

actions for maintaining the steady state of the open system "organism," in development where the organizer is but a stimulus, the problem of organization resting in the responding system, in gene action where thousands of genes cooperate and numerous chemical reactions, accurately timed and located, are involved to produce a complex individual.

Despite all the advances in physical chemistry of cells, physiology, etc., we have no adequate explanation of biological organization. The hypothesis proposed by the author is that the close resemblance between regulatory or "goal-directed" processes of development and physiological activity on the one hand, and the purposiveness of mental or psychological activities on the other, indicates that both are fundamentally the same thing. Growth, physiological reactions, and true behavior form an ascending series the steps of which grade into each other imperceptibly. Unconscious purpose at the beginning has finally evolved into consciousness. Thus, body and mind, including the highest manifestations of spiritual activity, are two aspects of the same biological phenomenon. From this standpoint, purpose appears to be essentially similar to the tendency toward developmental and physiological equi-

libria; freedom is rooted in the emergent and creative character of life and mind; individuality is found as well in the biological perseverance of organization in continuous change of the components as in the ego; and man finds his place in the universe as the most subtle expression of protoplasmic activity.

Much could be said about the author's position both from the viewpoint of science, where it seems doubtful in what way physio-psychological monism is helpful in the interpretation of phenomena, and from the philosophical standpoint, where the problems of human mind are hardly touched by the simple statement of evolution. But the book makes excellent reading, and its value is in emphasizing two fundamentals often overlooked: first, the central problem of organization which is not solved by accumulating an ever-increasing number of data on biochemical reactions, enzymes, hormones, and the like; second, that it is, in the last resort, not material things, economic and social factors, but great ideas that are decisive for human destiny.

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