The pA_2 values were plotted against the corresponding pD_2' values, and the resulting scatter-graphs demonstrated that the two types of measures are correlated. It can be argued, however, that the correlation found in the data on the histaminergic system is probably spurious; it can be explained by certain unavoidable limitations in the experimental method. However, these limitations can explain only partially the correlation found in the data on the cholinergic system, and they play no role whatever in the correlation of the data obtained with a series of sixteen antihistamines of closely related structure. In these cases the correlation can be explained by the supposition that the structural differences are " non-specific "—that is, that they do not play a role in specific " receptor-complementarity ". Instead they may influence the relation between dose and biophase concentration or change the affinity by changes in less specific binding forces, such as hydrophobic forces acting on additional receptor areas. Thus " non-specific " modifications in the molecular structures of drugs may influence different classes of affinity values in analogous ways without implying that the different receptors themselves are structurally related.

REFERENCE

VAN DEN BRINK, F. G. (1969). *Histamine and antihistamines. Molecular Pharmacology, Structure-activity Relations, Gastric Acid Secretion.* Nijmegen: Drukkerij Gebr. Janssen N.V.

Mechanism of the antagonism of the hypotensive action of guanethidine by propranolol (T)

R. SINGH GREWAL* and C. L. KAUL, *CIBA Research Centre, Goregaon, Bombay* 63, *India*

The effect of the chronic administration of clonidine (St 155) on vascular smooth muscle (T)

E. LARBI and ELEANOR ZAIMIS*, *Department of Pharmacology, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, London, W.C.*1

Extraction and assay of urogastrone (T)

A. J. LAWRENCE, H. O. SCHILD and G. M. SMITH*, *Department of Pharmacology, University College London*

Parkinsonism treated with L-dopa: interactions with other diseases and other drugs (T)

K. R. HUNTER*, D. R. LAURENCE and G. M. STERN, *Neurological and Clinical Pharmacology Units, University College Hospital Medical School, London*

Mode of anti-depressant action of imipramine in man (T)

J. L. CRAMMER*, A. ELKES and D. C. WATT (introduced by B. N. C. PRICHARD), *St. John's Hospital, Stone, Aylesbury*