

Book Reviews

MONIER-WILLIAMS, G. W. *Trace Elements in Food*. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York 16, New York. 511 pp. Not illustrated. 1949. \$6.00.

Thirty-nine trace elements, which may be present in the human body and in most foods in amounts up to 0.005 per cent, are discussed in careful detail in this authoritative British-authored book. The effects of different quantities of each trace element on animal protoplasm, and detailed yet generalized analytical methods for determining the comparative amount of each element in a food, are outlined. The author suggests possible ways by which each trace element may gain access to foods during their manufacture, or during the life processes of the plants and animals from which organic foods are obtained. The discussions involve also the biochemistry, nutritional significance, and toxicology of trace elements.

The book is carefully written and well organized. The text matter should prove valuable to teachers of biology, chemistry, and home economics at the college level. High school teachers may find it useful as a reference work for special projects. A complete bibliography is included at the close of each chapter. The index is comprehensive and conveniently usable.

B. BERNARR VANCE,
*Chairman, Science Department,
Kiser High School,
Dayton 4, Ohio*

CARTER, VERNON GILL. *Man on the Landscape*. The National Wildlife Federation. 129 pp. illus.

This book presents "The fundamentals of plant conservation" written by the supervisor of Conservation Education in the public schools of Zanesville, Ohio. It is a valuable reference book and should have a place in every laboratory and classroom where biological and physiographical sciences are taught in secondary schools and colleges.

The author deplors very convincingly the indifference of many people to the value of plant life to the soil and the economical and social implications. His style is easy and his illustrations are well chosen.

It is true that men have made many normal landscapes abnormal. Mr. Carter impresses this mistake on the reader and suggests how remedies may be applied. He explains that the balanced cycles of minerals, air, water and organic matter have been disrupted, but not hopelessly so.

The suggestions for classroom activities are good. The general education implications are well presented.

The appendices are interesting and timely. The reader becomes very well aware of the part vegetation has and will play for good or evil in his life.

GUY F. WILLIAMS
*Department of Science,
Colby Junior College,
New London, New Hampshire*

MOOG, FLORENCE. *Structure and Development of the Vertebrates*. Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York. xi plus 170 pp. Illus. 1949. \$3.50.

This book is designed to serve as a laboratory guide for a course in which the usual subject matters of comparative vertebrate anatomy and vertebrate embryology are integrated into a single course. To perform all the exercises included would take about 180 hours, but would lend itself to a course with 100 to 120 clock hours.

There is one-half page of terminology. The first chapter is devoted to the anatomy of the Ammonoetes. Chapters two and three deal with the early embryology of the frog and chick. Chapter four is a survey of the Phylum Chordata. The remainder of the book deals with the development and comparative anatomy of each of the body systems. Directions for dissection and study are clearly given.

The book is well illustrated by diagrams and photographs. There is a good index. It has an attractive cloth-bound cover. Good quality paper is used and the size of the pages is 11 × 8 inches. Anyone contemplating a combined course in vertebrate embryology and comparative anatomy should examine this book.

M. A. RUSSELL
*Junior College,
Highland Park, Michigan*