

made medium for cell cultures or waded through the intricacies of respiration will appreciate the excellence of Chapter 10.

The concatenation of atoms into highly organized proteins is described, not under the definitive title of structure, but rather under "Problems of Protein Structure", Chapter 3. The use of the word "problems" is appropriate, and the authors succeed in showing the importance of these structures and what is known about them at this stage of inquiry. A long chain of ionizable molecules will have a great diversity of properties depending on whether it is stretched out, folded back and forth, or rolled into a ball. The description of some of these properties is discussed in Chapter 11 under some general aspects of molecular interactions.

This is a superb textbook. There are ample references for general reading as well as for technical specialties. There are 8 problems given at the end of Chapter 8 on acid-base equilibria. But the special nature of its subject matter makes this more than a textbook. Many of the passages are intriguing for their general nuances about the physical basis of life. One must conclude that this is a highly commendable volume because it brings insight from several scientific disciplines into the complexities of living processes.

Zum Weltbild der Physik (7th Revised Edition). By Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker. 378 pp. S. Hirzel Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany, 1958. DM 14.70. *Reviewed by R. Bruce Lindsay, Brown University.*

This is the seventh edition of a collection of essays on the methodology and philosophy of modern physics, originally given by the author as addresses before various groups. The first edition appeared in 1943. The work is by no means unknown to readers in the United States and Britain since the fourth German edition (published in 1949) appeared in English translation in 1952 under the title *The World View of Physics* (University of Chicago Press). The latest German edition contains eighteen essays as against seven in the English translation.

The author has made distinguished contributions to quantum mechanics and to cosmology. He is also known as a persuasive and skillful lecturer on the cultural and philosophical implications of physics. Moreover he has not hesitated to explore the relations between physical science and religion. His lectures in the United States some years ago will be recalled with pleasure by those who met and heard him.

The most elaborate, and probably the most important, new material in the present edition of Weizsäcker's book is connected with Bohr's principle of complementarity, which has provoked so much interest among both scientists and philosophers. Weizsäcker feels that it has even greater significance than is usually attributed to it and he devotes some 50 pages to a discussion of its relation to logic. Unlike most of the other essays this is rather technical and by no means easy reading. For those who wish a rather more detailed presenta-

tion of all facts of the principle than is commonly available, a careful reading of it will prove however a very rewarding experience.

Other attractive essays in the present edition relate to the relations between mathematics and physics (Kontinuität und Möglichkeit), science and secularization, and the significance of logic for science.

The book contains so much valuable material to which the thoughtful reader would like to return again and again that it is a pity no index has been provided. An English translation of the 7th German edition would be a worthwhile project.

Books Received

INTRODUCTION TO NUCLEAR ENGINEERING (2nd Revised Edition). By Richard Stephenson. 491 pp. McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., New York, 1958. \$9.50.

PREPARATION, MAINTENANCE, AND APPLICATION OF STANDARDS OF RADIOACTIVITY. NBS Circular 594. By W. B. Mann and H. H. Seliger. 47 pp. US Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1958. Paperbound \$0.35.

NUCLEAR MOMENTS (English version prepared from 2nd German edition by E. E. Schneider). Vol. 2 of Pure & Applied Physics. By Hans Kopfermann. 505 pp. Academic Press Inc., New York, 1958. \$13.00.

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