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#### Introduction to Biophysics

Under this title the author has brought together a discussion of a number of important topics in biophysics. As the chapter headings indicate, the viewpoint is definitely slanted towards medicine and human physiology: I. Biophysically Active X-Rays. II. Applied Radioactivity. III. Biophysical Characteristics of the Eye. IV. Emission and Absorption of Biophysically Active Light. V. The Structure and Properties of Surfaces and Membranes. VI. The Biophysical Problem of Nerve Conduction. VII. Auditory Biophysics. VIII. The Compound Microscope; The Electron Microscope. The reader whose primary interest is in plant physiology, other than human, physiology, or bacteriology will turn from a reading of the book with an unsatisfied feeling, as only few applications to such branches of biology are mentioned. Within his chosen topical limits, however, the author has managed to present the current state of knowledge in this borderline domain of science with admirable concision. The section on the compound microscope should be required reading for all biologists. Perhaps the most surprising omission is the complete absence of any consideration of radiant energy from the quantum viewpoint. There are general author and subject indices, and a working bibliography at the end of each chapter.—*B. S. Meyer.*

**An Introduction to Biophysics**, by Otto Stuhlman, Jr. 375 pp. John Wiley & Sons, New York. 1943. \$4.00.

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#### Medical and Zoological Microtechnic

The encyclopedic method of presenting the subject has been adopted by the author. However, the book is not large, such as the German Encyclopedias of Ehrlich and Krause. The author has selected what he considers the more important technics from a voluminous literature, and presented it in a very concise form. In many instances it was not possible to include all details which might be desired. To overcome this disadvantage references are given in their appropriate places and not collected in a large bibliography. It will serve as a quick, easy reference book on a host of technics used in the study of animal tissues.—*G. W. B.*

**Microscopic Technique in Biology and Medicine**, by E. V. Cowdry. 206 pp. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Md., 1943. \$4.00.