Book Notices

The Ohio Journal of Science. v64 n1 (January, 1964), 63-63
http://hdl.handle.net/1811/4984

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Today when scientists, publishers, and customers seem to think a book isn't much of a book unless it is thick from cover to cover and crammed with facts without end and often with little evidence of intent or purpose, it is wonderful to have this thin volume filled with ideas to think about. The book is entertainingly written and illustrated and therefore it is easy to read but I am sure the author would want us to remember, as Harry Golden put it so nicely in For 2¢ Plain, "Reading without thinking is worse than no reading at all."

The reader learns why the fly is a good experimental animal, what are properly conducted experiments and observations, various experiments of broad zoological and psychological interest that have been made on the fly, and he finds many vignettes that might be labeled science, scientist, teacher, student, laboratory, and aptitude test. All of this, plus the excellent Foreword by N. Tinbergen, will intrigue the reader into thinking on topics about which intelligent people must think. I highly recommend this book. It won't exhaust you to carry it or to read it and you will have much pleasure focussing your thoughts on targets of significance.

CARL VENARD