

---

**Fundamentals of Biology.** *M. J. Harbaugh* and *A. L. Goodrich*, Editors. The Blakiston Company, Inc., New York. 1953 x+611 pp. \$6.00.

This text consistently fulfills its purpose of setting forth fundamentals of biology. Many so-called general biology texts begin with a biological approach, but after more or less of preliminary statement settle down to a study of plants and animals as separate entities. In each of the categories of this book, which are roughly: 1) physical basis of life in its environment (chapters 1-4), 2) fundamental life processes (chapters 5-14), 3) heredity (chapter 15), 4) evolution (chapter 16), and 5) ecology (chapters 17-20), the editors achieve a well-balanced treatment of life in its diversified forms. This is somewhat remarkable in view of the fact that both Harbaugh and Goodrich are zoologists. Another zoologist, an entomologist, a bacteriologist and a botanist comprise the rest of the contributing staff. In addition to the integration of living forms, the relationship of other organisms to man is adequately treated.

The book is well illustrated with pictures and diagrams, and, where feasible, tables and outlines are effectively employed. The text is designed for a "two-semester, eight-credit hour course covering the general field of biological sciences", and its use should prove to be a rewarding experience for the teacher as well as for the student.

E. ELOISE WHITWER.

---

**Excerpta Medica-Cancer.** *R. van Dam* and *W. van Westering*, Editors. Excerpta Medica, N. V., Amsterdam, The Netherlands. 12 Nos. yearly \$10.00.

The Excerpta Medica consists of 16 abstracting journals all begun since the war; of these the one devoted to cancer is the most recent. Three other journals in this series of interest to biologists as well as physicians deal with anatomy, physiology and biochemistry, and endocrinology. The cancer journal presents its subject matter under 15 headings among which are experimental research, plant and animal tumors, the various organ systems (8), diagnosis, treatment, statistics, and cancer control. The abstracts in this first number (July 1953) are generally adequate and deal with reasonably recent articles; most appeared in 1952.

H. SCHLUMBERGER.