

Holland, New York
October 28, 1949

Dear Mr. Breukelman:

I do not remember just what appeared in your magazine concerning the plans of the 1949 Conservation Caravan. At any rate the Caravan was conducted as planned and all went well. There will probably be a repetition of the project, possibly more than one, in 1950. Should there be sufficient interest we will conduct a five or six day traveling school of conservation during the second week in April. While it will not be possible to have so much of the instruction in the open at that season, we believe that the sight of thousands of migrating geese and ducks will reward those who are willing to risk our April weather to see them, and that Niagara Falls and Eighteenmile Creek with a local geologist will be perhaps as pleasant to contemplate then as in July. There will be a good deal of activity of interest at that time in both forest and soil conservation. Parks, conservatories, Science Museums and a School of Horticulture will be on our itinerary. Expenses will be \$5.00 to \$6.00 per day per student plus contribution to purchase of gasoline and oil. Excellent cooperation along the way has already been promised.

Sincerely,
MABEL H. JAMES

Reviews

CARTER, HERBERT E., *Biochemical Preparations*. Vol. I. John Wiley and Sons, New York, N. Y. xi-76 pp. 1949. \$2.50.

This is the first of a new series of books to be published every 12 to 16 months titled *Biochemical Preparations*. They will attempt to do for biochemistry what the volumes of *Organic Syntheses* have done for organic chemistry since 1921, or the volumes of *Inorganic Syntheses* since 1939.

Biochemical Preparations covers preparations of compounds which are not readily available commercially and which can be prepared from available starting materials. In addition, techniques of general application in preparative work are included. Isolation methods are emphasized, but if a

compound used by biochemists is best obtained by synthesis, the synthetic method is published. All methods used in the series are checked and re-checked to insure their accuracy.

According to an imposing array of eminent scientists on advisory and editorial boards the major goals of the series will be to provide authoritative, thoroughly checked preparations for substances used in biochemical research and to provide preparations illustrating manipulative techniques and methods that may be useful both to research workers and to students.

The 16 preparations covered in Vol. 1 are well beyond the scope of high school teachers and students. It will find its place as a valuable reference book for college scientists and libraries.

CHARLES C. HERBST
*Beverly Hills High School,
Beverly Hills, California*

ROMEAR, ALFRED SHERWOOD. *The Vertebrate Body*. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia. III-V + 643 pp. illus. 1949. \$5.50.

This work gives a brief history of the vertebrate body correlating the structural and functional changes with the varied environments and modes of life. It is based on a comparative study of the varied forms which the vertebrate body has assumed during its long evolutionary development. The first five chapters present a background of basic facts, explain the terminology and describe the early development of vertebrates. The remainder of this book is devoted to a comparative study of each of the body systems, tracing the evolutionary development in a detailed, clear and concise manner.

The book is well illustrated with sketches, some in color. The appendices include a synoptic classification, scientific terminology and references. The clarity of outline, quality of illustrations, and simplicity of style combine to make this an unusual text for a course in comparative anatomy and a useful reference for college biology.

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