

on the human subject. The action of triparanol in man, for example, is disposed of in eight lines. Another chapter on the activities of corticosteroids is written from the viewpoint of detailed pharmaceutical research. One table in this on the laboratory effects covers 47 pages and lists hundreds of steroids, and another on the clinical effects covers a further 12 pages. Nearly 500 references are listed in this section. It is perhaps not widely known that many steroids have profound central depressant action, and this aspect is thoroughly reviewed in a further chapter. But perhaps the best section, and certainly that of most direct interest to clinicians, is the one on anti-aldosterones by the discoverer of these compounds himself. It is a thorough, well-written, and valuable review of the whole subject, and this section should have wide medical appeal. But the remaining chapters will be valuable mainly as a reference source for specialists researching in the particular fields with which they deal.

C. L. COPE.

Internal Medicine

Advances in Internal Medicine. Edited by William Dock, M.D., and I. Snapper, M.D. (Pp. 375; illustrated. £4 3s.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. London: Lloyd-Luke. 1965.

This excellent and authoritative series is written for the general physician, but if he is the only one to benefit he deserves our admiration, for the scope of the present volume is wide. The article on aerospace medicine (Lawrence E. Lamb), for example, will have general appeal besides providing an excellent summary of normal cardiopulmonary physiology. Three chapters deal with various aspects of carbohydrate metabolism. Visceral manifestations of diabetic neuropathy (M. Ellenberg) are rightly emphasized. Unusual types of hypoglycaemia, particularly those associated with mesodermal tumours, are discussed by D. M. Ginsberg, who believes that the latter secrete an insulin-like substance. E. S. Gordon reviews lipid metabolism in obesity and diabetes mellitus, including important recent advances by workers in this country. There follows an account of pyridoxine-responsive anaemia (D. L. Horrigan and J. W. Harris), in which the authors are careful to point out that the condition may not represent a single aetiological entity. Two complementary contributions from outside the U.S.A., on the bacteriology of respiratory infections (J. Mulder) and chronic bronchitis and emphysema (Lynne Reid), contain much material already familiar to British physicians. Lastly, but by no means least to one reader, there is a fine analysis of that complex subject, the handling of acid by the kidney (A. S. Relman).

Each article has an extensive bibliography but no summary, which is a pity but perhaps not surprising. It seems an unnecessary waste of space and effort in a book such as this to have a separate index of authors' names. The contents of previous volumes are listed only if they are still in print. It would be helpful to have a complete catalogue of the series, which should be available for reference in any reputable medical library.

A. PATON.

Notes on Dermatology

Lecture Notes on Dermatology. By Bethel Solomons, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.I. (Pp. 249 + viii; illustrated. 21s.) Oxford: Blackwell. 1965.

This is quite a good little book. It would have been much better had it not been spoiled by typographical errors, pieces of careless writing, and erroneous statements. It is simply and clearly laid out with many excellent illustrations, in both colour and black-and-white. Sometimes clarity seems to have been sacrificed for brevity. This book is aimed at students and general practitioners. One wonders if the very brief histological descriptions are worth while, and whether space saved by omitting them would not have been used to better purpose to amplify the clinical descriptions. Since they have been retained, why is there no description of the histological appearances in lichen planus, for which they are often diagnostic?

Unfortunately, the book contains many errors. Moniliasis does not have polycystic borders. One would not find periarticular lesions in the spleen. Promethazine is spelt wrongly three times, and should not normally be given three times a day. The term "alibour lotion" perpetuates an old error, and the shape of lesions in erythema multiforme is not like an iris. There are more serious errors in such statements as: that herpes zoster is commonest between the ages of 15 and 30; chloroquine produces irreversible lens changes; the decrease in the incidence of skin tuberculosis has been mainly due to chemotherapy; and desensitization in contact dermatitis has always proved disappointing—there is no qualifying reference to its success in penicillin dermatitis. No mention is made of vaccination as a cause of Kaposi's varicelliform eruption, and no histologist would agree that normal tissue should *not* be included in a biopsy. Finally, I wonder whether the old dermatologists would agree that syphilitic lesions should always be palpated with a protected finger. This book has been excellently produced with the aid of subsidies from various firms. I hope there will be a second edition, but before it is published the author should take the opportunity to revise the script.

F. F. HELLIER.

Control of Infection

Control of Communicable Diseases in Man. 10th edition. Edited by John E. Gordon. (Pp. 282. \$1.50.) New York: American Public Health Association. 1965.

This handbook, which was first produced 50 years ago, has been revised every few years. Since the last war the English and Scottish central health departments have been associated with the revision committee, and the handbook has been a standard work of reference for those working in public health and related fields in Britain. The tenth edition has been extensively revised and somewhat enlarged by a distinguished committee under the editorship of Dr. John E. Gordon. The handbook describes the community management of 148 infectious diseases, and the layout is similar to that of previous editions.

The chapter on arthropod-borne viral diseases is twice the length of that in the

previous edition. The new chapter on acute diarrhoeal diseases is of considerable interest, as it marks a reversal of the trend towards differentiation of further specific infections. As the attempt to control the broad problem of acute diarrhoea by single diseases is impractical, it is considered that a programme based on a wider outlook may be more successful. This outlook will be especially appreciated by developing countries. The sections of this chapter are on diarrhoea of early childhood, gastro-enteritis of general populations, travellers' diarrhoea, epidemic diarrhoea in nurseries for the newborn, and epidemic diarrhoeas of natural disasters and newly aggregated populations.

In the ninth edition the chapter on food-poisoning included only staphylococcal intoxication, but in the present edition botulism and salmonellosis are included in this chapter instead of standing as separate chapters, and there is also a new section on *Clostridium welchii* infection. Acute viral respiratory diseases and the pneumonias are summarized in two chapters, in which the difficulties arising from the uncertain relationships between clinical conditions and infective agents are successfully discussed. Staphylococcal infections are considered in three types of environment—in the community, the nursery, and the hospital ward. Appropriate control measures are prescribed in each situation. On the other hand, the control of all forms of haemolytic streptococcal disease is dealt with in a single section.

The editor has succeeded in producing a handbook that will be useful alike to those working in developing countries and to those in economically more developed countries. For those in Britain the handbook provides a summary of the main methods of control not only of the common infectious diseases but also of those that will be met with only once in a lifetime.

I. TAYLOR.

Survivors from Concentration Camps

Concentration Camp Survivors in Norway and Israel. By L. Eitinger, M.D. (Pp. 199. 30s.) Oslo: Universitetsforlaget. London: Allen & Unwin. 1965.

Psychiatrie der Verfolgten. By Walter Ritter von Baeyer, Heinz Häfner, and Karl Peter Kisker. (Pp. 397 + xii. DM. 78.) Berlin, Göttingen, and Heidelberg: Springer. 1964.

It is difficult to imagine a combination of more severe and destructive mental and physical stresses than those suffered by the inmates of the Nazi concentration camps. It is only now that the long-term after-effects on the survivors can be assessed. Dr. Eitinger, who is clinical director of the psychiatric clinic of the University Hospital at Oslo, was himself an inmate of Auschwitz. He has studied, with remarkable detachment, the neurological and psychiatric sequelae of the horrors of the concentration camps in a Norwegian and an Israeli group of survivors. He described the so-called concentration camp syndrome, a condition reminiscent of severe neurasthenia combined with symptoms similar to those following head injury. This syndrome was attributed to organic brain damage due to starvation, meningoencephalitis, and head injuries. In half the number of schizophrenias observed in the Israeli

group the experiences of the internment appeared to have precipitated the psychosis. Chronic reactive depressive psychoses were not uncommon. Only a small minority of the non-psychotic ex-prisoners were found to be free from features of permanent personality disorders, such as irritability, tendency to depression, chronic anxiety, and the inability to form relationships. For the majority the awakening from the nightmare of internment had been even more painful than the captivity itself. Previous personality played a relatively small part in the psychiatric sequelae. Survival seemed to have been due to chance rather than to specific predispositions. Even well-integrated personalities suffered permanent damage. This is not surprising. The mental stress suffered by them was unique in that not only did they live under permanent sentence of death, but the world from which they had come had been annihilated. This book is an important contribution to the knowledge of the effects of extreme environmental stress.

In their book on the psychiatry of the victims of persecution von Baeyer, Häfner, and Kisker provide a weighty monograph on the psychopathological and legal problems of the survivors from concentration camps. They have done much research in this field, and have acted as legal experts on many occasions when a psychiatric opinion was required by the German courts dealing with compensation claims. Their work is in the best tradition of the Heidelberg school of psychiatry, which won renown in clinical psychopathology and forensic psychiatry. The authors confirm and supplement Eitinger's observations in many respects. They examined 500 concentration-camp survivors who claimed indemnity. The most common syndrome found by these and other investigators consisted of chronic anxiety, depression, and asthenia, variably interpreted along neuro-pathological, psychosomatic, or psychodynamic lines. Internment in childhood and adolescence resulted in lasting personality deviations, the most common abnormal trait being a generalized distrust in human relations other than those with fellow victims, with consequential social isolation. Distinct paranoid conditions were un-

usual. The incidence of reactive depressive psychosis increased with age at the time of persecution. In 21 out of 37 cases of schizophrenia the Heidelberg workers assumed that the patients' experiences in the concentration camps had played a part in the aetiology of the psychosis. They expressly dissociate themselves from the doctrine of Jaspers concerning the independence of the psychotic process from environmental factors. In cyclothymic psychosis, however, they could only rarely establish that mental stress had probably played a part in the origin of the illness.

The German indemnity legislation entitles a claimant to compensation if persecution for political or racial reasons is likely to have contributed to illness or personality disorder. The authors insist that from the legal aspect the psychoses cannot be regarded as due solely to *Anlage*—i.e., innate predisposition—but that the role of individual experiences has to be examined in every case. They clearly define the criteria on which they base their assessment. Their approach has much in common with that of Kolle, of Munich.

Some German psychiatrists avoid getting involved in the clinical and legal problems arising from the horrors of the Hitler regime. Others apply simple theoretical formulas concerning the respective role of nurture and nature to the assessment of mental disorders in the victims of persecution. It is to the credit of the two foremost German psychiatric university institutes, those of Heidelberg and Munich, that they have taken up the systematic study of these conditions and put their knowledge at the disposal of the law courts set up for the compensation of the victims.

E. STENGEL.

The Bacterial Surface

The Bacterial Cell Wall. By Milton R. J. Salton. (Pp. 293+xiii; illustrated. 80s.) Amsterdam, New York, London: Elsevier Publishing Company. 1964.

It is now becoming apparent that the wall of a bacterial cell is an entity distinct from

the rest of the cell, and that it plays its own part in the activity of the organism of which it forms a part. Realization of this is a consequence of its study during the past two decades, following the introduction of electron microscopy and the newer chemical techniques. All this is summarized in the monograph by Dr. Salton, who has himself made notable advances in this field.

The anatomy of the surface layers of bacteria and the part they play in the Gram reaction are discussed in the first chapter. The second deals with the methods employed for their separation from the other constituents of the cell, and a third describes their examination by means of the electron microscope. Then follow chapters on their physico-chemical properties, their chemical composition, and the structure of those compounds apparently unique to cell walls, such as the glucosamine peptides and the teichoic acids. Two more chapters describe the antigens and the biochemistry of the cell walls. In the final chapter the author permits himself speculation about the importance of the cell wall to the bacterium, its phylogenetic relationships, and the part it may play in bacterial taxonomy.

To the specialist the book will be invaluable if only because it brings together a mass of information previously scattered throughout the literature. But for the amateur it is difficult reading because a more than ordinary basic knowledge of chemistry is required to grasp the real significance of much that is discussed. However, it is lavishly illustrated with many, some of them very beautiful, electron-micrographs, and there is an abundance of references to previous work. There are also no fewer than 67 tables, which, possibly for convenience in make-up, have all been collected together at the end of the volume. This is unfortunate, because their consultation requires so much turning of pages that the reader is tempted to ignore them and take their information for granted.

Nevertheless, Dr. Salton is to be congratulated on a useful and timely contribution to the literature of microbiology.

RONALD HARE.

Books Received

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Tissot's Medicinal and Surgical Gymnastics. A Translation in English, French, German, Italian, and Swedish. By Elizabeth and Sidney Licht. (Pp. 464+ix. \$12.00.) New Haven, Connecticut: Elizabeth Licht. 1965.

An Inn Called Welcome. The Story of the Mission to Lepers, 1874-1917. By A. Donald Miller. (Pp. 241+x. 5s. 2d.) London: Mission to Lepers. 1965.

St. Mary's Hospital. A London Family of Six Hospitals, a Medical School, and an Institute of Research. (Pp. 55. No price given.) London: Neame. 1965.

Principles of Clinical Neurology. By Bernard H. Smith, M.D. (Pp. 623; illustrated. £5 2s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1965.

The Ideas of Biology. By John Tyler Bonner. Drawings by Ann L. Cox. (Pp. 240; illustrated. 15s.) London: Methuen. 1965.

Bedside Diagnosis. 7th edition. By Charles Seward, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Edin.) (Pp. 568+xx. 35s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

Scientific Basis of Medicine Annual Reviews. 1965. British Postgraduate Medical Federation. (Pp. 344+ix; illustrated. 40s.) London: Athlone. 1965.

The Theory of Inbreeding. By Sir Ronald A. Fisher, Sc.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 150+viii. 35s.) Edinburgh and London: Oliver and Boyd. 1965.

Register for Recording Purchase and Supplies of Dangerous Drugs. 11th edition. (Pp. 184. 26s. 9d.) Bristol: John Wright. 1965.

Hypertensive Retinal Disease. By Samuel A. Shelburne, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 48; illustrated. \$7.75.) New York and London: Grune & Stratton. 1965.

Quantitative Problems in Biochemistry. 3rd edition. By Edwin A. Dawes, Ph.D., D.Sc., F.R.I.C. (Pp. 317+xi; illustrated. 35s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

Patterns of Sexual Behaviour. By Clellan S. Ford and Frank A. Beach. Foreword by F. A. E. Crew, F.R.S. (Pp. 330+vi. 30s.) London: Eyre & Spottiswoode. (Paperback 15s.) London: Methuen. 1965.

Physiology and Biophysics of the Circulation. An Introductory Text. By Alan C. Burton, Ph.D. (Pp. 217; illustrated. 64s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1965.

Year Book of the Ear, Nose and Throat. 1964-5 Series. Edited by John R. Lindsay, M.D. Section on Maxillofacial Surgery. Edited by Dean M. Lierle, M.D., and William C. Huffman, M.D. (Pp. 349; illustrated. 64s.) London: Lloyd-Luke. Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1965.