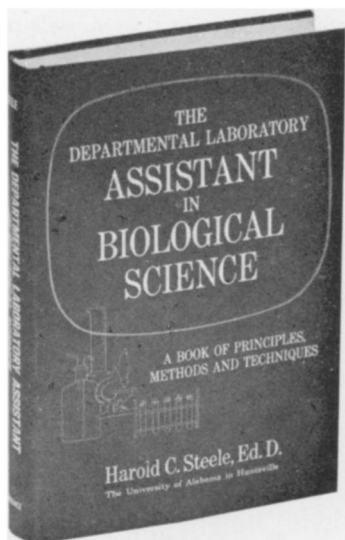


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**VIRUSES, CELLS, AND HOSTS: AN INTRODUCTION TO VIROLOGY**, M. Michael Sigel and Ann R. Beasley, 175 pp., Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., New York, 1965.

A paperback in a Holt series and an attempt to summarize our current knowledge of virology. It is aimed at the general biology student, and as such, is highly useful as a resource reading on the high school and collegiate levels and for practicing biology teachers. But the educated non-science reader should profit from reading it also.

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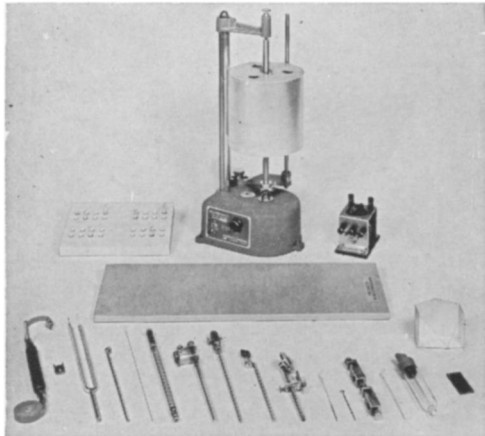
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important contributions. The chapter on "Tools and Toils" is particularly valuable as a review of fundamental biological phenomena which can be used in virology. These are excellent descriptions.

THE BIOLOGY OF ANIMAL PARASITES, Thomas C. Cheng, 727 pp., \$13.50, W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1964.

This is an excellent modern textbook in general parasitology. The coverage of parasites of animals other than man is particularly comprehensive. The taxonomic coverage is very good, but there is also considerable material on biology. The book will make an excellent reference for the school library and serve as supplementary reading and reference in advanced work in biology.

Frank N. Young  
Department of Zoology  
Indiana University

## Genetics

THE MECHANICS OF INHERITANCE, Frank Stahl, 171 pp., \$4.95, Prentice-Hall, Inc., New Jersey, 1966.

This book is a volume in the publishers *Foundations of Modern Genetics Series*. The book jacket indicates that the author will take up genetics from the point of view from what is known today and working back to some of the more general principles enunciated earlier in history. Although this approach has been conveniently used by teachers and authors, it does not come off very well in this book except for the student who has had a very rigorous course in genetics and is keenly alert to all of the modern developments. In other words, the concepts are brought out in a most complex and detailed way. There is mathematics involved, and one must not be afraid to read a great deal of chemical terminology for the understanding of the concepts or the sentences in this book.

At the end of each chapter, there is a bibliography as well as a series of problems and questions. Also, the book is fully illustrated, and excellently so.

There are peculiarities which disturb the reader. For example, there are many comments in parentheses, many of which are references to other books in the series. Each of the chapters seems to start out with a clear paragraph as to what is to be undertaken and to what was explained in the previous chapter, but then reading gets rough. There is no attempt to modify the vocabulary of the research worker in connection with the reader which the author may have had in mind.