

erosion (in considerable detail), the doctrine of glacial protection, and the constructional forms. In a long range geologic view these are climatic accidents, although scarcely more so than some other geomorphic phenomena which are not repeated with any great regularity. The discussion of erosional features produced by alpine glaciers is excellent and stimulating.

The illustrations, both text diagrams and photographs, are notable in their clarity and pertinence.

The author's effort has been successful in assembling and interpreting a vast amount of geomorphic data in two climatic environments, and in its synthesis into a coherent and interesting picture of land forms in arid and glacial climates. This is a book that should be on the reading shelf of all geomorphologists, geographers, and others interested in these climatic factors.

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**Advances in protein chemistry.** (Vol. IV.) M. L. Anson and John T. Edsall. (Eds.) New York: Academic Press, 1948. Pp. ix + 575. (Illustrated.) \$8.50.

The eight reviews and essays in this volume deal with an interesting variety of themes bearing on the properties of proteins and amino acids.

In "Protein Gels," John D. Ferry surveys developments of the past few years, mainly on gelatin and fibrin gels, and provides a valuable discussion of the phenomenon of protein gelation. In "The Interactions of Proteins and Synthetic Detergents," Frank W. Putnam considers, in addition to the qualitative effects of surface active compounds on proteins and biological systems, evidence as to the mechanism of such interactions—binding via electrostatic forces, and the complex

formation aided and stabilized by van der Waals' forces between nonpolar groups. "Proteins of Pathogenic Bacteria," by A. M. Pappenheimer, Jr., presents a brief but stimulating discussion of bacterial proteins (particularly from group A hemolytic streptococci), exotoxins and toxic enzymes, and methods for their extraction.

Alexander B. Gutman, in "The Plasma Proteins in Disease," furnishes a much needed review of a highly complicated subject. The critical discussion of methods, results, and their interpretations will be appreciated by the thoughtful reader. "Preparative Electrophoresis and Ionophoresis," by Harry Svensson, offers brief technical discussions of apparatus (compartment type and moving boundary) for the electrical fractionation of crystalloids and colloids. A. Neuberger, in "Stereochemistry of Amino Acids," gives well-organized discussions of the configuration of the amino acids, reactions involving substitutions on the  $\alpha$ -carbon atom, catalytic racemization, and the occurrence of D-amino acids and their derivatives in nature. "X-Ray Studies of Amino Acids and Peptides," by Robert B. Corey, presents the results of diffraction studies on the atomic positions in crystals of diketopiperazine, glycine, DL-alanine and  $\beta$ -glycylglycine, and inferences therefrom as to the structures of and intermolecular forces in crystalline proteins. "Heme Proteins," by Jeffries Wyman, Jr., is an extensive survey "designed to bring out the beautiful interdependence of structure and function in the heme proteins, and in particular the balance between the character of the heme, the character of the protein, and the nature of the heme-protein linkage, in determining the properties of the molecule."

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## Scientific Book Register

AMIS, EDWARD S. *Kinetics of chemical change in solution.* New York: Macmillan, 1949. Pp. ix + 332. (Illustrated.) \$5.00.

ARNOW, L. EARLE. *Introduction to physiological and pathological chemistry.* (3rd ed.) St. Louis: C. V. Mosby, 1949. Pp. 595. (Illustrated.) \$4.00.

BALDWIN, ERNEST. *An introduction to comparative biochemistry.* (3rd ed.) Cambridge, Engl.: Univ. Press; New York: Macmillan, 1948. Pp. xiii + 164. (Illustrated.) \$1.75.

MCNEMAR, QUINN. *Psychological statistics.* New York: John Wiley; London: Chapman & Hall, 1949. Pp. vii + 364. (Illustrated.) \$4.50.

MOORE, RAYMOND CECIL. *Introduction to historical geology.* New York-London: McGraw-Hill, 1949. Pp. ix + 582. (Illustrated.) \$5.00.

SCHENK, EDWARD T., and MCMASTERS, JOHN H. (Revised by KEEN, A. MYRA, and MULLER, SIEMON WILLIAM.) *Procedure in taxonomy: including a reprint of*

*the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature with summaries of opinions rendered to the present date.* (Rev. ed.) Stanford, Calif.: Stanford Univ. Press, 1948. Pp. vii + 93. \$2.50.

TESCH, J. J. *The thecosomatous pteropods: the Indo-Pacific.* (Part II.) (The Carlsberg Foundation's Oceanographic Expedition Round the World 1928-30 and Previous "Dana" Expeditions, No. 30.) Copenhagen: C. A. Reitzels; London: Oxford Univ. Press, 1948. Pp. 45. (Illustrated.) 10/.

*The measurement of stress and strain in solids: based on the proceedings of a conference arranged by the Manchester and District Branch of the Institute of Physics on 11, 12, and 13 July 1946.* London: Institute of Physics, 1948. Pp. x + 114. (Illustrated.) \$4.00.

———. *Jaarboek der Koninklijke Nederlandsche Akademie van Wetenschappen.* Amsterdam: N. V. Noord-Hollandsche Uitgevers Maatschappij, 1948. Pp. 225. (Illustrated.)