

CHRONIC BRONCHITIS

The Chemotherapy of Chronic Bronchitis and Allied Disorders. By J. R. May, M.D. (Cantab.), F.C. Path. Pp. x + 115. £1.15.0. London: The English Universities Press. 1968.

A research physician's exploration of the difficulties attendant upon the management of chronic bronchitis, in which he shows that chemotherapy plays its chief role in the treatment of episodes of acute or chronic bronchitis; the arch-villain to be identified is *H. influenzae* which, despite an apparent adequacy of chemotherapy, will repeatedly raise its ugly head. Although the book covers the modern therapeutic approach to this crippling condition, it nevertheless indicates the inadequacy of that approach. T.J.

BLOOD GROUPS

Blood Groups in Man. 5th ed. By R. R. Race, Ph.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S. and R. Sanger, Ph.D., B.Sc. Pp. xxviii + 599. £5.10.0. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1968.

This edition incorporates the latest advances in our knowledge of blood-group antibodies, antigens and antigen variants, and thus maintains its widely recognized position as the most comprehensive reference book on the subject. Perhaps the most

significant feature of this edition, however, is the greater emphasis which is placed on the role of blood groups in genetics. The chapter on 'Twinning, chimerism and dispermy' has been considerably expanded, with several additional chapters on the contribution of the blood groups to the 'mapping' or cartography of human chromosomes. B.G.G.

HAEMORRHAGIC DISORDERS

Treatment of Hemorrhagic Disorders. Ed. by O. D. Ratnoff, M.D. Pp. 242. \$8.50. New York: Hoeber Medical Division, Harper & Row. 1968.

This symposium contains papers by 15 authorities. Part I begins with an excellent introduction to diagnosis and is followed by articles on the surgical, dental and psychiatric care and genetic counselling of congenital haemorrhagic disorders. Part II deals with acquired haemorrhagic disorders. The defibrination syndromes are fully considered and the importance of correct and early diagnosis is emphasized. The therapy recommended for defibrination syndrome in pregnancy is ultraconservative. Platelet and vascular disorders are dealt with rather sketchily. However, this concise, well-written book is highly recommended to clinicians and pathologists dealing with haemorrhagic disorders. J.M.