*A Textbook of Arthropod Anatomy.* R. E. Snodgrass. Ithaca, N. Y.: Comstock Pub.; Cornell Univ. Press, 1952. 363 pp. Illus. $6.00.

In recent years Mr. Snodgrass has concerned himself with comparisons of the anatomy and terminology associated with the anatomy of the various classes of the animal phylum Arthropoda. He states the situation pungently in his preface: "The arthropods are a group of related invertebrates; arthropodists, for the most part, are a group of unrelated vertebrates." The present work is an attempt to correct this situation by unifying treatment of the anatomy of spiders, crabs, insects, etc. The author reaches the conclusion, which he calls "disconcerting," that the facts of arthropod anatomy are not consistent with any of the theories proposed to account for the evolution of the group. Accordingly, rather than expounding on evolution or on any particular phylogenetic scheme, he presents a series of 11 chapters on the anatomy of selected representatives of each of the 11 well-defined classes.

The title is broader than the actual content of the book. Each chapter treats external anatomy in detail, with emphasis on bodily movements and on points thought to be indicative of phylogenetic relationships. For both of these, detailed consideration of the apodemes and of somatic musculature is needed and is given. Relatively detailed treatment is accorded the little-studied question of internal connective tissue—its possible origin, structure, and significance. Mention is also made of the structure of eyes and of invaginations of the epidermis, which form respiratory tubes, genital ducts, etc. The volume is thus more than an external anatomy, and yet it does not treat the internal organ systems such as the alimentary canal and nervous system. It might be characterized as a skeletomuscular anatomy, which analyzes terminology and points of interest to students of phylogeny.

The high caliber, the style of writing, the logical thinking, the personal verification of most of the details presented—even when they are credited to a previous author—and the many superbly drafted illustrations (very few of which are copied) are typical of this author's works.

The book is avowedly for beginning graduate students in invertebrate zoology, entomology, and carcinology, who wish a broad basis for their studies, and for specialists in one group of arthropods, who wish a ready means of comparing details of their particular animals with details as found in other classes of the phylum. It should serve this purpose well. It could also be used as ancillary, albeit advanced, reference in undergraduate courses in invertebrate zoology and insect anatomy.

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# *Association Affairs*

## Laurentian Hormone Conference

Gregory Pincus

*The Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts*

THE Laurentian Hormone Conference of the AAAS will hold its 1953 annual meeting at Mont Tremblant Lodge, Mont Tremblant, Quebec, during the period September 6–11. Interested investigators and specialists in the hormone field may apply for attendance by writing to the Committee on Arrangements, 222 Maple Ave., Shrewsbury, Mass., for application blanks. Since accommodations at the hotel necessarily limit the attendance, only those persons submitting applications can be considered. The application blanks must be received by the committee not later than *May 15* in order to ensure issuance of invitations as soon as possible thereafter.

The following program has been arranged:

I. NERVOUS SYSTEM-HORMONE INTERRELATIONSHIPS
"The Central Nervous System and Stress-induced Eosinopenia," R. W. Porter; "Studies of Brain Metabolism and Electrical Activity in Relation to Adrenocortical Physiology," Hudson Hoagland; "Effects of Hormones on Cerebral Function," D. M. Woodbury.

II. THYROID HORMONE PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY
"Triiodothyronine in Relation to Thyroid Physiology," J. Gross and R. Pitt-Rivers; "Metabolic Effects of Thyroid Hormones *in Vitro*," H. A. Lardy and G. Feldott.

III. COMPARATIVE ENDOCRINOLOGY
"Endocrine Mechanisms in the Life of Insects," D. Bodenstein; "Hormones Produced by Neurosecretory Cells," Ernst and Berta Scharrer.

IV. PROTEIN HORMONES
"The Preparation and Chemistry of Crystalline Insulin," R. G. Romans; "The Chemistry of ACTH," E. E. Hays and W. F. White.

V. THE ROLE OF HORMONES IN BLOOD AND BLOOD-FORMING ORGANS
"Endocrine Factors and Radiation-induced Lymphoid Tumors of Mice," Henry S. Kaplan; "Endocrine Influences upon the Formed Elements of Blood and Blood-forming Organs," Albert S. Gordon.

VI. ASPECTS OF CLINICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY
"Some Problems Related to Ovarian Function and to Pregnancy," B. Zondek; "Clinical Studies on Electrolyte and Fluid Metabolism," Rolf Luft; "Endocrine-Metabolic Studies in Man," J. W. Conn.