Preface

This anthology of great papers traces the development of ideas in the sister sciences of genetics and developmental biology. The collection can stand alone but it is designed to be used with its companion volume, *Heredity and Development* (Oxford University Press, 1972). The relation of these two volumes should be explained to facilitate their use.

Heredity and Development discusses in detail the key hypotheses, experiments, and concepts of genetics and developmental biology. The method of presentation is roughly historical.

Readings in Heredity and Development does not include the papers describing the original discoveries (these are covered in *Heredity and Development*). Instead, I have chosen some of the papers that represent the great synthetic treatments of the moment. For example, *H & D* discusses Schwann's observations on cells but *Readings* presents Virchow's famous lecture on cell theory; *H & D* discusses Wilson's discoveries on sex chromosomes but *Readings* contains his great lecture to the Royal Society, 'The Bearing of Cytological Research on Heredity.' I believe that this method of selection better serves the student interested in the intellectual development of science. He can see how giants of the field viewed the science they were making. Thus, *Readings* differs fundamentally from other anthologies covering these same fields. These other anthologies nearly always deal with the key discoveries, and are designed to provide the student with a wealth of material that only the better libraries have in the original.

Following this Preface there is a listing which correlates the major topics in *Heredity and Development* not only with the relevant articles in *Readings* but also with articles in eight other readily available anthologies.

Bibliographies. At the end of each chapter there are numerous references, which should provide the student with a broad and historically important selection. A much more selective list is given in *Heredity and Development*.

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