Book Notices

This is not a conventional Festschrift, but rather a series of essays dedicated to Bohr on the occasion of his seventieth birthday. The list of contributors reads like an international "Who's Who" in modern physics: C. G. Darwin, Heisenberg, Pauli, Landau, Rosenfeld, O. Klein, Casimir, F. L. Freidman, V. F. Weiskopf, J. A. Wheeler, and J. Linhard. Most of the articles are highly erudite and up-to-date discussions of various aspects of such portions of atomic and nuclear physics as Niels Bohr has been himself concerned with during his long and productive life. In some of the contributions, such as that of Landau (of Moscow), new and previously unpublished results have been included. As a result, the book will be of interest primarily to theoretical physicists, and possibly to historians of science.

Very little biographical material about Bohr the man has been included, which is a pity. The occasion is clearly a sentimental one, and could have provided an excellent opportunity for a more personalized evaluation.

CHARLES SÜSSKIND.


In the fourth volume of her monumental series, Dr. Hyman deals exclusively with the echinoderms. As in previous volumes, the first of which appeared in 1940 and the third in 1951, her aim is to survey and critically analyze existing knowledge of anatomy, classification and life history. This aim is admirably accomplished, insofar as it is possible to do so in a single volume. In addition, unlike in the three previous volumes, she devotes considerable space to the discussion of geographic distribution. The several exclusively fossil classes of echinoderms are described only briefly, and most attention is paid to existing classes. The discussion of each existing class is full, detailed, and well illustrated.

The book will mainly be useful as a reference for teachers and students. The final chapter, however, deals with phylogeny within the phylum, and certainly should be assigned reading in many courses concerned with evolution. Discussion of the relationships of the echinoderms to other phyla is deferred until further volumes of the series, dealing with these phyla, have appeared.

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