

REVIEWS

Basic Biochemistry, Third Edition. By M. E. RAFELSON, JR., S. B. BINKLEY, and J. A. HAYASHI. Macmillan Company, New York, N. Y., and Collier-Macmillan Limited, London, England, 1971. vii + 406 pp. 17 × 24 cm. Price \$11.00 (Hardbound); \$7.95 (Paperback).

This, the third edition of *Basic Biochemistry*, continues to serve as an introduction to the field of biochemistry by limiting the contents to the necessary basic principles and functions for understanding biologic systems. This revision incorporates current aspects of control mechanisms and protein synthesis as well as reorganizing the chemistry and metabolism for carbohydrates, lipids, and nucleic acids.

Staff Review ■

Ultramicro Elemental Analysis. By GÜNTHER TÖLG. Translated by CONRAD E. THALMAYER. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1970. xiii + 200 pp. 22 × 14 cm. Price \$10.95.

The development and use of ultramicro elemental analyses have become increasingly important in research involving biological materials. Frequently, biological samples are available in only minute quantities.

This book summarizes the techniques involved in ultramicro analysis and includes procedures for the determination of C, H, S, F, Cl, I, P, and As, either alone or in combination with other elements. The theory or background information concerning the procedures is sketchy; this could be a drawback to the novice. Those familiar with this area should find this to be a useful reference book.

Staff Review ■

A Guide to Drugs in Current Use. Edited by J. R. TROUNCE. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1971. 207 pp. 15 × 21.5 cm. Price \$7.95.

This book, directed primarily to physicians, divides drugs into sixteen categories and then subdivides each category into subcategories as necessary. It is the editor's stated purpose in the introduction "to provide a short account of most drugs in current use with particular emphasis on side effects and contraindications."

The editor may have accomplished his purpose too well; the information included is perhaps too concise and diminishes the book's usefulness. The use of British nomenclature is a slight drawback also. The material included in this book was originally published in the *International Handbook of Medical Science*, 1970.

Staff Review ■

Organic Solvents, Third Edition (Techniques of Chemistry, Volume 2). By J. A. RIDDICK and W. B. BUNGER. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1971. xiii + 1041 pp. 15.5 × 23.5 cm. Price \$24.95.

This third edition of *Organic Solvents* has been expanded and refined considerably in the revision process. One hundred solvents have been added with none included in the second edition deleted. According to the authors, primary consideration was given to the uniqueness of the solvent property and to current and possible future uses of the solvent, particularly in the newer fields of application such as electrochemical reactions, TLC, and preparative solvent extraction.

Unsaturated compounds have been added to most of the functional group classes. The amides have been increased from two to nine, and the number of sulfur compounds has been doubled. The number of properties tabulated has been increased by twelve, which does not include references to spectra.

Many other revisions and modifications have been made to facilitate use of the book. Previous editions have been widely accepted and utilized; this edition should follow that pattern.

Staff Review ■

Methadone Maintenance. Edited by S. EINHORN. Marcel Dekker, Inc., 95 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1971. xiii + 249 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. Price \$12.50.

The material included in this book was presented at the Second National Methadone Maintenance Conference held in October 1969. The papers, however, have been revised, expanded, and updated before inclusion in the book.

An overview of the state of knowledge, experience, and logic underlying the use of methadone programs to combat misuse of narcotics is provided. Persons working with methadone programs in some of the most severely affected cities are among the fourteen contributors.

Staff Review ■

WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence: World Health Organization Technical Report Series, No. 460. World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland, 1970. 45 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price \$4.00.

This booklet assesses and summarizes current approaches to the treatment and rehabilitation of drug-dependent persons. Also included is a discussion of the prevention of drug dependence.

The British approach to heroin maintenance is considered as well as the methadone maintenance programs.

Staff Review ■