

An Advanced Biology Course in High School

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Advanced Biology has been offered at Glenbard High School for a number of years. It is not geared for Advanced Standing or Placement in College, but is a second year biology course offered for the student interested in some phase of biology as a future. Students are selected on the basis of the Nelson Biology Achievement Test plus the recommendations of their instructors. The counseling staff interviews those interested. They are encouraged to take Chemistry and Physics and not use Advanced Biology as a substitute for either.

The greatest emphasis in Advanced Biology is in laboratory work and a great deal of freedom during school and after class is given the student in the use of laboratory equipment. Some of the areas in which the students work are:

- I. **Cat Dissection.** Each student is given a doubly injected cat and all of the systems of the cat are studied in detail.
- II. **Physiology Experiments.** Students work in groups of three and perform experiments on frogs, turtles and classmates. Kymograph, signal magnets, etc., are used after the student has been instructed in their use.
- III. **Individual or Small Group Projects.** Students are required to work on a proj-

ect. The use of live material is encouraged. This work varies from nutrition experiments to experiments on the endocrine system, and is done on the students' own time. A careful check is made on the student who must turn in progress reports and reference lists. The students feel free to use the laboratory and have done a fine job in maintaining it.

- IV. **Class Program.** Groups of three students are required to put on a program for the class, covering a field in Public Health or a particular profession. They are encouraged to contact speakers to come in as a part of their program. This year we have had a public health officer, medical technologist, a bio-chemist, a nurse, a speaker from the TB office, and a representative from Alcoholic Anonymous.
- V. **Field Trips.** In the last two years we have gone to the Morton Arboretum, Palos Park, a local dairy, Northwestern University, and the County Public Health Exhibit.
- VI. **Science Club Program.** Once a year we present a program for our Science Club. A typical program might include vagus inhibition of the turtle heart, and an explanation of the handling and care of live laboratory animals.

Books for Biologists

THE WORLD OF BEES, Gilbert Nixon, 214 pp., \$4.75, Philosophical Library, New York, New York, 1955.

Bees have been a source of interest since ancient times. In this book Mr. Nixon has tried to give the reader a glimpse of the whole world of bees in all their intriguing diversity of habit and behavior.

Every aspect of bee life is covered: development from egg to adult; courtship; nest-making; care of the young; social life; the strange ways of the cuckoo bees; pollen collecting; the "language" of the bees; etc. The answers to many important questions in non-technical explanations.

EVOLUTION: THE AGES AND TOMORROW, G. Murray McKinley, 275 pp., \$4.00, The Ronald Press Company, New York, New York, 1956.

This book synthesizes facts and theories from many branches of knowledge to present an interpretation of evolution that gives a fresh understanding of man, the world of nature, and man's position in that world.

HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION, S. J. VanPelt, 95 pp., \$2.75, Philosophical Library, New York, New York, 1956.

This book tells the general medical practitioner and those intending to specialize in the treatment of psychoneurotic and psychosomatic disorders what they need to know about the modern method of treating these disorders by hypnotherapy.

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