(1) \quad S + h = \sqrt{S^2 + S}$$

which arises in Li Kung Shaw's mathematical model of humanlife induces a new development in that historically famous topic of mathematics and magic, the Golden Section Ratio. Here, S represents a man's service hours and h his work hours. The equation (1) arises as the condition for the happiness function

$$F = h \left(\frac{1 - h}{S + h} \right)$$

to be maximized. The mathematical model begins with five basic assumptions and has derived values which are in conformity with natural human behavior.

Li Kung Shaw graduated from Chiao Tung University in Shanghai, China, in 1937, where he had studied physics. He was Chief of Air Transportation of the Chinese Civil Aeronautics Administration in Nanking, following service in the Air Forces as an aeronautical engineer. After three years of refugee life, he immigrated to Argentina where he practices operations research.

---Marjorie Bicknell



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MAKING GOLDEN CUTS WITH A SHOEMAKER'S KNIFE

dently $(\pi/2)AG$, while the length of the semicircle on GB is $(\pi/2)GB$. The ratio of these two lengths is then seen to be AG/GB , the golden ratio.

REFERENCES

1. H. E. Huntley, The Divine Proportion, Dover, New York, 1970.
2. Levi S. Shively, An Introduction to Modern Geometry, Wiley, New York, 1949.

