

three years. This reflects the fact, as McGrath points out in his introduction, that until recently there was little actual information on the topic and only a limited literature on the theoretic issues of student involvement in policy-making.

A background section presents a brief history and a survey of actual practices. The history shows that the problem is not peculiar to our era. The section on existing practices should help counter many current myths, held by faculty as well as persons outside Academia, about "student power" and the governance of colleges and universities.

The book probes deeply enough to raise, if not thoroughly discuss, the question of the nature of an academic community in relation to political power. It also points up the contrast between participation in policy-making committees and real power.

The lack of preparation of faculty, as well as students, to participate in college and university governance is pointed out in the section called "Specific Preparation for Governmental Services." This section also suggests some ways to provide the needed preparation.

The author shows the basis for student feelings of exclusion from genuine membership in the academic community, and he notes the deterioration of democratic processes that has occurred on some major campuses. However, he does not relate the one to the other.

This is an important book for high school, as well as college, teachers and administrators to read. Although it deals with the issue in higher education, much of the discussion is pertinent to questions now being raised in high schools about student rights and participation in the school community.

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## Human Biology

**YOUTH AND DRUGS: PREVENTION, DETECTION AND CURE**, by Francis H. Wise. 1971. Association Press, New York. 191 p. \$4.95.

Wise gives an excellent description of the drugs we fear today. This "un-reasoning fear of the unknown" (his phrase), which is creating havoc with parents, is made less formidable as it is related to a known problem: alcohol. There is no basic difference in a person's psychologic reaction and his behavior in the use of alcohol and the use of drugs, Dr. Wise says. Society today has learned to accept degrees of involvement with alcohol and to recognize the diseased individuals; drugs can be regarded in much the same way. The use of beer and of marijuana may be

comparable. (However, teenagers must remember that the legal use of alcoholic beverages is restricted to adults.)

Wise shows how the pharmaceutical companies, licensed physicians, criminal elements, the Hollywood jet set, attorneys, and parents share the responsibility for the distribution of drugs throughout our society. The greatest need, however, is to be aware that there is something wrong with our children—especially their upbringing—which has allowed such an upsurge in the drug habit since the 1950s. The influence of the group, or gang, is recognized as a powerful influence on lonely, inept youngsters. Woodstock is described here in language far different from the usual "love" and "peace."

As the first ounce of prevention (years 1-12), Wise advocates that parents help create within the child a good opinion of himself, teach him to appreciate basic authority, listen to the child (not tell him), and provide religious training. As the second ounce of prevention (after age 13), adults should set the example. Permissive attitudes towards morals, sex, education, and the like have set negative forces in motion. To counteract these influences on their teen-agers, parents need to be assured that group activities are adequately chaperoned. Reasonable hours should be expected and parents should know their child's friends. This book is a must for all parents.

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**MARIHUANA RECONSIDERED**, by Lester Grinspoon, M.D. 1971. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. 773 p. \$9.95 hardback; \$2.45 softback.

Grinspoon has attempted to bring together the mass of information on marihuana and "to present a reasonably accurate and comprehensive account of the drug and its properties and to put into perspective its dangers and utilities." He has only partly accomplished his purpose. *Marihuana Reconsidered* is not consistent throughout as to its literary or scientific merits. In places it is interesting and well written and in places it is boring, hard to read, and full of inconsistencies and irrelevancies. Some portions seem to be objective; others tend to be biased. Grinspoon has occasionally used data selectively to support or refute a hypothesis. His use of anecdotal quotations and of case histories (some incoherent, some irrelevant, and others poorly written or edited) is excessive and has weakened his text. This is especially noticeable in the chapters on acute intoxication and turning on, in contrast to his chapters on the history of marihuana in the United States, motivation of the

user, the campaign against marihuana, and the question of legalization, which are lucid, well organized, and interesting. Grinspoon has usually documented his statements, but the quality and reliability of the sources of his information varies considerably.

In spite of its weaknesses, the book is a valuable contribution to the literature and effectively brings considerable information into focus. It points out the difficulties of evaluating the past reports on *Cannabis sativa* products and of carrying out research on these products. The chapter on crime and sexual excess nicely dispels many of the myths about marihuana: the drug does not act as an aphrodisiac or turn the user into a sex-crazed killer. The chapters on the history of marihuana in the United States and the place of *C. sativa* in medicine clearly point out the potential usefulness of this plant and the irrationality of any total eradication program.

The chapter on motivation of the user presents some excellent psychologic insight into why people use drugs and what effects repressive laws and punitive actions have on their use. The chapter on addiction provides convincing arguments opposing the stepping-stone hypothesis, which states that the use of marihuana inevitably leads to the use of heroin. And the chapter on the campaign against marihuana reveals the extent to which government agencies and other organized groups will go in order to repress people or acts that do not conform with the accepted norm, even though that norm may be equally or more harmful.

*Marihuana Reconsidered* leaves many questions unanswered and raises many new ones. Is marihuana (or any drug) really hallucinogenic? How does the drug-sensitization hypothesis apply to marihuana use? How dangerous is a distortion of time and spatial perception? Can increased sensitiveness and heightened suggestibility lead to clearer thinking and deeper awareness of the meaning of things? Can enjoyment or sensation be real if it has to be learned? How real is psychologic addiction? Is the use of marihuana under existing laws and their enforcement really harmless?

One may disagree with certain parts of Grinspoon's thesis, such as his implication that marihuana is harmless; but it is hard to disagree with his criticism of the present fanatic and punitive approach to controlling marihuana use in the United States. Grinspoon says, "A more rational approach to the problem of smoking marihuana in the United States would include legalization of the use of marihuana, regulation of its distribution, and the development of sound educational programs about it." It should be obvious that we must take another look at

marihuana and change our existing laws and enforcement, which are unrealistic and vary irrationally from place to place and case to case. Grinspoon's book should play an important role in effecting this reevaluation and change, and for this reason it is worthwhile reading, at least in part.

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LOVE AND SEX AND GROWING UP, by Eric W. Johnson and Corrine B. Johnson. 1970. J. B. Lippincott Publishing Co., New York. 119 p. \$3.95.

This book is one in the publisher's series on human sexuality. The format and the simple, direct style convey interesting, factual material for a large reading audience of middle-school age. As in *Sex: Telling It Straight* (1970) and *Love and Sex in Plain Language* (1967), the topic is treated in a frank but inoffensive manner. The biologic, psychologic, and sociologic parameters of sex are considered in a balanced way. There is considerable redundancy in content in this series; however, *Love and Sex and Growing Up* accents the sociologic aspects. The major contribution of the book is a comparison of Iroquois (Indian) and Japanese social structures, which have different but successful concepts of the various roles to be played by the sexes. Such a discussion assists in breaking down stereotyped thinking about the established and the emerging roles of the sexes in our own society.

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THE TRUTH ABOUT DRUGS, by Geoffrey Austrian. 1971. Doubleday & Co., Garden City, N.Y. 141 p. \$3.50 (hardback).

This book, written for the young reader, discusses in an adequately objective way the drug problems in our society. The author gives a brief history of the use of drugs in the United States, mentioning the widespread use of morphine in the Civil War, the opium-smoking by Chinese railroad-workers, and the use of household medicines containing opium, such as laudanum and Dover's powder. The changing popularity and availability of drugs are mentioned in the review of marihuana, opium, heroin, and LSD.

Austrian has an excellent section on the effects of drugs, including the range of individual reactions. He considers such variables as the amount; the way a drug is taken; the time of day; other drugs taken beforehand; a person's size, age, and weight; the condition of his body organs; his emotional makeup; his mood; and his expecta-

tions. Because the reaction to a drug is an individual thing, Austrian indicates, no general standards can be stated.

"Drug dependence" (the term replacing "addiction") is discussed. This is followed by information on the "ups" and the "downs": the amphetamines and the barbiturates. The unknowns of LSD are presented, and marihuana is discussed at length. The move to decrease the severity of the penalty for drug users is described. Organized crime's role in the drug traffic has a chapter devoted to it, and the book concludes with a discussion of the organizations and programs that are designed to aid the addict.

That this book is of interest to the young reader was verified when my 11-year-old son discovered it at home one evening and read it in three sittings. And my concern that the book might be too objective for a young reader was allayed as the result of the discussion we had about it: the dangers, the uncertainties, the costs, and the effects come on strongly enough to make the idea of drug-taking objectionable to the young reader.

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## Microbiology

MICROORGANISMS AND MAN, by Orville Wyss and Curtis Eklund. 1971. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York. 398 p. \$9.50.

The authors state in the preface, "this textbook is a study guide for an elementary course. . . . It is not a compendium in microbiology." Therein lies one of its main strengths. It seems all too often of late that textbooks, even for elementary courses, are being written not for students but for peers. This book avoids that trap nicely without sacrificing information essential to the student and without saddling the student with a volume that by its sheer size alone would scare the wits out of most beginners in the discipline.

The title suggests that the book is about the interrelationships of microbes and man. These applied aspects of microbiology are indeed stressed—but not without first giving the student adequate fundamentals to permit a fuller appreciation of the applications. The 21 chapters flow smoothly from an introduction and history of microbiology, through an up-to-date but properly abbreviated section on the basics of the science, and then into the various kinds of microbes and their pertinence to medicine, to water, to milk and food products, to industry, and to the soil.

A format of heavy print for key terms is used with skill and supplemented by

a useful glossary. Each chapter has a succinct summary, which could be profitably read both before and after a study of the content. The book lacks color illustrations, but perhaps this was in the interest of the student's pocketbook. If so, it was a good choice: the illustrations, for the most part, are quite adequate in black and white. However, a more liberal use of illustrative material would have been helpful. In addition, I would have liked to see a series of guide questions at the end of each chapter; but for a skillful teacher they may not be necessary.

Wyss and Eklund have made a genuine contribution to the teaching of elementary microbiology. They have kept their audience in mind. I hope this concern will not be at the expense of peer-group disapproval, as is sometimes the case. I believe the man to whom the book is dedicated—the late O. B. Williams, of the University of Texas—would have taken pride in *Microorganisms and Man*.

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## Molecular Biology

MOLECULES, MEASUREMENTS, MEANINGS: A LABORATORY MANUAL IN BIOCHEMISTRY, by David W. Krogman. 1971. W. H. Freeman & Co., San Francisco. 100 p. \$3.25 (softback).

Perusing the table of contents of this manual, one is likely to surmise that it has just what an introductory laboratory program in biochemistry should contain: work on proteins, enzymes, ATP, photosynthesis, respiration, lipids, nucleic acids, enzyme regulation, and biochemical differentiation. There are 18 experiments and an index. The exercises are designed to illustrate the chemical basis of the main topics of an introductory biochemistry course.

Examining the experiments, one finds this manual more attractive. There are several illustrations, borrowed from *Scientific American* or drawn in a similar clear style. In a number of experiments use is made of several kinds of models; this is an important technique, used increasingly in the classroom and the laboratory. The exercises within each unit are well chosen. For example, the unit on the photosynthetic reducing power of isolated chloroplasts includes exercises on the absorption spectrum of chlorophyll, measurement of oxygen production by illuminated chloroplasts, chloroplast concentration and dye reduction, dye concentration and rate of dye reduction, effect of light intensity, effect of wavelength of light, and effect of an inhibitor.

A teacher's manual (free to teachers from the publisher), consisting of an