

BOEKBESPREKINGS : BOOK REVIEWS

BIOCHEMISTRY

Biochemists' Handbook. Ed. by Cyril Long, M.A., B.Sc., D. Phil., F.R.S.E. Pp. xxii+1192. Illustrated. R16.80. London: E. & F. N. Spon. 1961.

This handbook presents in a concise form a wealth of biochemical information of qualitative and quantitative nature. Altogether 172 authorities from 18 different countries were invited to contribute. The index contains about 8,800 entries.

The data are presented in 5 major divisions, as follows:

1. Important topics in physical and organic chemistry, which are most useful to biochemists, including methods in the use of isotopes, flame photometry, spectroscopy, fluorimetry, electrophoresis, and chromatography.

2. Enzyme kinetics and descriptions of about 300 individual enzymes.

3. Metabolic pathways.

4. Data on the chemical composition of animal and plant tissues.

5. A physiological section including nutritional data. This section includes *inter alia* information about the preparation

of laboratory stock solutions, biochemical analyses, accepted concepts with respect to the physiology of blood clotting, blood groups, and the chemistry of hormones and of foods.

This concise handbook with its enormous amount of information and comprehensive bibliography should prove invaluable to research workers and teachers of biochemistry and biology. A.v.Z.

RUMATIEKKOORS

Nature of Rheumatic Heart Disease. By George E. Murphy, M.D. Pp. 95. 162 colour figures. R2.80. Postage: 17½c. London: Ballière, Tindall and Cox Ltd. 1960.

Die doel van dié kommunikasie, soos deur dié outeur gestel, is om te probeer bewys dat die Aschoff-liggaampie en ander letsels in rumatiese hartsiekte ontstaan van spierselle en soms ook van gladde spierselle. Hierin slaag hy wel deeglik.

Die werk berus op die histologie van postmortem- en operasiegevalle en word gestaaf deur eksperimente waarby streptokokkale infeksie aangebring word by hase. Die uitstekende monograaf word afgesluit met 162 kleurfoto's van histologiese snitte en dit is van 'n besondere hoë gehalte. J.S.