ogy-sociology pair is handled by Parsons and Newcomb. The editor contributes an introduction and "The forward view."

The chapters are unequal in length and in quality. However, all make useful points and are fundamentally sound. On the whole, the six reviews are more impressive as historical surveys (some of them are very learned indeed) than as builders of new theoretical bridges. There are points of detail with which many professional social scientists would quarrel, but this is a solid and highly useful contribution that should help to clear away needless confusions and misunderstandings. The goal of "the generally accepted rules and definitions of plain English" (p. 7) is not attained in every chapter. The portions written by the editor are clear and forceful.

Gillin takes a rather optimistic view of social science and its potentialities for social action. However, he is no advocate of "cheap and easy integration":

> In approaching the possibilities of interdisciplinary collaboration, we propose, if the figure be appropriate, not a Monolithic State, but rather a Federal Union of the specialties dealing scientifically with human behavior in society. In such a Federal Union the several member disciplines would be able to pool their scientific resources for the solution of certain problems requiring multidisciplinary treatment while maintaining a species of "states' rights" that would guarantee full freedom for each member to attend to concerns that seem to be of more specialized interest (p. 4).

In his concluding chapter Gillin considers various theoretical problems, such as models, postulates, and theorems, and the "translation" of underlying biological concepts and propositions about human behavior into social science terms. He considers the following categories common to the three disciplines under review: behavior, grouping, culture, social structure, personality, symbolization, and communication.

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***The Biochemistry of Clinical Medicine.*** William S. Hoffman. Year Book Pub., Chicago, 1954. xx + 681 pp. Illus. $12.

This volume presents the biochemistry of the body in health and disease for purposes of review and reference by the student and practitioner of medicine. Rather than being organized exclusively on the basis of individual diseases, it deals with the subject through a multiple approach. The biochemistry of the utilization and metabolism of the various nutrients and metabolites and the effects of hormones is considered in some detail. Attention is then paid at appropriate intervals to the biochemistry, physiology, anatomy, and pathology of individual organs, and, finally, individual chapters are devoted to a consideration of the etiology, biochemical pathology, and treatment of various diseases. By this threefold approach, the biochemistry of man not only is well-covered but is put in the context of over-all body function or malfunction.

An important portion of the book is concerned with practical information on clinical biochemical procedures, the laboratory findings in health and disease, and their significance. The author writes with a background in chemistry and medicine and with experience as director of biochemistry in a large general hospital.

With its avowed didactic approach, it is well and competently written and avoids shallowness on the one hand and highly technical physical or chemical excursions on the other. The paper, type, and typography are of a high standard.

Despite the publication date of 1954, it would appear that many subjects have not been carried beyond 1952 or even earlier. Coverage is thorough but not exhaustive, as a reader will find who is interested in, for example, hepotolenticular degeneration (Wilson's disease). Much of the chapter dealing with the vitamins is so general, brief, or outdated that it is in contrast with the general high level of most of the book. It is regrettable that this chapter and those concerned with biological antagonists and isotopes could not have been more useful and informative in view of the growing importance of these fields in clinical medicine.

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# *New Books*

***Optics.*** Lectures on theoretical physics. vol. IV. Arnold Sommerfeld. Trans. by Otto Laporte and Peter A. Moldauer. Academic Press, New York, 1954. 383 pp. $6.80.

***The Hidden Life of Flowers.*** Trans. from the French text of J. M. Guilcher. Photographs by R. H. Noailles. Philosophical Library, New York, 1954. 93 pp. $4.75.

***Organic Analysis.*** vol. II. John Mitchell, Jr., I. M. Kolthoff, E. S. Proskauer, and A. Weissberger, Eds. Interscience, New York–London, 1954. 372 pp. $8.50.

***Modern Aspects of pH.*** With special reference to plants and soils. James Small. Van Nostrand, New York, 1954. 247 pp. $5.

***Margins of the Sea.*** Maurice Burton. Harper, New York, 1954. 212 pp. $3.

***Many Worlds: Seen and Unseen.*** Edith Raskin. McKay, New York, 1954. 226 pp. $3.50.

***Science Reasoning and Understanding.*** A handbook for college teachers. Intercollege Committee on the Evaluation of Science Objectives of the Cooperative Study of Evaluation in General Education, Paul L. Dressel, director. Brown, Dubuque, Iowa, 1954. 223 pp. Paper, $3.50.

***Physical Measurements in Gas Dynamics and Combustion.*** vol. IX of *High Speed Aerodynamics and Jet Propulsion.* part 1, R. W. Ladenburg, Ed; part 2, B. Lewis, R. N. Pease, and H. S. Taylor, Eds. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, 1954. 578 pp. $12.50

***Science Awakening.*** B. L. Van der Waerden. Trans. by Arnold Dresden. Noordhoff, Groningen, Holland, 1954. 306 pp. $5.

***Geology of Petroleum.*** A. I. Levorsen. Freeman, San Francisco, 1954. 703 pp. $8.