

1964

Reviews - *Library Material for Elementary Science*

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school can be affiliated for a cost of three dollars. This will enable your students to participate in the annual meeting next spring as well as to compete in the Talent Search and the Scientific Manuscript programs. You can also bring students to the symposium to hear the reports of the NSF supported symposium participants.

Action in the ISTA Regions

This year President Fagle has indicated that you can expect some real action in your ISTA region. The regional directors have recently met and have some specific goals for the year. If you are interested in being directly involved, please contact your regional director at once.

We plan to have at least one regional meeting in each region. We hope to organize each region on a county basis to insure personal representation throughout our structure. President Fagle has set the goal of fifty new membership in each region. He has also called for greater representation of Journal authors from all ISTA regions.

Again the help of the current active membership is vital if these objectives are to be realized.

New Officers

The election-by-mail was heralded as a great success. The new officers were installed in Des Moines on October 16 as a part of the general session at the fall meeting. Each of the new officers pledged his support of the organization and agreed to give ISTA leadership for the 1964-65 year.

The Executive Committee has met and the committee appointees made for the year. The transition of leadership has occurred and the membership is looking for-

ward to a bigger-than-ever year. The new officers need the support of every member if "their" year is to be as productive as their objectives for it imply.

President Fagle authored the following goals in his acceptance remarks in Des Moines:

1. Better communication to all members about meetings involving the I.S.T.A.
2. An active membership campaign within the I.S.T.A. regions.
3. Keep the I.S.T.A. Journal growing by getting greater participation in the writing of articles by I.S.T.A. members.
4. Greater participation of the I.S.T.A. in the active programs of the N.A.B.T. and N.S.T.A.
5. Studies of an N.S.F. supported I.S.T.A. Preschool Science Workshop in addition to the spring I.S.U. Iowa Science Teachers Workshop.

Junior Academy Manuscript Program

Contact Thomas Scott, Roosevelt High, Des Moines, for information concerning procedure for your students who may want to enter the Junior Academy's Scientific Manuscript Program. In general, this program serves as a preliminary activity to a first-rate experience with a research project. Many students so involved will later apply for participation in the Symposium Program.

NSTA to Meet in Denver

Plan now to attend the National Science Teachers Association annual convention. This year it will meet in Denver, Colorado. The dates are March 27 to 31. May we count on our traditional ISTA breakfast at Denver?

REVIEWS

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Laboratory manuals: Junior high school. Basic Science Series, L. W. Singer Co. Inc.

Ploutz, Paul F. et. al. (1964). *Laboratory Manual, Basic Physical Science*. 92 pp.

Ploutz, Paul F. et. al. (1964). *Laboratory Manual, Basic Earth Science*. 124 pp.

These manuals are recent publications to accompany the Basic Science series published in 1963. They are, in fact, laboratory manuals and not "fill-in-the-blank" workbooks. Equipment requirements for the laboratories are minimal, and much of what is required is constructed (or assembled) as part of the laboratory experience of the student. Observation and recording of data

are inherent to many studies, and thus permit students to draw their own conclusions.

Reviewers note: Whether or not the manual for *Basic Life Science* has been released, I do not know—we haven't received it at our school. When it is received, it will be reviewed in this column. If the third manual is of the same calibre as its predecessors and as the text series, Singer Company has cause for pride in their work.

Library Material for Elementary Science

by A. C. Haman and M. K. Eakin. (1964).

An Educational Service Publication of enough progress will be made to enable

the State College of Iowa. Price \$1.00. A 68 page bulletin including a list of selected books for use in elementary science as general reading and as references. Listings are organized by topics. Price, publisher and applicable grade level are listed.

Library or personal reference: *Life Science Library. The Cell*, Pfeiffer, John, ed. and editors of *Life*. (1964). This is a 200 page synthesis of the *Life* magazine series on the cell together with an introduction on cellular "gross structure" and a discussion of the applications of cellular knowledge. Living behaviors of the cell, response to external stimuli, physico-chemical nature of cells, cellular differentiation, internal and external rhythms, dynamics of ATP-ADP and DNA-RNA are given excellent up-to-date treatment. Schematic representations in color of cells, mitochondria, golgi bodies, endoplasmic reticulum and nucleic acids, together with photomicrographs of living cells enable the reader-viewer to visualize in three dimensions some of the dynamic properties of the "unit of life." The volume is unique for an analogy drawn between cell functions and the behaviors of a child, for pictures of how a human, an insect or a frog variously might view a lion, and for a graphic-art depiction of some of the history of medical advance.

Library and Personal Growth, Mankind Evolving, Dobzhansky, Theodosius. (1962, 1964). 381 pp. Paperback, \$2.45. Yale University Press. George Gaylord Simpson in *Science* states: "The most interesting . . . the most judicious scientific treatise that has ever been written on the nature of man. The book is clearly and interestingly written; it is carefully documented; and it displays tremendous erudition over an even broader range of knowledge than is found in its author's previous works . . . No one who is concerned with his own nature and that of mankind—and this includes the poets, philosophers, and theologians—can afford to miss this book."

Mr. Simpson's views express those of the reviewer. For persons seeking a broad and documentary perspective in matters of race and racism, this book is "must" reading. Probably no scientist today is so eminently qualified as Mr. Dobzhansky to interrelate knowledge of genetics, human evolution and culture.

Conservation. The Iowa Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America has prepared a list of books, booklets, periodicals and references for a conservation shelf in

school and public libraries. Dr. V. B. Hawk Agronomy Department, Iowa State University, Ames, is chairman of the project.

Vistas of Science Books published by NSTA

Exciting discoveries, major breakthroughs and important new applications continue to widen our vistas of science, engineering, and technology. producing an impact on society that touches every individual. These expanding frontiers inspire large numbers of our youth to consider careers in science and thoughtful persons of all ages to seek a better understanding of the scientific-technological society in which we live. As a result, there is an insatiable demand for current, accurate scientific information. To fill this pressing need, the National Science Teachers Association has conceived and developed the *Vistas Of Science* series. In so doing, NSTA advances its own central purpose: improvement of the teaching of science. In addition, *Vistas* books provide scientific background for those who would be well-informed, responsible citizens.

Designed at the request of students and teachers, the series is produced under the guidance of an experienced Advisory Board. Each book is concerned with a specific science area, such as spacecraft, astronomy, measurement, microbiology.

Three types of information characterize *Vistas Of Science* books: presentation of subject matter, research frontiers and methods, and student activities. *Vistas* are science resource and enrichment literature that is sound and challenging. Written for junior and senior high school students, the *Vistas* are of interest and value to teachers and other adults as well.

Living Science Laboratories

Whether we like to admit it or not there are still many teachers trying to present some topics in science about which they are ill prepared. I have reviewed some new materials that may be an aid to such persons. I consider these raw materials as programmed learning experiences that can aid teachers who are not able or cannot find time to construct meaningful investigations in specific science areas. Programmed learning materials have been used successfully in industry for personal training for years. It places the emphasis of the learning experience directly upon the student. In the materials I have reviewed, there are provided (1) Problem cards, for confrontation and background (2) Experiment cards, providing a structured investigation related to the problem cards; (3) Procedure