In the present volume there are four reviews on fundamental studies on protein structure or reactivity. "The Reactions of Formaldehyde with Amino Acids and Proteins," by French and Edsall, and the consideration of "X-Ray Diffraction and Protein Structure," by Fankuchen, are masterly presentations of the respective subjects. The success of the former authors in condensing and making clear and readable the vast literature on formaldehyde-protein reactions is noteworthy. The table assembled by Fankuchen on X-ray data on the crystalline proteins is a valuable aid to the reader. In a review on "Protein Denaturation and the Properties of Protein Groups," Anson has made a thoughtful and straightforward presentation of his views on this topic. A discussion on "Terminal Amino Acids in Peptides and Proteins," by Fox, describes some of the methods which might be employed in determining amino acid sequences in proteins.

There are two excellent reviews on tissue proteins, one by Dawson and Mallette on "Copper Proteins," and the other by Karl Meyer on "Mucoids and Glycoproteins." The former covers the topics of the hemocyanins, the oxidases, and metalloproteins generally; the latter is concerned with those polysaccharides and smaller sugars which are attached to a number of proteins. Both reviews should be immensely valuable to workers in many fields.

Two reviews on foodstuffs, "Amino Acid Composition of Food Proteins," by Block, and "Wheat Gluten," by Blish, are interesting contributions to this subject, the tables in both reviews being of particular usefulness to workers in nutrition. The range of problems encountered in cereal technology may be a surprise to those accustomed to the ready availability of bread nicely wrapped in wax paper on the grocer's shelves.

There are two reviews on methods of protein analysis. One, by Snell, on the "Microbiological Assay of Amino Acids" is very well done and of considerable contemporary interest. The other, by Martin and Synge, covers nearly all methods of analysis of hydrolyzed proteins except the microbiological; close to 800 references are cited in 63 pages of text, and the thought arises that perhaps too much has been attempted in too small a space.

A contribution of interest to medicine is a review by Paul Cannon on "Antibody Production and Resistance to Infection," which is largely concerned with the relation of protein metabolism to resistance mechanisms in the animal body.

JESSE P. GREENSTEIN
National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

Scanning Science—

The first number of the anthropological series published by the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago, is the "Archaeological Studies among the Ancient Cities of Mexico," by the curator, William H. Holmes. The first part, which alone has appeared, is devoted to the architectural remains of Yucatan.

—21 February 1896