

Contents

| CHAPTER | PAGE |
|--|------|
| <i>Summary and Preface</i> | v |
| 1 The Problem | 1 |
| 2 Dynamic Systems | 13 |
| 3 The Animal as Machine | 29 |
| 4 Stability | 43 |
| 5 Adaptation as Stability | 57 |
| 6 Parameters | 72 |
| 7 Step-functions | 80 |
| 8 The Ultrastable System | 90 |
| 9 Ultrastability in the Living Organism | 103 |
| 10 Step-functions in the Living Organism | 125 |
| 11 Fully Connected Systems | 130 |
| 12 Iterated Systems | 139 |
| 13 Disturbed Systems and Habituation | 144 |
| 14 Constancy and Independence | 153 |
| 15 Dispersion | 166 |
| 16 The Multistable System | 171 |
| 17 Serial Adaptation | 179 |
| 18 Interaction between Adaptations | 190 |
| <i>APPENDIX</i> | |
| 19 The Absolute System | 203 |
| 20 Stability | 216 |
| 21 Parameters | 226 |
| 22 Step-functions | 232 |
| 23 The Ultrastable System | 237 |
| 24 Constancy and Independence | 241 |
| <i>Index</i> | 255 |