

histological chemical methods which should appeal especially to the general biologist.

The more familiar methods are treated in up-to-date manner and there are interesting chapters on extraction and preparation of material for analysis. A valuable feature of the book is, however, the inspiration which will come from the range of methods discussed.

Regeneration und Transplantation. Von Prof. Dr. E. Korschelt. Band 2: *Transplantation unter Berücksichtigung der Explantation, Pflanzenpflanzung und Parabiologie.* Teil 1. Pp. xx + 695. (Berlin: Gebrüder Borntraeger, 1931.) 63 gold marks.

THIS is the second part of the enlarged edition of Prof. Korschelt's well-known book and deals exhaustively with the phenomena accompanying transplantation of parts or organs in plants and animals. It is an exhaustive survey of the known facts and brings together a great wealth of material from a widely scattered literature, and therefore forms an important source for all specialists.

Little or no attempt is made to deal with the philosophical significance of the experimental facts—possibly this is reserved for a later volume—but the book would have been of greater value as a textbook had points of theoretical significance been stressed at greater length at the expense of some of the descriptive data. The text and the figures are beautifully clear, and no biological library can afford to dispense with such a scholarly compilation of important work.

The phenomena of transplantation and regeneration are clearly of fundamental importance and, as in other aspects of experimental biology, new facts accumulate rapidly. It is, however, important that the literature of science should not become burdensome to students or to research workers. Whilst one hesitates to criticise the work of a distinguished author, at the same time, one cannot resist a feeling of regret that the field which Prof. Korschelt covers has been expanded so far beyond the modest dimensions of the first edition. Is it too much to hope that he will give us an abridged account of this interesting field—an account which will appeal to biologists generally and not primarily to specialists?

Elements of Water Bacteriology: with Special Reference to Sanitary Water Analysis. By Prof. S. C. Prescott and Prof. C. E. A. Winslow. Fifth edition, revised. Pp. ix + 219. (New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.; London: Chapman and Hall, Ltd., 1931.) 12s. 6d. net.

THE authors, in this latest edition, give a valuable and comprehensive survey of the methods which can be used for the bacteriological analysis of water, with special reference to American practice. Their desire for the unification and simplification of these methods is a reasonable one, though the difficulty of fixing an arbitrary standard, as they themselves point out, is that each sample of water

must be judged individually upon the correlative evidence as well as upon the bacteriological findings. The importance they attach to the distinction between *B. aerogenes* and *B. coli* would appear to be minimised by this fact, but, where the distinction is necessary, some recent work by Taylor and Goyle in India seems to show that Eijkman's method of incubating the primary cultures at 46°C. provides a sufficiently reliable demarcation between the saprophytic and intestinal strains of coliform bacilli without lengthening the routine examination.

The authors consider, justly, that averaging results of the bacteriological examination of a series of samples taken from the same water supply over a long period, is open to criticism, since this tends to obscure any temporary, and possibly dangerous, pollution of such a supply.

The book has a useful bibliography, but there are some misprints in the bacteriological table on p. 59 which might be confusing to the inexperienced worker.

The Biochemistry of Muscle. By Dr. Dorothy Moyle Needham. (Methuen's Monographs on Biological Subjects.) Pp. viii + 166. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1932.) 5s. net.

THE author of this monograph has clearly been handicapped by the extent of the published work that she has had to survey. To achieve this adequately she has been compelled to do nothing more than very curtly define the highly specialised terminology of the branch of biochemistry discussed, and this makes the book difficult to read for all those not actually engaged in the field. This unavoidable defect is, however, far more than balanced by the comprehensive nature of the treatment in an astonishingly short space. To have reviewed in 140 pages the voluminous researches of Hill, Embden, Meyerhof and their colleagues, with a bibliography of three hundred references, and an index, and to have reviewed it critically and comprehensively, is something for which many biochemists will be profoundly grateful, and to have given them this cause for gratitude at so low a price is a credit to the publishers.

Chemistry

Recent Advances in Analytical Chemistry. Vol. 2: *Inorganic Chemistry.* Editor: Dr. C. Ainsworth Mitchell. Contributors: Norman Evers, B. S. Evans, S. G. Clarke, W. R. Schoeller, A. T. Etheridge, Brynmor Jones, A. R. Powell, Janet Warden Brown, J. W. Haigh Johnson. Pp. xiv + 452. (London: J. and A. Churchill, 1931.) 15s.

IN addition to chapters recording recent work on the analytical chemistry of the elements, the volume includes chapters on the determination of hydrogen ion concentration and on potentiometric titrations, on microchemistry and on water and sewage analysis.