

BOOK REVIEW

W. G. Eckert,¹ M.D.

A Review of Alcohol, Drugs and Road Traffic

REFERENCE: Cooper, W. E., Schwar, T. G., and Smith, L. S., *Alcohol, Drugs and Road Traffic*, Juta Co., Capetown, South Africa, 1979, 402 pp., \$20.00

This is a well-written work, with excellent collections of current reference sources, which has been divided into two parts. Part One concerns itself with driving under the influence and kindred offenses and Part Two with alcohol and drugs.

The information presented on driving under the influence includes various aspects of this problem including blood testing, the defenses, and penalties. These are presented with copious citations of the law in South Africa.

Part Two, on Alcohol and Drugs, covers more than 80% of the book and is a thorough review of updated general and specific information on various aspects of alcohol activity including absorption, distribution, metabolism, elimination, effect, clinical examination, blood sampling, methods of analysis, levels and calculations of blood alcohol, urine and breath alcohol determinations, alcohol in deceased persons, performance under the influence, drugs and driving, and other intoxicants. The material is international in scope. It represents an excellent updating of the current state of the art in this area of forensic medicine.

Well-written, readable, and excellently illustrated, this book is a worthy addition to the shelf of the active forensic scientist concerned in this area.

¹Laboratory, St. Francis Hospital, Wichita, Kans. 67214.