

## TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW OF BIOLOGY. Edited by Raymond Pearl. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins Co. \$5.00 a year.

Dr. Pearl's nice new journal occupies a position among scientific periodicals comparable to the American Mercury in the realm of regular literature. He has quite apparently determined that his publication shall follow other lines from those of the usual hidebound journal of science, as obviously as H.L.M. has "Down with bunk" inscribed on the coat of arms of the intelligentsia's guide.

The ground covered spreads beyond the boundaries of the lay conception of the biological sciences into psychology, paleontology, anthropology and geographical distribution, giving much needed correlation to these allied branches. There is an advisory board which consists of men who are the last court of appeal in each of these varied fields, as well as in the different divisions of biology proper. It suffices to say that the material which gets by such authoritative check up is scientifically sound. The character of the papers thus far published are thorough and comprehensive general surveys of a definite range. They do not partake of the character of sensational research.

Readable book reviews, some of them positively entertaining, and a literally priceless Fundamentalist Portrait Gallery are appreciated features out of the ordinary. The Review will interest the "general reader" who rarely ventures to open a professorial periodical.

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EVOLUTION AND OPTIMISM. By Ludwig Stein. New York: Thomas Seltzer, 1926. \$3.00.

"Sagt Ja!" was the battle-cry of the older generation of optimistic philosophers, whose voices in English rose chiefly around the turbid but vigorous Carlyle. Then came the first popularity of evolution, which to all but the stoutest-hearted seemed to mean that the world was all mechanistic sound and fury, signifying nothing. But out of the new chaos voices of affirmation still sounded, and these grow more numerous and clearer as mechanistic doctrine, or at least its cruder early form, is forced back again. Dr. Stein has gathered together a number of these newer "Yes-saying" men and given a synthetic interpretation of their doctrines from an evolutionary standpoint, together with certain teachings of his own.

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THE REAL BOY AND THE NEW SCHOOL; by A. E. Hamilton. New York, Boni and Liveright, 1925. 386 pp., \$2.00.

Mr. Hamilton has evidently had a wide acquaintance with boys in a long career as a teacher, and in this stimulating book he tells of some of his experiences in a conversational style. These have been gained not only with boys in the class room, but also in summer camps where he has been able to come into contact with another phase of boy life.

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