

much interested in Darwin. The rediscovery of Mendel with an account of the work of de Vries is included and there is an appendix with excerpts from the original papers of all experimenters.

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Human Biology

THE HUMAN BODY, Fritz Kahn, 288 pp., \$9.95, Random House, New York, 1965.

A beautifully illustrated human anatomy and physiology book in the inimitable style of the author. The chapter headings are traditional ones but do include ones on connective tissue, psychosomatics, sleep, and death. The anatomical drawings are from the French.

The style of the author is to use many analogies and many rich allusions to literature, especially the classics. There are unfortunate lapses of spelling, including the reference to H. J. Muller as J. H. Muller. The publisher has produced a beautifully bound book.

This is the kind of book for the general school library and Christmas gifts.

MODERN COLLEGE PHYSIOLOGY, Stacy-Santolucito, 428 pp., \$8.90, The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1966.

As the title states, this volume is a college level text for students in physiology. It is a first edition, so an appraisal is warranted of its scope, adequacy, and style.

The five sections of this book contain well-selected chapters dealing with essential aspects of each topic. Section I (pp. 3-18) is an introduction, or general orientation, touching on history, methods, interpretation of data, and biological variability in biological systems. The stroke is broad; the presentation, of necessity, thin; the style, sound for students new to the subject. Section II (pp. 19-130) considers basic phenomena underlying physiological analyses. This deals with the behavior of living matter, transport and energy exchange phenomena, bioelectric phenomena, the characteristics of muscles, and of blood as a medium of exchange. A student with a good course in introductory biology will be familiar with much of this, but here, it is drawn together in a synthetic manner, with special reference to the vertebrate, especially mammalian, organism. Section III (pp. 131-268) discusses a variety of integrative mechanisms in the body. The discussion of cybernetics is well-placed but possibly inadequate in terms of modern knowledge (see Stanley-Jones, *Kybernetics of Natural Systems*, Pergamon Press,

1960). Section IV (pp. 269-362) concerns a variety of regulatory systems of the body. These range from metabolism, digestion, kidney, and acid-base balance to control of body temperature. This separation may be a suitable pedagogic ploy, but to separate them from homeostasis and cybernetics is artificial. Should treatment of organ systems not precede consideration of the integrated functioning in the whole organism? Section V (pp. 363-394) is called, "Higher functions of the human body." This is, in reality, a brief treatise on the physiology of exercise and a not wholly adequate treatment of "Space Age man." The idea is sound; the adequacy all right for beginning students, but the style suggests that the answers are all known. Actually, problems of aviation physiology in the World War II sense are well enough known. The reasons for human failure of most of the Gemini Series of space orbits (a chronic G-free state; reduced cardiovascular reserve, etc.) will not be found here, probably quite properly so in a text of this dimension. But it would have made excellent material.

Appendices of tables of normal physiological values, conversion factors and three selected nomograms should prove useful.

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THE LIVING RACES OF MAN, Carleton S. Coon, 364 pp., \$10.00, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., New York, 1965.

A noted anthropologist writes a scholarly, yet easy to read book describing the races of man as he sees them. It is advertised as a companion volume to the controversial *The Origin of Races* in which Coon proposes some interesting theories and which earned acclaim and criticism. The publisher, however, has gone too far on the book jacket. He says that no one knows anything about race until this book is read.

Yet, Coon does write an interesting book and proposes the racial categorization of man based on as many criteria as modern anthropology can discern, from blood types to the familiar morphological characters. He has even made an intensive attempt to use cultural factors, such as language or better, the findings of the science of linguistics.

A fine book for the biologist if only to see how modern biological knowledge is used in human taxonomy, and more generally, an excellent book for the general library where a stray social scientist might find it and be enlightened.