

chrome oxidase system, myosin, actin, etc. You get the idea that he is trying to show you that he too knows the jargon of molecular biology.

Otherwise the author takes a somewhat traditional and fairly conservative approach to his subject. A typical statement is the one on page 245 that says, "Since the chromosomes are believed to be the bearers of hereditary characteristics, their distribution is of great interest to geneticists." Atypical is the statement on page 17 that says, "The nuclear DNA is the molecule of heredity, and the sequence of the base pairs is the *genetic code* providing information and direction regarding the specific function of the cell."

Although the book is in the fifth edition, I think it could be improved by sticking to the essentials of histology and omitting the superficial treatments of other subjects such as endocrinology, molecular biology, and physiology. One of the nice features of the book is the illustrations. Electron photomicrographs are used sparingly.

Incidentally, we use this text at Butler University for the histological phase of our course in vertebrate histology and microtechnique. It serves our purpose very well.

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### Microbiology

MICROBIOLOGY, 3rd Ed., Louis Gebhardt and Dean Anderson, 488 pp., \$7.75, C. V. Mosby Company, Saint Louis, 1965. MICROBIOLOGY LABORATORY INSTRUCTIONS, 3rd Ed., Gebhardt and Anderson, 335 pp., \$4.25, C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1965.

The fact that these two books are in third edition is some evidence of their popularity and ability to reach the needs of the elementary course in microbiology. They are straightforward, unembellished texts with little reference to complex metabolic pathways and with a heavy emphasis on industrial applications of the science. As is customary, protozoology and virology came off with slight treatment. Of course, there is nothing on the algae. Also, the emphasis on pathogens indicates one of the chief objectives of the texts, namely, the beginning course in viruses, etc.

The lab manual is perforated so that each exercise is complete with instructions and blank page for handing in. The exercises are simple and unembellished, indicating the author's classroom experience.

The pair of books should be examined for the elementary service courses, and the high school teacher will find them useful as references.

MICROBIOLOGY, 2nd Ed., Michael J. Pelczar, Jr. and Roger D. Reid, 662 pp., \$9.50, McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1965.

A most beautifully published book, a model for the textbook publishers' art. Full color is used where appropriate and line drawings are superb. This is truly a most useful and inclusive text for the elementary microbiology course.

Even though the amount of material on these organisms' ability to show reproductive mechanisms, including DNA, is also reduced in comparison to other texts, it is full of valuable material. Indeed, it is one of the few microbiology texts which recognize protozoa, algae, and fungi.

Everything seems well done in the text, and while the expert may find errors of fact, one cannot make a strong case against the book's effectiveness and coverage.

A fine reference for the high school and a well known text for the collegiate course.

THE BIOLOGY OF THE ALGAE, F. E. Round, 269 pp., \$7.25, St. Martins Press, New York, 1965.

The interests of the author are reflected in the emphasis placed on physiology and ecology, but this increases the value of the book since most of the available texts on the algae stress taxonomy and morphology. It will be most useful as an adjunct text for courses in the algae and as a source of references for both phycologist and non-phycologist.

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### Genetics

GENERAL GENETICS, 2nd Ed., A. Srb, R. Owen, R. Edgar, 557 pp., \$9.00, W. H. Freeman Company, San Francisco, 1965.

In the fourteen years since Srb and Owen wrote the first edition of "General Genetics," tremendous advances have been made in genetics. The authors of the second edition are to be commended on the excellence of their product which must have resulted from an extremely difficult sorting task.

The second edition maintains the high quality and the lucid explanation of the first edition, yet, also, includes the significant modern discoveries without becoming too voluminous for an introductory genetics course. The students offered a substantial background to classical genetics as an integral part of a clear, concise structure, greatly extended by recent discoveries from microbial and biochemical research.

While the page number has not increased in this new edition, the concepts of gene structure and function have increased. Many of the