

REVIEWS

Neurotransmitter Receptor Interactions. By D. J. TRIGGLE. Academic, New York, N.Y., 1971. 610 pp. Price \$26.00.

This attractive title constitutes eight chapters. The first chapter contains valuable information on molecular bonding and allosteric interactions. Such information is difficult to find in other books on the subject. The second chapter is fully devoted to the details of the cell membrane. The subsequent two chapters, which occupy approximately 200 pages, contain the structure-activity relationship (SAR) of adrenergic and cholinergic drugs. Triggler has nicely condensed the material on SAR which was previously presented in three different books authored or co-authored by him. There are approximately 100 tables which condense the SAR of adrenergic and cholinergic drugs. The number could have been easily reduced. The book contains little or no information on histamine, serotonin, or prostaglandins. This deletion might have been due to the questionable role of these substances as neurotransmitters. While the book contains considerable information on the acetylcholinesterases, the treatment on the enzymes monoamine oxidase and catechol-*O*-methyltransferase is not included. The chapter on neurotransmitter-Ca⁺² linkage again contains valuable information which nicely blends with the subject matter.

The book has an advantage of the single-handed treatment of the subject and hence it is consistent in style. On the whole, Triggler has tackled a very basic and complex subject matter in an elegant manner. The book should be of value to biochemists, physiologists, pharmacologists, medicinal chemists, and biologists. Furthermore, the book should be of value in designing a graduate course for the students in pharmacology or medicinal chemistry.

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Peptides 1969. Edited by E. SCOFFONE. North American Publishing Co., U. S. distributor, American Elsevier, New York, NY 10017 1971. xxiii + 379 pp. 15.5 × 23 cm. Price \$25.75.

Another in the continuous series of publications of the European Peptide Symposiums has now been made available for the use of scientists who were not fortunate enough to participate in this important event. The present volume presents, in full, the proceedings of the 10th European Peptide Symposium held in Italy, September 1969. The volume is extremely well arranged and describes the full papers presented under different sections. An added feature in this volume is the incorporation of the discussions which followed each presentation.

Section 1 is devoted to the conventional methods for the synthesis of peptides. In addition to the many new protecting and activating agents described in this section, the total synthesis of hormones such as calcitonin is of particular interest. Section 2 is devoted to the unconventional methods of peptide synthesis, the main emphasis being on solid phase synthesis. Sections 3 and 4 are of tremendous importance, devoted to the conformational problems and enzyme active sites, respectively. Section 5, which is devoted to miscellaneous presentation, includes, among other useful presentations, the approach of the mass spectrometric method for the determination of the amino acid sequence in peptides. The last section includes some of the very interesting work in the synthesis of peptides incorporating unusual amino acids. Two main lectures, reproduced in full, add greatly to the value of the book. The third main lecture by Professor Liquori is conspicuous by its absence. While there is no doubt that this volume will be of extreme use to the researchers in the area of peptides, the compiling of the pro-

ceedings of this type will be of far more help if these are published soon after the symposia.

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Experimental Pharmaceutical Technology, Third Edition. By E. L. PARROTT and W. SASKI. Burgess Publishing Co., 426 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis, MN 55415, 1971. vi + 306 pp. 21 × 27.5 cm. Price \$6.25.

Pharmaceutical technology quantitatively correlates physico-chemical theories with the characterization, design, development, evaluation, and preparation of dosage forms. One purpose of this laboratory manual is to aid in establishing pharmacy on a more mathematical and scientific basis. Additionally, this manual attempts to assist the beginning student in obtaining an overall concept of a dosage form.

Staff Review ■

Marijuana: The Second Trip. By EDWARD R. BLOOMQUIST. Glencoe Press, 8701 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90211, 1971. x + 434 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price \$6.95, hard bound; \$4.95, paperback.

The controversies concerning marijuana have generated numerous publications on this subject recently. This book is the second edition of a book published in 1968 under the title "Marijuana." It presents a fairly comprehensive look at the subject in sufficient detail to be of value to the casual reader or to the reader wanting an overview of the subject.

Staff Review ■

The Chemistry of Biosurfaces, Volume I. Edited by MICHAEL L. HAIR, Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York, NY 10016, 1971. xi + 376 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. Price \$22.50.

This, the first volume of a two-volume set, deals with various adsorption phenomena that are analogous to biological systems. Included in the concepts discussed are hydrophobic bonding and the structure of water, lipids as biological surfactants, large molecule adsorption, and preparation and properties of the bilayer membrane.

The term biosurface refers to any surface that interacts with an environment of biological nature. The study of such surfaces has practical applications in many diverse areas including laundry products, bone replacement, and stabilization of biologically active materials.

Staff Review ■

Methods of Biochemical Analysis, Volume 20. Edited by D. GLICK. Wiley, New York, NY 10016. vii + 393 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. Price \$17.50.

The "Methods of Biochemical Analysis" series is by design a self-modernizing encyclopedia of pertinent methods. Determinations presented in this volume include: Analysis of Cyclic 3',5'-Adenosine Monophosphate and Cyclic 3',5'-Guanosine Monophosphate, Use of Ethidium Bromide for Separation and Determination of Nucleic Acids of Various Conformational Forms and Measurement of Their Associated Enzymes, Determination of Phytate and Inositol Phosphates, Determination of Glutamic and Aspartic Acids and Their Amides, Methods for Measurement of Hydrogen Isotope Exchange in Globular Proteins, and A Practical Guide to the Temperature-Jump Method for Measuring the Rate of Fast Reactions.

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