

Boekbesprekings : Book Reviews

ANTIBIOTICS AND CHEMOTHERAPY

Antibiotics and Chemotherapy. 3rd ed. by L. P. Garrod, M.D. (Camb.), Hon. LL.D. (Glasgow), F.R.C.P. and F. O'Grady, T.D., M.D. (Lond.), M.Sc. (Lond.), M.R.C.Path. Pp. ix + 499. Illustrated. £3.50. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone, 1971.

The third edition of this well known book appeared 18 months after the publication of the second edition. The first part describes the properties of antibiotics and other drugs in a simple, lucid and very readable manner. The second part is concerned with chemotherapy. Two new chapters about the chemotherapy of virus diseases, and about various newer anti-bacterial antibiotics such as actinospectacin, bacteriocines, clindamycin, lysostaphin and prasinomycin have been added.

This book can be highly recommended to all who treat infected patients and also to those who work in laboratories and advise clinicians.

H.D.B.

SENSORY PHYSIOLOGY

Handbook of Sensory Physiology. Vol. I. Principles of Receptor Physiology. Ed. by W. R. Loewenstein. Pp. xii + 600. Illustrated. DM 168,-. Berlin and New York: Springer-Verlag, 1971.

In this volume, the first of several volumes on sensory physiology, the translation of environmental stimuli into nerve impulses is analysed by a multidisciplinary panel of specialists.

Aspects discussed include energy conversion; irritability; generation of impulses; encoding and transmission of information, and the constitution of neuronal circuits. A few specific receptors, such as photoreceptors, hair cells, muscle spindles and peripheral sensory receptors are cited as examples of general modalities. In the volumes to follow special aspects of sensory mechanisms will be covered. Together with the subsequent volumes this work should satisfy the needs of those interested in the details of sensory physiology.

B.J.M.

RÖNTGENDIAGNOSE

Roentgen Diagnosis. (In 5 volumes). Vol. IV, Part 1. The heart and great vessels. Ed. by Schinz, H. R. Pp. xii + 621. Illustrated. \$55.00. New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1970.

Radiologiese kontras hemodinamika studies speel 'n beslissende rol in die keuring van pasiënte vir chirurgiese herstelbare hart-siektes. 'n Gespesialiseerde en fyn kennis van al die nuwe ontwikkelings word deur deskundiges aangebied in hierdie pragtige boek. Uitgesoekte Röntgenillustrasies en kleur bloedvloei-tekeninge maak dit maklik om die teks te volg. Positiewe Röntgenbeeldafdrukke word gebruik om detail te verhoog maar ontleding van die afdrukke verg nog 'n taamlike deeglike kennis van die spesiale onderwerp.

Die inhoud sluit in kongenitale en aangebore letsels asook trauma van die kardiovaskulêre stelsel.

'n Goeie bibliografie en indeks word verskaf.

Hier is 'n puik maar duur naslaanboek vir kardiologiese Röntgendiagnose.

C.J.B.M.

STRIATED MUSCLE AND MYOGENESIS

Regeneration of Striated Muscle and Myogenesis. Ed. by A. Mauro, S. A. Shafiq and A. T. Milhorat. Pp. x + 299. Illustrated. £17.80. Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica Foundation. 1970.

The aim of this conference was to act as a catalyst for experts on these topics whose up-to-date spontaneous presentations were repeatedly questioned.

Central to many of the contributions was the unresolved problem of the significance of mononucleated cells with relatively sparse undifferentiated cytoplasm positioned beneath the basal lamina of apparently normal muscle fibres. These are frequently termed 'satellite' cells and are present in large numbers in certain diseases of muscle. Satellite cells exhibit mitotic activity and, thymidine H₃, taken up by them, subsequently appears in muscle nuclei. Histologists, pathologists and all interested in fundamental aspects of muscle and nerve will enjoy both the lively atmosphere engendered by these discussions and the quality of the illustrations.

P.M.W.

INTERFERON

Symposia Series in Immunobiological Standardization. Vol. 14. International Symposium on Interferon and Interferon Inducers. Ed. by the Permanent Section of Microbiological Standardization. Pp. viii + 344. Illustrated. DM 60.-- Basle and New York: S. Karger. 1970.

When working in a specific field of research, it is always necessary to have available some reliable form of reference, which not only brings one up to date, but also keeps one informed of new developments. This book on the International Symposium on Interferon and Interferon Inducers, does just that. I would recommend this series to all those associated with immunobiological standardization, and specifically volume 14, for those working with interferon or closely related fields.

V.deV.

INFLAMMATION

Immunopathology of Inflammation. Ed. by B. K. Forscher and J. C. Houck. Pp. xii + 285. Illustrated. Dfl. 66,60. Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica. 1971.

The proceedings of the third symposium of the International Inflammation Club, held during June 1970, have now been published in book form. While the central theme is the immunology of inflammation, a wide variety of papers is included. Aspects discussed are: mediators of the inflammatory response; membranes and inflammation; antibody-induced inflammation and delayed hypersensitivity; cellular and tissue response to injury; and inflammation of calcified tissue. This book is primarily intended for the research worker interested in pathological, biochemical, and immunological aspects of inflammation.

L.K.

NEURO-ELEKTRIESE NAVORSING

Neuroelectric Research. Electroneuroprosthesis, electro-anesthesia and nonconvulsive electrotherapy. Ed. by D. V. Reynolds, Ph.D. and A. E. Sjöberg, B.A. Pp. xviii + 466. Illustrated. \$27.25. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. 1971.

Hierdie boek bestaan uit die voordragte wat in 1969 by die kongres van die Neuro-elektriese Vereniging gelewer is.

Die verskillende bydraes is in 9 afdelings onderverdeel: die eerste 5 afdelings handel oor die aanwending van elektrisiteit in fisiese geneeskunde; psigiatrie en anesthesiologie; die volgende 3 afdelings handel oor apparatuur, en in die laaste afdeling word bepaalde aspekte van die verband tussen neuro-elektrisiteit, slaap en anestesie bespreek.

Elke bydrae is deur 'n spesialis op sy gebied gelewer en is bedoel vir persone wat meer as 'n oppervlakkige kennis van neuro-elektrisiteit verlang. Die boek word sterk vir hierdie doel aanbeveel.

B.J.M.

CHINESE MEDICINE

Medicine in China. By H. M. Said. Pp. 306. Illustrated. \$6.00. Karachi: Hamdard Academy. 1965.

This rather strange work is the outcome of a visit by a delegation of Pakistani doctors to Communist China and contains an account of some aspects of medical training in this country. Although somewhat tinged with political propaganda and apparently written also for the layman, the book does hold something of interest for the medically qualified—mainly in the fairly extensive section on the history of Chinese medicine. Much prominence is given to so-called 'traditional' medicine—this being the particular brand of eastern medicine peculiar to China. In this connection it is revealing to learn that there are many schools which have a 6-year course in 'traditional' medicine, 18 months of which are devoted to 'modern' (or Western) medicine and that there are more than 200 traditional medicine hospitals in the country. Schools of 'modern' medicine in turn include some 'traditional' medicine in their training courses. There is even an Institute of Acupuncture! All in all a scene strange and odd to the Westerner, much of it naively painted but rather interesting nevertheless.

E.M.S.

ORAL SURGERY

Oral Surgery. Transactions of the 3rd International Conference on Oral Surgery, held in New York, October 1968. Ed. by R. V. Walker. Pp. xii + 591. Illustrated. £10.00. Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1971.

This book is a summary of papers which were read at the Seventh Oral Surgical Congress in 1968. It presents an approach to the pathology of and surgical treatment of ameloblastomas, the 'Open-bite deformity, and pre-prosthetic surgery'.

The content is mainly surgical and technical and well illustrated with X-ray records and line diagrams. The omission of discussions which followed the presentation of the papers is a weakness and detracts from the value of the presentation. The book is of interest to dentists and should be valuable to those who practise oral surgery.

L.M.J.

SKIN SURFACE VALUES

Patterns of Skin pH from Birth through Adolescence. With a synopsis on skin growth. By H. Behrendt, M.D. and M. Green, M.D. Pp. vi + 115. Illustrated. \$8.25. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1971.

The authors have spent over 20 years measuring skin surface pH values, mainly in children, and have recorded their findings in detail. The practical applications of this work appear limited, although the demonstration of increased alkalinity of axillary vault skin has some value as an early sign of sexual maturation. Much of their work confirms the diminishing importance of Marchionini's 'acid mantle'. This monograph is of limited interest but those unacquainted with skin development may find the earlier chapters useful.

D.A.W.