

Book Reviews

The chemistry and technology of enzymes. Henry Tauber. New York: John Wiley; London: Chapman & Hall, 1949. Pp. viii + 550. (Illustrated.) \$7.50.

This volume is an expansion of the author's book *Enzyme technology*, published in 1943. The contents are divided into two parts: Part I, The Chemistry of Enzymes; Part II, The Technology of Enzymes. The addition of the fundamental material in Part I has increased materially the value of the book, and the inclusion of a number of the processes developed during the war has strengthened Part II. An occasional error such as *Streptococcus* for *Staphylococcus aureus*, while irritating to bacteriologists, in no manner detracts from the value of the work.

MALCOLM H. SOULE

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Elementary statistical analysis. S. S. Wilks. Princeton, N. J.: Princeton Univ. Press, 1948. Pp. xi + 284. \$2.50.

This book is intended to be used as a text in a one-semester introductory course in statistics. While a knowledge of calculus is assumed, it is used only rarely: an acquaintance with elementary algebra will suffice for the reading of all but a few sections of the book, and these could be omitted without serious loss. It is clearly and lucidly written, and numerous examples are provided in the text to illustrate the principles brought out. The aim has been to make a few basic concepts entirely clear, rather than to cover a wide field.

The viewpoint is adopted which regards statistical analysis as a methodological tool of scientific research, rather than the traditional idea, still too common in elementary texts, that its main object is merely to give a

summary description of a set of data. Thus, the role of probability is emphasized; and much attention is given to the problem of sampling, which is that of making inferences from a sample concerning the characteristics of the population from which it was drawn. It is refreshing to find that, by the introduction of confidence limits, the author has brought into his treatment of this subject a definiteness too often lacking in beginning textbooks.

THOMAS N. E. GREVILLE

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Public Health Service

Introduction to physics. (2nd. ed.) Harley Howe. New York-London: McGraw-Hill, 1948. Pp. xii + 599. (Illustrated.) \$4.50.

This nontechnical book on physics is intended for students in the liberal arts, premedical courses, and agriculture. It embraces the usual classical subdivisions of the subject. Three chapters devoted to topics associated with modern physics are introduced before the final section on optics.

The author states in the preface that a knowledge of elementary algebra and plane geometry is sufficient mathematical background for an understanding of the text. This level is consistently maintained. There are few equations that cannot be understood from the principles elucidated here.

Some users of the book will want to supplement it with additional classroom material. This is particularly true of the section on rotational motion, which seems to be unnecessarily brief.

All in all, the book is a good one. It should prove an understandable and appropriate text for use in a course designed to fill the needs of the student who wants a fundamental course in physics to supplement his major study.

WALTER M. NIELSEN

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NEWS and Notes

Raymond E. Masters, of the Westinghouse Corporation's East Pittsburgh medical staff, has been appointed medical director of the corporation's recently formed Atomic Power Division at Bettis Field, near Pittsburgh.

Sam Granick, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, will deliver the eighth Harvey Lecture of the current series at the New York

Academy of Medicine on May 19. His subject will be "Heme and Chlorophyll."

Norbert Wiener, professor of mathematics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak on "Cybernetics" at the Howard University College of Medicine, Washington, D. C., May 12, at 8:30 p.m. The occasion is the second annual Howard University Sigma Xi lecture.

Visitors to U. S.

Gösta Elfving, of the University of Helsingfors, Sweden, has been appointed visiting professor of mathematical statistics for the academic years 1949-51 at Cornell University.

Corneille Heymans, professor of pharmacology of the University of Ghent, Belgium, is visiting professor of pharmacology at Emory University School of Medicine, Georgia, during the spring quarter.

Robert Broom, South African paleontologist, recently visited the University of California at Berkeley, where he lectured on the significance of man-apes in human ancestry.

E. Haeggblund and **H. W. Giertz**, of the Cellulose Industriens Central Laboratorium, Stockholm, Sweden, will address the Symposium of Wood Chemistry, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, New York, on May 7.