An introductory series of chapters treats the historical significance, systematic position, medical importance, and control of *aegypti* and provides an account of the techniques used in its study. Beginning with the egg, the major portion of the book discusses the structure, physiology, development, and bionomics of each life history stage. Various phases of the discussion are illustrated clearly and simply; although only 86 figures are used, many of them are comprised of not a few separate drawings.

One of the book's major contributions is the lavish use, in the text and concluding bibliographies, of the world literature. In a day when the recording and retrieval of information becomes more and more beyond the time and individual energy of the working biologist, such a complete and orderly presentation of references is a very real boon. This is especially true for an insect such as A. aegypti, which is the object of the study of so many professionals in the field of entomology and public health. Appropriate references appear at the end of each chapter; they are keyed in the text by author and date and are grouped according to the subject matter to which each applies.

A work of such magnitude has obviously taken years to reach a publishable stage, and errors are of course inevitable. Despite whatever shortcomings have been pointed out by other reviewers, Sir Rickard is to be commended for the great service he has performed in presenting, summarizing, and interpreting the world's knowledge of this important mosquito.

RICHARD H. FOOTE Entomology Research Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Practical Microscopy. C. L. Duddington. Pitman, New York, 1960. x + 237 pp. Illus. \$6.50.

This book, based on lectures given at "The Polytechnic," is intended to provide other students and amateurs information for self-training to meet the paramount need "to be satisfied with nothing less than a perfect image." The standard techniques for bright-field microscopy are given in an elementary manner. Phase, interference, and electron microscopy are only mentioned. In a departure from the usual

guides, the short chapter on buying a microscope calls to attention magnification and resolution requirements and the hazards of second-hand instruments. In addition to centering and lighting for good seeing, simple counting, measuring, and drawing techniques are described. Photomicrography receives brief treatment. Over a third of the book is given to simple methods for preparing animal, plant, bacteria, textile fibers, hairs, and food and drug specimens. Formulas for common fixing fluids and staining solutions and an index are included.

In the main British students are given much the same introduction as students in this country. The instruments discussed here are mostly British; the British still use turntables for liquid mounts, and the Venetian turpentine mountant is advocated. Köhler is misspelled, and the German word xylol is used throughout. High school science students, adult amateurs, and college freshmen should find the book helpful and readily readable.

OSCAR W. RICHARDS

American Optical Company, Southbridge, Massachusetts

## Reprints

Advanced Euclidean Geometry. An elementary treatise on the geometry of the triangle and the circle. Roger A. Johnson. John Wesley Young, Ed. Dover, New York, 1960. 332 pp. Illus. \$1.65.

Adventures with the Missing Link. Raymond A. Dart. Viking, New York, 1961. 280 pp. Illus. \$1.65.

Algebraic Equations. An introduction to the theories of LaGrange and Galois. Edgar Dehn. Dover, New York, 1960. 219 pp. Illus. \$1.45.

Animal Treasures. Ivan T. Sanderson. Viking, New York, 1961. 330 pp. Illus. \$1.45.

Auguste Comte and Positivism. John Stuart Mill. Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1961. 200 pp. \$1.75.

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The Integrative Action of the Nervous System. Sir Charles Sherrington. Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, Conn., 1961. 433 pp. Illus. \$1.95.

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The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection: Or the Preservation of Favored Races in the Struggle for Life. Charles Darwin. Doubleday, Garden City, N.Y., 1961. 517 pp. \$0.95.

The Outermost House. A year of life on the great beach of Cape Cod. Henry Beston. Viking, New York, 1961. 236 pp. Illus. \$1.25.

Photoelasticity. Principles and methods. H. T. Jessop and F. C. Harris. Dover, New York, 1961. 192 pp. Illus. \$2.

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