

determinations. Further, an excellent discussion of separation and quantitative techniques illustrates the uses of chromatographic methods in structural chemistry.

It is a book that we can recommend for reading to all organic chemists and biochemists, especially as it can be read as readily and with as much fascination as a novel. As a handbook it has certain drawbacks, since much of the information is only of use if the  $R_M$  concept is employed. The constancy of  $R_M$  values for homologous series and the additivity of  $\Delta R_M$  values, which have been criticised lately, are not presented fully by the author as they are not relevant to most problems in steroid chemistry.

The printing is excellent and no printers' errors were noted by the reviewer.

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#### *Two new Italian research journals*

*The Scientific Reports of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità* (Elsevier, Amsterdam), are now published regularly in English in four issues per year. In this new journal the more important research papers of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità will appear as well as lectures given by guest lecturers at the Istituto and papers read at symposia organised by the Istituto. The first volume consisting of 591 pages appeared in 1961. Its first issue contained 13 research papers, the second and third the proceedings of the first international fermentation symposium held in Rome (May 1960), the fourth issue contains lectures by ROBERT G. PARR (Pittsburgh), K. WIESNER (Fredericton, Canada) and P. ALEXANDER (London). The second volume will contain the proceedings of the symposium on Leishmaniasis (Rome, May 1961). Although the topics dealt with range from medicine over applied biochemistry to pure chemistry, it is felt that this new journal will be of considerable interest to all research institutes concerned with health problems, which encompass the same wide field of research.

*La Ricerca Scientifica* (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome), which for many years has published research work carried out under the direction of the Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, has now been reorganised into specialised editions: Part I, "Rivista", which publishes review articles in all branches of science. Part II, Section A, "Abiologica", will publish research papers on non-biological topics, while Section B, "Biologica" will contain the research papers of biological-medical character. Topics of informative value and news as well as book reviews, etc., have been collected in the "Notiziario". The reports of the various institutes of the C.N.R. will appear in a separate "Supplemento". While the reviews are in Italian, research papers in English, French, Italian and German are accepted and these contain detailed summaries in several languages. All sections maintain the excellent production of the old "Ricerca Scientifica", with a wealth of coloured illustrations and excellent printing.

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