



# BIOLOGY—

Biology is the science of life—life constrained by, yet dependent upon, the laws of physics and chemistry; life emergent out of the elemental atoms and molecules of the primordial universe; life the persistent transformer of the surface of the planet; life the only means of which we know for that slow accumulation of structural complexity that has permitted the expression of the specialized capabilities inherent in increasingly organized forms of matter; and finally and most profoundly, life the bearer of logical intelligence and ordered consciousness, the originator of cumulative knowledge, the viewer of beauty, the maker of poetry, the dreamer of justice. With a concern that ranges from the special properties of carbon atoms to the inheritance of genius, from the viral origin of disease to the hormonal origin of aggression, from the quantum mechanics of photosynthesis to the conscious sensation of color, biology is the central science.

These are splendid years for biology—years in which long inaccessible mysteries are revealed one by one and even once-inexpressible quandaries seem to take