

BOOKS YOU'LL REFER TO OFTEN

ANALYZER OF MEDICAL · BIOLOGICAL WORDS: A Clarifying Dissection of Medical Terminology, Showing How It Works, for Medics, Paramedics, Students, and Visitors from Foreign Countries by J. E. Schmidt. The text presents a dissection of all representative biological terms, showing their disjointed forms and the various elements which partake in the structural scheme of a compound medical term. '73, 224 pp., \$6.95

THE REGULATION OF MAMMALIAN REPRODUCTION edited by Sheldon J. Segal, *The Population Council, New York*; Ruth Crozier and Philip A. Corfman, *both of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Bethesda, Maryland*; and Peter G. Condliffe, *John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland*. (132 Contributors) '73, 614 pp. (7 x 10), 260 il., 91 tables, \$44.50

A SOURCE-BOOK OF BIOLOGICAL NAMES AND TERMS (3rd Ed., 5th Ptg.) by Edmund C. Jaeger, *Riverside College, Riverside, California*. In this book you will find thousands of word elements or combining forms from which scientific names are made and the Greek, Latin or other words in which they have their origin. This book serves as a guide to pronunciation and an easier remembrance of correct spelling. '72, 360 pp. (6 1/4 x 9 1/2), 106 il., \$8.75

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chapter on ant lions as "pets" is excellent, and the beasts are treated as real pets. The information about Lepidoptera is good as it applies to the large silkworm moths and poor as it applies to butterflies. The statement that "many butterflies . . . do not eat in the final stage" is utter nonsense. There is no mention of the use of synthetic foods for Lepidoptera. There is no mention of making pets of the hibernators. (You can have them in the house, feeding on dilute sugar-water, all winter.)

The directions for raising Orthoptera—crickets, grasshoppers, mantises, and

walking-sticks—are good. These insects rarely are raised in the teaching laboratory, but they should be. They are good examples of incomplete metamorphosis.

The sections on beetles and dragonflies are only fair. However, an imaginative teacher can learn enough from them to carry on with some breeding experiments that should prove interesting. I am surprised that no mention is made of *Anthrinus* or *Dermestes* as easily raised beetles, which are used extensively to clean small skeletons in museums.

The concluding chapter, "Insect Collections," contains a very detailed explanation of spreading a large moth (or butterfly) and little about preparing other insects of other orders. Insect-collection storage is touched upon in a paragraph or two.

On the whole, this is a useful book, primarily to give a good teacher ideas. It can be given to secondary high-school students with the caution that all it states is not necessarily true. It is not a "must" book, just a useful one.

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NEMERTEANS, by Ray Gibson. 1972. Hutchinson & Co., London. 224 p. \$5.00 softback, \$9.00 hardback.

In many college zoology classes the phylum Rhynchocoela is given a "once over lightly" treatment. Often this pattern is repeated in invertebrate zoology courses. But if you have ever wondered just how much is known (or not known) about nemerteans, this is the book for you.

The author does an admirable job of compiling the work of many authorities as a readable text. The seven chapters deal with classification and morphology nutrition and digestion, general physi-

ology, reproduction and embryology, ecology and zoogeography, and phylogeny. An extensive bibliography is included.

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GIANT REPTILES, by Sherman A. Minton, Jr., and Madge Rutherford Minton. 1973. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 346 p. \$9.95 (hardback).

The book is well-documented, containing data not usually found in books of this type. The style as well as the content makes it an excellent reference both for the neophyte student as well as the informed teacher at both the high school and college level. Its greatest value seems to be as an informative source for school libraries. The coverage simultaneously of both the factual and mythical areas of reptiles makes interesting reading. This book in a single volume clarifies much of the vast misinformation coincident with the evolutionary rise and current status of the generally misunderstood class of the reptiles of the world. As a teacher at both the high school and college level of zoology and anthropology, I find there is a wealth of material of transfer value vital to both the aforementioned courses. The only other book that closely attains this same degree of excellence and dual purpose is a small softback handbook of a series published by the British Museum (Natural History), Department of Zoology, London, England. This handbook, entitled *Natural History of Snakes*, was published in 1965. However, the comprehensive data compiled by giant reptiles involve a great deal more of a practical research content.

My lone criticism centers around the failure of the authors not to include more about the group of snakes that

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