

Genes and the Man

By BENTLEY GLASS
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THE fifth member in the Science in Modern Living Series, *Genes and the Man*, integrates the fields of reproduction, genetics, and growth and development as they relate to human life. Beginning with the single cell, the fertilized egg—our origin—and ending with old age and death, this book is the story of the individual and the factors that make him. Heredity and environment, individual differences, the phenomenon of sex are treated in a comprehensive manner. A wealth of illustrations accompanies the text.

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The author's purpose in writing this book is expressed by him in part as follows: "Throughout the realm of science the narrow, rigid boundaries of specialized fields of subject matter are at least breaking down. The boundary between genetics and cytology has already disappeared, and it is now evident that embryology and physiology are beginning to enter the amalgam. As yet, however, this trend is apparent only in the more technical studies. In general education, compartmentalized biology continues to gain ground. For these reasons this volume has been prepared to indicate a new outlook, not to present genetics, or cytology, or embryology, or physiology, or even a summary of all of them, but rather to describe the operation and interaction of those factors which make the physical man, insofar as we know them or can reason about them today."

Certain topics—cell division, the genetic

basis of sex, and embryological development—receive unusually extensive treatment for an elementary work. Some of the theoretical excursions in these sections will be found fairly heavy reading for the average college student. The book shows that thorough scholarship has gone into it. The style is clear and interesting. Much of the material will serve as valuable reading for high school students.

There are numerous well chosen, artistically drawn, and clearly labeled figures, as well as a number of instructive halftones from photographs. The typography, paper, and binding are all of excellent quality. The index of sixteen pages is complete and well arranged.

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