

Soil Conservation to collaborate the findings.
2. With a balopticon, project pictures and maps from the book to enhance discussion problems.

3. Have students use statistics, such as those showing the effect of tillage on runoff, in preparing conservation cartoons or posters. It will add zest if they are done on small cards, then projected on the screen; unexpected talent will turn up in most classes.

4. Get into some of the "hows" and "whys" not found in most texts. Example: How does muddy water reduce the amount of moisture available to plants?

5. Investigate local erosion problems on field trips. Use the book in determining the best treatment.

While much of the information in *Elements of Soil Conservation* is available in low-cost bulletins, there is considerable advantage in having this excellent material in compact form, under a single index.

RICHARD F. TRUMP,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa

COLIN, EDWARD C. *Elements of Genetics*. 2nd ed. The Blakiston Co., Philadelphia, Pa. 402 pp. 90 illus. 1946. \$3.50.

This attractive, convenient-sized and carefully written book is a revision of Dr. Colin's well-received 1941 textbook for beginning students in college genetics. It follows the historical approach of the first edition, and further expands the applications of Mendelian principles to man and his environment. Some who use it will no doubt feel that too much space is devoted to historical background and human applications in a book which, by its title and preface statements, is obviously designed to emphasize fundamentals.

The text matter on linkage and crossing-over, which was somewhat weak, needlessly involved, and poorly integrated in the first edition has been rewritten, new illustrations and explanatory examples added, and moved to a later part of the book. Applications of certain relatively newer principles of genetics, such as the Rh blood factors and the nature and physiology of viruses as related to genes,

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have been included. Some confusion may be experienced by students in dealing with illustrations and problems involving dominance, since a consistent policy is lacking for deriving the symbols used in gene formulae.

The material in any one chapter does not necessarily hinge upon that of preceding chapters; hence, assignments can be made to fit individual course outlines. New problems have been added at the close of most chapters, and the original ones have been revised. New illustrations appear throughout. A comprehensive glossary includes the most commonly used genetics terms.

I used the first edition in my beginning genetics classes at The University of Dayton, and found it fundamentally adaptable and comprehensive. I plan to use the 1946 edition, now that our genetics courses have been reactivated following discontinuance of our streamlined and accelerated program, as a basic text for the premedical group.

B. BERNARR VANCE,
*The Department of Biology,
The University of Dayton*

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