A Revision of a Text on General Physiology

One of the earliest text-books in the field of General Physiology was the excellent book of Dr. Philip H. Mitchell published originally some fifteen years ago. The present volume is the third edition of this text. It has been thoroughly revised and somewhat enlarged. In particular the sections on the structure and permeability of cell membranes, physiological oxidation, the chemistry of muscular contraction, vitamins, and the hormones have been revised in the light of recent investigations. A considerable amount of material contained in the book would be found treated in substantially the same way in any standard text on human or mammalian physiology. However, this can scarcely be considered a fault, since there is little agreement among physiologists themselves as to the limits of the field of general physiology. Dr. Mitchell has succeeded in giving in an understandable way much of the physio-chemical background of physiology, which the more conventional textbooks neglect, and in that sense the book is truly a text on General Physiology.—Fred A. Hitchcock.