

haps this is slicing our manna too thin; but a cursory examination by him reveals that some of the principles belong in these other categories. However, this does not interfere in any way with her study. The responses to be made are the same. "It is excellent, etc." as stated.

NOW IF YOU WILL PERMIT "The Old Fossil" to get down off his soap box he will give you the opportunity to step up on it by writing to him your ideas to 5061 North Saint Louis Avenue, Chicago, 25. One evening in October 1950 he was honored on his advent into the "now-I-am-fifty-club" by being selected to take over a graduate class in "Evaluation" at Northwestern University for the session. One wag from the group said, "'The Old Fossil' looks too old to stop the girls with a whistle any more, but I bet he can still trip 'em with his cane." Bye now.

BOOK REVIEWS

MENABONI, ATHOS and SARA. *Menaboni's Birds*. Rinehart & Co., Inc., New York. xi+132 pp. illus. 1950. \$10.00.

Don't tell me there is no Santa Claus. When advance literature on this magnificent volume of superb reproductions of exquisite paintings, with the accompanying delightful running account of the Menabonis, their bird family, and all the "doings," arrived I longed to possess the same and fixed some of the brilliance of the cardinal on the wing and the delicacy of coloring of the pair of little blue herons to my drab office wall where I could see them as I worked at my desk. They are still there but what is such a greater delight is the volume itself with its thirty-two natural-color plates, thirteen full-page black and whites and ever so many more small illustrations of such great accuracy and lifelikeness as to be a constant joy and inspiration.

The use of the personal pronoun "who," etc., is pardonable on the part of those to whom the birds are sharers of the home and delightful little companions and guests over the years. There may even be good precedent for the use of "piliated" in place of "pileated" though I cannot find one. A few typographical errors have crept into an al-

most flawless volume—such as "achitect," VIII; "scheech," p. 24; "omniverous," rear of Eastern Crow plate; "opague," p. 106; "carrillon," p. 108; "oppossums," p. 114. And shouldn't it be *were lichens*, p. 86, also *mile distant*, p. 89? But who would stoop to be that picayunish in the face of so much beauty of style and accuracy of observation and faithful reproduction? Every nature lover will send out a freighted hope for this beautiful book. May each one of you be granted the wish!

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MOMENT, GAIRDNER B. *General Biology*
2nd ed. Appleton-Century-Crofts, New
York. xviii+680 pp. illus. 1950. \$5.00.

This is a general textbook for colleges in its second edition. The first edition appeared in 1942. It is one of the Century Biological Series, edited by Dwight E. Minnich.

Considerable success has been attained in combining the conventional with the more modern features. Sufficiently abundant evidence has been included in support of principles and central concepts. There is up-to-date material on the Rh blood groups, the origin of life, photosynthesis, muscle mechanisms, enzymes, vitamins, respiration, plant hormones, viruses and animal behavior among other things. The methods of population genetics are applied to evolution and eugenics. The modern concept of levels of organization, that is, atoms, molecules, cells, multicellular organisms and populations is introduced. Stress is placed on the human import of biological facts and principles throughout the entire text.

It is likely that a thoughtful and conscientious student, with the aid of this book and under the guidance of an inspiring teacher, would arrive at a good understanding of the fundamental principles and the modern philosophy of biology as generally accepted at the present time.

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