

Students are convinced that book revisions are undertaken to force them to purchase new copies instead of used. Not so in this case. Selected sections have been rewritten and information has been added to update the book. Topics such as: "Hemagglutination Inhibition," "Endotoxin Detection," "Applications of Diagnostic and Investigative Electron Microscopy," and others have been added, while the section on "Complement Fixation and Its Mechanism" has been rewritten. Behavioral objectives have been added to each division of the book and new review questions have been included. There is a new chapter on Oncogenesis and Microorganisms. The glossary is well developed and references are made to the literature as well as to other texts.

As stated in the Preface, this is a comprehensive book and is suggested as being appropriate for both introductory and advanced classes in microbiology. This may be its one failing. Introductory students may be so overwhelmed by the plethora of material that they may not be able to identify relatively simple concepts. An adroit teacher can overcome this handicap and this may indeed be the basis for two separate courses in microbiology. Use in the advanced class would be enhanced by the students' previous familiarity with the book.

James Horton
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THE BATTLE AGAINST BACTERIA: A FRESH LOOK.

by Peter Baldry. 2nd ed., 1976. Cambridge University Press, (32 East 57th Street, New York 10022). 179 p. \$9.95.

The first edition of this book published in 1965 traced man's progress in his fight against bacteria from the earliest times up to the discovery of antibiotics in the 1940s. This revised edition continues with an account of a large number of other antimicrobial agents discovered during the last 25 years. It is an account of how man's success in the fight against bacteria is the result of shrewd observations followed by long-term cooperative research and practice in university laboratories and pharmaceutical industry. With the extension of several chapters, more profuse illustrations, and a complete renaming and rewriting of the last chapter, the reader gets a "fresh look" at the battle against bacteria.

The book begins with a brief history of research telling how bacterial enemies were identified and named. It relates methods of defense against the enemy and carries the reader briefly through

research and discoveries involved in the successful production of antimicrobial agents.

The text is knowledgeably written and attractively printed. The interspersing of scientific facts with profiles of major figures, illustrations, and social comments make the book more enjoyable and profitable to a wide range of readers. Its emphasis on the major aspects and the most outstanding persons involved in the battle against bacteria also add to the ease with which the book can be read.

This book was written to be used by professionals in medicine and nursing, students (including upper high school), and a wide range of the general public. It is a concise, accurate account of the development and use of therapeutic agents.

Willie J. Lanham
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GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY—THE STUDENT'S HANDBOOK

by Peter Hunter. 1977. The C.V. Mosby Company (111836 West Line Industrial Drive, St. Louis Missouri 63141). 366 p. \$9.95.

This textbook should be especially useful in a one semester introductory course designed for students of medical laboratory technology, nursing, food technology, industrial microbiology, or environmental studies. The author presents an overview of the subject with an emphasis on techniques and applications. The book is divided into two sections: (1) basic background information; and (2) applied microbiology.

The first six chapters cover classification, nomenclature, microscopy, cell structure and function, metabolism, cultivation, growth, and control of microorganisms. In the introductory chapter, the author compares the 7th and 8th editions of *Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology*. A discussion of numerical taxonomy is also included. The chapter on protists contains several helpful tables comparing various protists and organisms within each group. The addition of more nutritional information could improve the chapter on metabolism without changing the nature of the book. The techniques included in the chapter on cultivation, growth, and control of microorganisms are usually described in a microbiology lab book.

The last four chapters discuss particular topics in applied microbiology. The chapter on the microbiology of water, sewage, air, and industry has especially good flowcharts of sewage and water treatment and the industrial processes for the production of alcoholic beverages,

HOLY SCOPES! IS TEACHING EVOLUTION STILL AN ISSUE, 118 YEARS AFTER DARWIN'S ORIGINS?



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Edited by
Arnold B. Grobman

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penicillin, acetic and lactic acids, and steroids. The food chapter covers such topics as contamination, spoilage, preservation processes, and dairy microbiology. In the clinical microbiology chapter, the discussion of the microbial flora of the human body and the techniques for the collection of specimens is especially detailed. The immunology and serology chapter is limited in details, but there is a good survey of the basic techniques of serology.

The author has designed this introductory textbook to be used in traditional or self-paced courses. The book incorporates several learning aids: directions on the use of the book, "Note to Students;" learning objectives; objective questions and answers, "Self-Evaluation," at the end of each chapter; and the key words are set in bold-face type and defined in context. The student directions explain the various uses of the learning objectives, and the self-evaluation section places the responsibility for learning the basics on the students. Each section of a chapter, "Learning Block," is followed by a list of learning objectives designed to focus the student's attention on the major ideas. Below the list of objectives is a set of numbers in parentheses which indicate the section of the self-evaluation covering the material discussed in the learning block. Most of the self-evaluation questions are well written and are a true aid to the student. The answers follow in a separate section.

A major omission is information on microbial genetics. The undergraduate biology student would have an incomplete view of the subject matter of microbiology if this book were to be the substance of an introductory course. However, all students, especially an applied microbiology student, enrolled in an introductory course can benefit from using this textbook designed to help students learn the basics of microbiology.

Patricia L. Waller
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Hockessin, Delaware

BOOKS RECEIVED

A DICTIONARY OF LIFE SCIENCES, by E. A. Martin. 1976. The Macmillan Press Ltd., New York. 320 p. \$16.50.
WATER, THE YEARBOOK OF AGRICULTURE, by the Department of Agriculture. 1955. The United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 751 p. Price not given.
MINI THINGS, by John K. Olson. 1975. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 88 p. Price not given.

GREEN POWER (and teacher's guide), by John K. Olson. 1974. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 88 p. (guide 44 p.) Price not given.
NETWORKS, by R. H. Horwood. 1976. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 96 p. Price not given.
INSIDE STORY, by Lloyd D. Roberts. 1974. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 96 p. Price not given.
MICROBIOLOGICAL LABORATORY TECHNIQUES, by Arnold I. Miller. 1976. D. C. Heath and Company, Lexington, Massachusetts. 233 p. Price not given.
FROM NATURE TO MAN, by Bruce L. Barrett and John N. Stratton. 1976. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 384 p. Price not given.
LIFEBOAT, MAN AND A HABITABLE EARTH, by Ken Hewitt. 1976. Wiley Publishers of Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 335 p. Price not given.
A MODERN INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY, by B. S. Beckett. 1977. Oxford University Press, New York. 307 p. \$6.
VENOMS—CHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, by Anthony T. Tu. 1977. John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Publishers, New York. 560 p. \$34.50.
DISINFECTION, STERILIZATION AND PRESERVATION, by Seymour S. Block. (2nd edition,) 1977. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 1049 p. \$48.50.
MAZINGIRA, NO. 1. 1977. Pergamon Press, New York. 98 p. \$2.50.
HUMAN BIOLOGY, AN EXHIBITION OF OURSELVES, British Museum. 1977. Cambridge University Press, New York. 20 p. Price not given.
PREMEDITATED MAN: BIOETHICS AND THE CONTROL OF FUTURE HUMAN LIFE, by Richard M. Restak. 1977. Penguin books, New York. 202 p. \$1.95.
A DOCTOR'S ANSWER TO TENNIS ELBOW: HOW TO CURE IT, HOW TO PREVENT IT, by Beckett Horworth, M.D. and Fred Bender. 1977. Chelsea House, New York. 94 p. \$3.95.
VIRUSES, Alan E. Nourse. 1976. Franklin Watts, Inc., New York. 72 p. \$3.90.
HOW TO GET RID OF POISONS IN YOUR BODY, by Gary Null and Steven Null. 1977. Arco Publishing Company, Inc., New York. 276 p. \$1.95.
A NATURAL HISTORY OF TERMITES, by Frances L. Behnke. 1977. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 118 p. \$6.96.
MAX THE GREAT, by W. L. Heath. 1977. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. 88 p. \$6.95.