

the developmental philosophy in teaching of biology one recognizes that the teaching load must be small. Large classes practically destroy any successful attempt to put this type of instruction into being. School administrators as well as the general public must realize that human minds cannot be built like machines and that each individual has a distinctive growth pattern.

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### THE STUDY OF HUMAN BLOOD

When your class is ready to study human blood apply a leech to the skin of some person (there are always students ready to volunteer) for a few minutes. If the skin is first wet with normal salt solution the leech will take hold at once. After the annelid is removed blood will continue to flow from the wound for many minutes, owing to the anti-coagulant secreted by the leech. Excellent fresh mounts can be made for the entire class from a single wound. The blood may be studied as long as desired since it will not clot on the slide as does blood drawn with a needle or other instrument. Although not yet tried out by the writer, there is no apparent reason why the same method would not prove successful with other vertebrates in case a comparative study of the bloods of vertebrates is to be made.

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Our readers will have a special interest in *Biology for You*, reviewed on page 218 of this issue; both authors have been active contributors to the welfare of both the NABT and *The American Biology Teacher*, since the early days of the Association.



### NOT A MERE LOG

The accompanying photograph of an unusual natural curiosity was a part of a news release from Wentworth Military Academy, Lexington, Missouri. The log, which could be "carried like a suitcase," was brought in by the Grounds crew from the Country Club of the Academy. Examining the log is Captain Clyde Etter, biology instructor in the science department of the Academy. He is pointing to the place where the tree branch was probably grafted several years ago. The log was an American elm, about six inches in diameter. The branch, about one inch in diameter, showed no sign of grafting except at the point indicated by the pencil.

### BY THE WAY

WE HAVE BEEN PASTING the colored pictures of birds, chick embryos, and the like, from *Life* and other magazines, on cards made of Bristol Board (any good grade of mounting board would do) and filing them. In order to simplify the filing problem, we are pasting them on two sizes of cards, 4 × 6 and 7 × 10.