

## Books

PARK, O., ALLEE, W. C., AND SHELFORD, V. E. *A Laboratory Introduction to Animal Ecology and Taxonomy*. The University of Chicago Press, 1939. 271 pp. \$2.00.

"This book represents the work of three academic generations of teaching ecologists"—this, the first sentence in the foreword of the manual will give the student and layman an objective view into the practical teaching qualities and general information which the manual contains.

The first twenty-five pages offer a review of the basic divisions in the field of biology, much emphasis being placed on the interrelations of animals and their environment. Some thirty-five exercises are devised for the student, including: (a) how to construct a key, (b) a study of terrestrial animals, (c) a study of fresh water animals, (d) a general study of Faunal Percentages and Quadrats. The Synoptic Key, another division of the manual, gives accurate information on the descriptions and characteristics of animals of each phylum and on their habitats. A valuable fourteen-page glossary of technical terms is provided for the student. There are forty-seven diagrams which will prove helpful for identification purposes. The manual is bound in a unique style with a patent clasp which allows the book to open fully and lie flat on the desk. Criticism might be made of the rather fine print used throughout.

The writer considers this manual a practical, convenient, and thoughtfully constructed text, a sound treatise in the field of ecology and taxonomy.

S. W. ROBERTS,

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BRYAN, ARTHUR H., AND BRYAN, CHARLES. *Principles and Practice of Bacteriology*. Barnes and Noble, Inc., 1938. 267 pp. \$2.25.

This text and manual of procedure is divided into three main sections. Part I discusses the history of general bacteriology, general characteristics of bacteria, how to prepare culture media, the inoculation of culture media, how bacteria are destroyed, and a practical method of study.

Part II is a study of pathogenic bacteria affecting human beings.

Part III deals with serology and immunology.

Fifteen pages are devoted to a glossary of technical terms, which will be of great aid to the student.

The arrangement of the book is practical, containing laboratory technique, 31 photographs, 101 illustrations, and provision for the student to take a minimum amount of notes in the back. The material is concise and definite, making it easy for the student or the layman to follow directions and apply his knowledge.

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ADELL, JAMES C., DUNHAM, OLIVE O., WELTON, LOUIS E. *Explorations in Biological Science*. 345 pp. Ginn and Co., Boston, 1937. \$1.12. (One copy submitted for evaluation.)

The publishers present a current development in biology textbooks, a perishable, soft-covered 10 $\frac{1}{8}$  inch by 7 $\frac{1}{8}$  inch tape-bound book. Three holes have been punched on the binding side to assist in the use of a looseleaf cover. Non-coated paper and black and white typography