

based on the nature of the installations (whether restoration, fabrication, recreation, or reconstruction), and on their purpose and usefulness to the public.

There are occasional omissions, as one might anticipate in such a far-reaching work, and some of these are important. Clark's Indian Museum in St. Louis, which existed from 1818 to 1838, is not mentioned; nor is Robert Leslie's Museum of Technology in Philadelphia, which pioneered in its field in the late 18th century. The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology's Medical Museum is described, but no mention is made of its historical collection of more than 500 microscopes, which is believed to be the largest and most significant in the world.

An extensive appendix provides an alphabetical list of museums (by state

and city), giving their address, type of collections, and visiting hours. There are 40 illustrations of the wide range of installations, buildings, and exhibits described in the text. The bibliography is comprehensive, and the index is thorough and well organized.

This book is not the most comprehensive reference work on the subject, but it serves as a useful supplement to Coleman's *The Museum in America*, in that it covers the period since 1939. *Museums, U. S. A.* does not pretend to be a scholarly work, but it achieves its objective as a handy volume of reference that will be useful to the general museum visitor and of interest to the scholar.

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Today's Youth in Tomorrow's Society

The Next Generation: The Prospects Ahead for the Youth of Today. Donald N. Michael. Random House, New York, 1965. xxvi + 218 pp. \$4.95.

Donald Michael has set himself the task of making reasonable predictions about the immediate future and of persuading selected portions of the responsible public to face the problems these forecasts bring into view. *The Next Generation* is the third such endeavor he has made. The first had to do with the implications of space activities and the second with cybernetics. This book, based on a report prepared in 1963 for the Office of the Special Assistant on Juvenile Delinquency of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, is directed to those who are involved with youth planning. Its focus is on foreseeable changes in our society, such as the growth of megalopolis, the ever-widening separation in our society of the professionally trained, the technically trained, and the unskilled, and the increasing rationalization of life, that will bear on the chances of youth in the next 20 years.

It is striking that the audience to whom the book is addressed and the group whose problems are central to it appear only in a series of questions the author raises in the appendix. He treats "youth" as if young people comprised a bounded segment that is the

concern of another bounded segment made up of those who "plan and implement youth development programs." Writing in a relentlessly flat style modeled on objective reports to interested top management, he lays out what will probably happen if—and this is left open—other things do not happen. The implications are bedded down in understatement and irony.

This style of presentation undoubtedly is effective, as the reader begins to pick up the clues and argues that, after all, something can be done. It is not necessary to continue on this or that devastating road. We do not need to wait so long before taking action. The author makes grim statements, carefully supported by highly selected summary studies on different aspects of American society. The reader responds with an ethical recalcitrance and an optimism that, because they are his creation, may well be effective. Michael draws a picture of a repulsive world (in which, he admits, a few people may have a very good time). His own repulsion is conveyed to the reader not by preaching or exhortation but by the carefully calculated movement of the spotlight he turns on a future that can be changed only by decisive, responsible action now.

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Perspectives in Physiology

Homeostasis and Feedback Mechanisms. A symposium of the Society for Experimental Biology (Cambridge University, England), September 1963. G. M. Hughes, Ed. Published for the Company of Biologists on behalf of the Society for Experimental Biology by Academic Press, New York, 1964. viii + 460 pp. Illus. \$15.50.

This book is an example of the symposium volume at its best. All contributions are germane to the central theme, aptly described by the title. Homeostasis, of course, provides an approach rather than a specific field of inquiry and, since Bernard, has been one of the most powerful principles available to guide the physiologist. Consequently this symposium is of uncommonly general interest and deserves a wide readership. The volume proceeds from the more concrete and conventional papers to somewhat abstract contributions; this arrangement, together with the background material provided in many of the papers, enables the book to be profitably and enjoyably read in its entirety.

The contributions represent a diverse assemblage of problems, united by their common point of view—that the integration of the organism as a whole is as significant as the nature of its components. The papers of Pantin, Bartholomew, Hart, and Benzinger may be described as physiological ecology. Weis-Fogh, Mittelstaedt, Merton, and Fender consider neuromuscular systems, while Cross, and Jones and Bellamy discuss neuroendocrine mechanisms. Several facets of respiratory physiology are described by Hughes, Andersen, and Randle. Robertson, Wigglesworth, and Harker treat the special problems posed by the application of the concept of homeostasis to genetics, development, and diurnal rhythms, respectively. Detailed analysis of an osmoregulatory system is described by Shaw. In more theoretical discussions, Goodwin, Frank, and Machin attempt to apply statistical mechanics, information theory, and feedback theory to biological systems. Since many readers will be ignorant of the terminology and applications of systems analysis, Machin's paper might be read as an introduction to the chapters by Mittelstaedt, Merton, and Fender.