

section after having learned the background material in the first section. It becomes clear why the various vegetative formations are where they are and how the unique interactions occur within the formations. Each description of a formation includes a discussion of the human impact on that formation. Most of the photographs are clear and help the reader to visualize the vegetation types. Specific diagrams and maps based on the ones introduced and explained in the first section complete the descriptions of the eight formations. An appendix lists the corresponding common and species names used in section two.

Although the book is intended for college use, it would be a welcome supplement for a second year high school course in biology or ecology.

Ronald E. Charlton  
Mt. Lebanon High School  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### Educational and Professional Concerns

#### TEACHING SCHOOL: POINTS PICKED UP

by Eric W. Johnson. 1979. National Association of Independent Schools (4 Liberty Square, Boston, Massachusetts 02109). 219 p. \$8.95.

On the cover page, the subtitle "A book for anyone who is teaching, wants to teach, or knows a teacher," boldly stands out in yellow type on a black background. After reading the prescriptive twenty-five chapters, this "how-to-do-it" book left me with mixed emotions; for the book is as general as the subtitle...something for everyone! Chapter titles such as: "Order," "Discipline," and "Learning the Basics," reveal the authoritarian philosophy held by the author. The listings of "thou shalls" and "thou shall nots" are sprinkled with elements of behaviorism, authoritarianism, humanism, existentialism, and moralism. The

broad-based approach used by the author makes it difficult to determine the value of the book to the professional educator. The author states that he has read 200 books on teaching and that Abbie G. Hall's book, *Points Picked Up: One Hundred Hints in How to Manage School* (published in 1891) is a... "book full of good sense." The reader must judge if Johnson's newly synthesized litany is a book full of the same good sense.

Jon R. Hendrix  
Ball State University  
Muncie, Indiana

#### GETTING INTO MEDICAL SCHOOL

by Donald J. Solomon. 1979. W. B. Saunders Company (West Washington Square, Philadelphia 19105). 167 p. \$5.75.

Gaining entrance to an American medical school is a seriously competitive endeavor requiring exceptionally thorough preparation. This compact book is an invaluable resource for anyone whose career goal is the practice of medicine.

Donald Solomon, a medical student when he wrote the book, gives concrete advice about how to proceed each step of the way. He begins with the considerations that should go into the decision to become a pre-medical student. The various chapters cover topics such as what preparation is valuable in high school, courses to take in college, the importance of grades, extracurricular activities, the medical college entrance examination, filling out applications and where to send them, interviews, and many other preparatory aspects. The coverage is extremely thorough; nothing is omitted. The approach should encourage the determined individual who is willing to make a total commitment to pursuing medical school entrance, while discouraging the casually interested.

The book is written in an appealing style. Many touches of humor relieve the

seriousness of the topic and make for enjoyable reading. Two additional features are used to increase the reader's interest: a question-and-answer format, and liberal use of actual case histories to illustrate and reinforce the points made.

Finally, the three appendices complete this carefully researched resource by including a directory of U.S. medical school admissions offices, a list of pertinent medical associations, and a bibliography of books of interest to prospective medical students.

Because this is the only book that comprehensively covers this subject, it should be an important acquisition for high school and college libraries. It is a must for career counselors.

Betty Risley  
University of Illinois at the  
Medical Center  
Chicago

### Physiology and Anatomy

#### HUMAN FUNCTION: A LABORATORY MANUAL

by Michael E. Egan and J.P. McMillan. 1979. W.B. Saunders and Company (West Washington Square, Philadelphia 19105). 111 p. \$4.95.

Many physiology textbooks available do not have laboratory manuals. This lab manual is excellent for use with any physiology textbook selected by a teacher in senior high school or junior college.

The labs are practical, interesting, and not too difficult to perform. The lab manual begins with an overview of each of the human body systems. Each lab exercise has an informative introduction that may serve as a review of lecture or text material, clearly stated objectives, and explanations of the materials, methods and procedures. Also included are good discussion questions that involve application of the principles observed during the lab activity. Of particular aid to the instructor are the last pages

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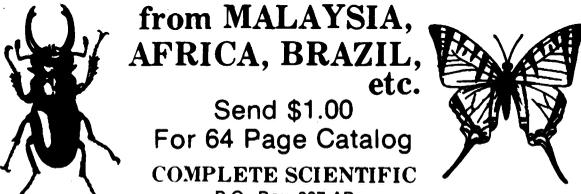
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