

Some Other Books of Interest

The Reality Club. JOHN BROCKMAN, Ed. Lynx, New York, 1988. viii, 326 pp. Paper, \$9.95.

The purpose of the Reality Club, an invitation-only group that has met in New York since 1981, is "to arrive at the edge of the world's knowledge, seek out the most complex and sophisticated minds, put them in a room together, and have them ask each other the questions they are asking themselves." Some of the results are presented in this volume in the form of papers by Morris Berman, Lynn Margulis, William Calvin, Julius Korein, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, K. Eric Drexler, Robert Sternberg, Robert Langs, Dorion Sagan, Roger Schank, Mary Catherine Bateson with Sevanne Margaret Kassarian, and Gerald Feinberg. The papers appear under such titles as "A flowing sentence, a train of consciousness, a rippling arpeggio: the trilogy of *Homo seriatum*" and "What Narcissus saw: the oceanic 'I'/Eye," as well as more prosaic representations such as "Exploring future technologies" and "In defense of elitism," and cover such subjects as artistic creativity, sociocultural evolution, the scientific study of love, psychotherapy, the teaching of reading, and impressions of kibbutzim. Discussions that might have ensued are not included. In opening and closing contributions the history and activities of the club are described by John Brockman (its founder) and Joan Richardson, and a list of other talks is appended. Publication of the volume was inspired by preparation of a "Reality Club Issue" of the *Whole Earth Review*, and it is planned that further such compilations will appear semiannually.

—K.L.

Portraits of Viruses. A History of Virology. F. FENNER and A. GIBBS, Eds. Karger, Basel, 1988. viii, 344 pp., illus. \$98.

"About 10 years ago," they write, Fenner and Gibbs "decided that the time was ripe for making a first collation of material for a history of virology and conceived the idea of doing this by asking senior virologists to prepare a 'portrait' of the virus, or family of viruses, that they had spent much of their life studying." The results, 15 papers that were published in *Intervirology* between 1979 and 1986, are here brought together, with addenda to update them in some cases and a subject index for the group. The subjects and authors are as follows: poxviruses (Fenner), influenza virus A (Burnet), bacteriophage lambda (Hayes), RNA phage (Zinder), tobacco necrosis virus (Kassanis), turnip yellow mosaic virus (Matthews), tobacco mosaic virus (Fraenkel-Conrat), foot-

and-mouth disease virus (Brooksby), picornaviruses (Melnick), viroids (Diener), arenaviruses (Lehmann-Grube), herpesviruses (Wildy), common cold viruses (Tyrell), Rous sarcoma virus (Svoboda), and tobacco rattle virus (Lister). It is expected that the "Portraits" series will be continued in *Intervirology*.—K.L.

Recent Advances in Thin-Layer Chromatography. F. A. A. DALLAS, H. READ, R. J. RUANE, and I. D. WILSON, Eds. Plenum, New York, 1988. xiv, 247 pp., illus. \$59.50. From a symposium, Brighton, U.K., March 1987.

Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) has "for many years suffered from the image of being a low sensitivity, low resolution, non-quantitative technique, suitable for chemists, but not a tool for real chromatographers," writes Ian Wilson in the preface to this volume sponsored by the Chromatographic Society. In his introduction Wilson describes and evaluates developments associated with a "resurgence in popularity" for the technique. In addition to its relative simplicity these include the introduction of high-performance plates and new development techniques and improvements in instrumentation for detection and quantification. TLC, Wilson concludes, "once again appears to be attracting innovative researchers who will continue to advance the capabilities of the technique and not let it stagnate as happened in the past." The remainder of the volume presents further discussion of and a sampling of (mostly European) work done with the technique. The opening group of papers, headed Instrumentation, consists of a general discussion by Poole of quantitative methods in TLC followed by five papers on more specific topics. There follow groups of four papers and three "notes" on radio-TLC and three papers and a note on sorbents and modifiers. The final group, Applications, consists of two papers and seven notes on uses ranging from standardization of medicinal plant extracts to screening of drug residues in the tissue of swine tranquilized to facilitate their transport to market. Compound and subject indexes conclude the volume.—K.L.

Books Received

The Biology of Algae and Diverse Other Verses. Ralph A. Lewin. Boxwood, Pacific Grove, CA, 1987. xiv, 191 pp., illus. Paper, \$12.50.

Biophysical Chemistry of Membrane Functions. Arnošt Kotyk, Karel Janáček, and Jiří Koryta. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1988. xviii, 377 pp., illus. \$97.

Biotechnology and Bioapplications of Colloidal Gold. Ralph M. Albrecht and Gisele M. Hodges, Compilers. Scanning Microscopy International, Chicago, 1988. iv, 312 pp., illus. Paper, \$39.

Cardiovascular Physiology. Jon Goerke and Allan H. Mines. Raven, New York, 1988. xii, 220 pp., illus. \$38; paper, \$29. Raven Press Series in Physiology.

Case Studies in Population Biology. L. M. Cook, Ed. Manchester University Press, Manchester, U.K., 1988 (U.S. distributor, St. Martin's, New York). vi, 218 pp., illus. Paper, \$19.95. Reprint, 1985 ed.

Cell Structure and Cell Function. Godfried M. Roomans and Bo Forslind, Eds. Scanning Microscopy International, Chicago, 1988. iv, 138 pp., illus. Paper, \$23. From a symposium, Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 1985.

Cities and Their Vital Systems. Infrastructure Past, Present, and Future. Jesse H. Ausubel and Robert Herman, Eds. National Academy Press, Washington, DC, 1988. x, 357 pp., illus. Paper, \$35. Series on Technology and Social Priorities.

The Climate of China and Global Climate. Ye Duzheng *et al.*, Eds. China Ocean Press, Beijing, and Springer-Verlag, New York, 1987. xvi, 441 pp., illus. \$89.70. From a symposium, Beijing, China, Oct.-Nov. 1984.

The Comparative Reception of Darwinism. Thomas F. Glick, Ed. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1988. xviii, 505 pp. Paper, \$17.95. Reprint, 1974 ed.

Competing Interactions and Microstructures. Statics and Dynamics. R. LeSar, A. Bishop, and R. Hefner, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1988. viii, 275 pp., illus. \$44.50. Springer Proceedings in Physics, vol. 27. From a workshop, Los Alamos, NM, May 1987.

Compliance and the Future of Arms Control. Gloria Duffy, Project Director. Ballinger (Harper and Row), Cambridge, MA, 1988. \$34.95; paper, \$14.95.

Computational Chemistry. An Emphasis on Practical Calculations. Milton D. Johnston, Jr. Elsevier, New York, 1988. xviii, 680 pp. \$129; paper, \$58. Studies in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry, vol. 56.

Computer Models of Mind. Computational Approaches in Theoretical Psychology. Margaret A. Boden. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1988. xii, 289 pp., illus. \$42.50; paper, \$15.95. Problems in the Behavioural Sciences.

Constructive Evolution. Origins and Development of Piaget's Thought. Michael Chapman. Cambridge University Press, New York, 1988. xii, 459 pp., illus. \$59.50; paper, \$22.95.

Controlling East-West Trade and Technology Transfer. Power, Politics, and Policies. Gary K. Bertsch, Ed. Duke University Press, Durham, NC, 1988. xiv, 506 pp., \$59.50; paper, \$18.95.

Current Research in Heat and Mass Transfer. A Compendium and a Festschrift for Professor Arcot Ramachandran. M. V. Krishna Murthy *et al.*, Eds. Hemisphere, New York, 1988. xii, 283 pp., illus. \$65.

Domestication of Plants in the Old World. The Origin and Spread of Cultivated Plants in West Asia, Europe, and the Nile Valley. Daniel Zohary and Maria Hopf. Clarendon (Oxford University Press), New York, 1988. x, 249 pp., illus. \$75.

The Dreams of Reason. The Computer and the Rise of the Sciences of Complexity. Heinz R. Pagels. Simon and Schuster, New York, 1988. 352 pp. \$18.95.

Drugs and the Elderly. Clinical, Social, and Policy Perspectives. Helene Levens Lipton and Philip R. Lee. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA, 1988. xvi, 263 pp. \$35.

Dynamics Reported. Vol. 1. U. Kirchgraber and H. O. Walther, Eds. Teubner, Stuttgart, and Wiley, New York, 1988. x, 306 pp., illus. \$71.95.

The Early Universe. Reprints. Edward W. Kolb and Michael S. Turner, Eds. Addison-Wesley, Redwood City, CA, 1988. xvi, 719 pp., illus. \$56.95. Frontiers in Physics, vol. 70.

Elemental and Molecular Clusters. G. Benedek, T. P. Martin, and G. Pacchioni, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1988. viii, 377 pp., illus. \$59.50. Springer Series in Materials Science, vol. 6. From a school, Erice, Italy, July 1987.

The Elementary Structure of Matter. J.-M. Richard, E. Aslanides, and N. Boccara, Eds. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1988. xii, 467 pp., illus. \$66.70. Springer Proceedings in Physics, vol. 26. From a workshop, Les Houches, France, March-April 1987.

The Emergence of Drugs Which Block Calcium Entry. R. D. Smith *et al.* Springer-Verlag, New York, 1988. viii, 154 pp. \$77.60. Progress in Clinical Biochemistry and Medicine, vol. 6.

Energy Analysis of Thermal, Chemical, and Metallurgical Processes. Jan Szargut, David R. Morris, and Frank R. Steward. Hemisphere, New York, 1988. xx, 332 pp., illus. \$59.50.

Environmental Management in Agriculture. European Perspectives. J. R. Park, Ed. Belhaven (Printer), London, 1988 (U.S. distributor, Columbia University