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We dedicate this paper to Professor Maynard W. Quimby, University of Mississippi, on the occasion of his appointment to the position of Senior Scientist and Emeritus Professor of Pharmacognosy.

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BOOKS

REVIEWS

Biochemical Applications of Mass Spectrometry. Edited by G. R. WALLER. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1972. xiv + 872 pp. 21 × 28 cm. Price \$49.95.

The editor and authors of this encyclopedic work have succeeded admirably in assembling into one volume a large amount of theoretical and practical material.

The book is divided into five parts. Part I is an introduction and historical survey. Part II covers the different types of spectrometers and contains an exhaustive section on data acquisition and processing by most of the world's principal mass spectrometric laboratories.

About 80% of the book is devoted to the interpretation of mass spectra. These parts, consisting of 28 chapters, provide both the novice and experienced investigator with a wealth of information on mass spectrometric applications to the entire range of biochemicals and compounds commonly classified as natural products. In addition, there are excellent chapters on the "Origin of Mass Spectra," how to interpret metastable ions, and field and chemical ionization mass spectrometry. Interdisciplinary areas such as those relating to drug metabolism and clinical applications are also covered.

This well-edited volume is about 60% tables and illustrations. The mass spectra are uniformly and clearly presented. Each chapter is adequately, but not excessively, referenced. A good working index is present so that subjects not discussed under a separate chapter, e.g., mass fragmentometry and GC-MS systems, can be quickly found. If anything, the book suffers somewhat from covering the literature *only* through 1969, since it was that long in preparation. Attempts have been made to update, in proof, some of the newer areas like chemical ionization mass spectrometry by the citation of more recent references.

In summary, the book should be useful to investigators working in any of the areas allied with natural products and as a reference work for others using mass spectrometry as an analytical tool. Insofar as it is not out of date, it represents a how-to manual on the subject of data acquisition. As a final point, one would be remiss in not mentioning the efforts of the editor and various contributors in presenting the history and background of the entire field.

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Methods and Techniques in Clinical Chemistry. By P. L. WOLF, D. WILLIAMS, T. TSUDAKA, and L. ACOSTA. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1972. 417 pp. 14.5 × 23 cm. Price \$11.50.

This publication compiles all of the currently significant chemical tests being utilized by the Stanford Hospital Clinical Laboratory. The tests are given in alphabetical order; each test monograph includes a discussion of the principle involved, reagents and equipment, procedure, normal values, references, and clinical interpretation. Throughout the book, the authors have emphasized the practical aspects of clinical chemistry.

Staff Review ■

NOTICES

Proceedings of the International Symposium on Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry. Organized by the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche "Mario Negri" of Milan. Edited by ALBERTO FRIGERIO. Tamburini Editore s.p.a. Milano, Italy, 1972. 505 pp. 17 × 24 cm.

Biological Oxidation of Nitrogen in Organic Molecules, Proceedings of the Symposium held at Chelsea College, London, December 1971. Edited by J. W. BRIDGES, J. W. GORROD, and D. V. PARKE. Halsted Press, Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1972. 269 pp. 17 × 25 cm. Price \$21.00.

International Directory of Investigators in Psychopharmacology. U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Institute of Mental Health, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852, 1972. 439 pp. 20 × 26 cm.

Die Starke in der Medizin. By JOHANNES SEIDEMANN. Paul Parey, Berlin 61, Lindenstrasse 44-47, Germany, 1972. 92 pp. 16 × 24.5 cm. Price DM 38. (German)

Organic-Chemical Drugs and Their Synonyms, Volumes I and II. By MARTIN NEGWER. Akademie-Verlag, DDR 108 Berlin, Leipziger Str. 3-4, Germany, 1971. 1216 pp. 16 × 24 cm. (German)

Terpenoids and Steroids, Volume 2, A Specialist Periodical Report. Senior Reporter, K. H. OVERTON. Chemical Society, Blackhorse Road, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 1HN, England, 1972. 450 pp. 13 × 21.5 cm. Price £9.00.