

Liquid Scintillation Counting, Volume 2. Edited by M. A. CROOK, P. JOHNSON, and B. SEALES. Heyden and Son Ltd., New York, N.Y., 1972. 327 pp. 17 × 26 cm. Price \$21.50.

"Liquid Scintillation Counting, Volume 2" contains the proceedings of the International Symposium of Liquid Scintillation Counting, held at Brighton, England, in September 1971. The papers presented at that symposium are, in general, concerned with the biomedical applications of liquid scintillation counting techniques. There are 27 papers included in the book; four on Basic Theory of the Chemistry and Physics of Scintillators and Scintillation Counting; four on Historical Developments and Miscellaneous Problems; six on Methods of Sample Preparation of Inorganic Materials, Including Cerenkov Counting; six on Methods of Sample Preparation of Organic Materials Including Biological Systems; and seven papers on Data Processing.

This book, for the most part, presents material that deals with day-to-day problems associated with the liquid scintillation technique and should be a welcome addition to the library of users of internal liquid scintillation counters. Rapkin's article on the "History of the Development of the Modern Liquid Scintillation Counter" was very interesting and gives much information that will be helpful to potential purchasers of liquid scintillation counters.

Two other articles of general interest should be mentioned. Birks and Poullis reevaluated a wide range of scintillation solutions as to their relative pulse height under conditions which correspond closely to conditions used in current internal scintillation counting. Although carbon tetrachloride was the only quenching agent involved in their investigations, the article contains information as to the preferred solvent system for use depending on the degree of quenching present in the system. Scales presents information on undesirable luminescence in liquid scintillation samples of biological origin. He discusses methods of elimination of luminescence and points out the need for careful sample preparation technique.

For the most part, articles in the book deal with specific problems of biomedical interest and problems associated with data processing. On the whole, the book contains information which will lead to the solution of many day-to-day problems; information which, for the most part, is very difficult to find in other sources.

*Reviewed by Gordon S. Born
Bionucleonics Department
Purdue University
Lafayette, IN 47907* ■

A Guide to Drug Eruptions. By W. BRUINSMA. American Elsevier, 52 Vanderbilt Ave., New York, NY 10017, 1973. viii + 103 pp. 14.5 × 22.5 cm. Price \$9.95.

This guide's stated purpose is "... to give information on clinical data which might be helpful in locating the responsible drug. ...". The objective has been achieved in part. However, the author is somewhat a victim of a problem identified in the introduction, namely, "Exact knowledge of incidence figures even for the common type of reaction to drugs is rarely available. For the great majority of drugs these data are widely scattered and difficult to obtain."

The resulting compilation is somewhat superficial. However, considering that the subject of skin eruptions is complex, the data are difficult to obtain, and reporting systems are poor, the book does serve as a useful departure point and as a *guide* for health-care practitioners having need of this kind of information.

Staff Review ■

Drugs: Annotated Bibliography and Guide. By A. M. AJAMI, G. K. HALL & Co., 70 Lincoln St., Boston MA 02111, 1973. xxiv + 205 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price \$16.50.

The title of this publication is somewhat misleading. The thrust of the book is abuse of drugs and the drug culture rather than the more general area indicated by the title.

Abstracts of 539 articles divided into five sections are given. The bibliography was developed as part of a natural science college course and, as such, articles were selected to reflect various positions on numerous aspects of drug abuse. Rather than focus on one thesis, the articles were selected to provide a broad overview of uses, opinions, and considerations related to drugs.

Staff Review ■

How to Divide Medical Words. By RICHARD V. LEE and DORIS J. HOFER. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, IL 62901, 1972. 229 pp. 11 × 15.5 cm. Price \$4.50.

Divided into two sections, this reference book provides a listing of the correct spelling of a number of medical words and a substantially longer listing of the correct division of such words. While the correct spelling is available in a number of sources, finding the correct way to divide medical and pharmaceutical terminology sometimes can be difficult. Since it is priced reasonably, this book should be a useful addition to the reference sources available to persons involved with the preparation of technical publications.

Staff Review ■

Biosynthesis, A Specialist Periodical Report. T. A. GEISSMAN, Senior Reporter. The Chemical Society, Burlington House, London W1V 0BN, England, 1972. 249 pp. 13 × 21.5 cm. Price £ 6.50.

This is the first volume of a series of the well-regarded Specialist Periodical Reports dealing with the synthesis of organic compounds in living organisms. An introductory chapter on the methodology of biosynthetic experimentation provides a general background to the specific topics discussed in the following sections. The four specific sections include the biosynthesis of terpenoid compounds; triterpenes, steroids, and carotenoids; phenolic compounds; and alkaloids.

This volume covers the literature of 1970 and 1971, with reference to earlier work where necessary for clarity.

Staff Review ■

The Child With Down's Syndrome (Mongolism). By DAVID W. SMITH and ANN ASPER WILSON. Saunders, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, PA 19105, 1973. 106 pp. 18 × 26 cm. Price \$5.75.

This publication was designed for parents, physicians, and persons concerned with the education and care of the child with Down's syndrome, frequently referred to as mongolism. The causes, characteristics, and acceptance of the Down's syndrome-affected child are emphasized.

The discussions are understandable, straightforward, and frank. For instance, in a discussion of the serious physical conditions that

may accompany Down's syndrome, *e.g.*, intestinal blockage and defective heart development, it is emphasized that decisions for corrective measures must be left to the parents and that they have the right to refuse such measures.

The genetic "mistake" which leads to Down's syndrome is discussed in detail and is illustrated very effectively. This and all discussions should be easily understood without any scientific or technical background.

A large portion of the book is concerned with the physical, mental, and social characteristics of Down's syndrome. While it is obviously impossible to make predictions about a particular child, general patterns of development are discussed, accompanied by graphs. It is emphasized that seeking professional assistance as soon as possible allows for the greatest assurance that a Down's syndrome child will achieve the highest level of development. Results of research and programs in this area have indicated that attention, education, and therapy between the age of 3 and 5 apparently have a substantial effect on the child's future development. This is perhaps related to motivation; between 3 and 5, the child can master certain motor and learning skills. After that age, the Down's child begins to lose ground on normal children and may be subject to a sense of frustration.

Overall, this book is readable and informative without overwhelming the reader with peripheral information.

Staff Review ■

NOTICES

Atlas of Binary Alloys: A Periodic Index. By LAWRENCE STAUDHAMMER and KARL MURR. Dekker, 95 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1973. 92 pp. 18 × 26 cm. Price \$19.50.

Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemical Analysis, Volume 17. Edited F. D. SNELL and L. S. ETTRE. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1973. 644 pp. 18.5 × 26 cm. Price \$45.00, single copy; \$35.00, subscription.

Introductory Biochemistry. By STUART EDELSTEIN. Holden-Day, Inc., 500 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111, 1973. 353 pp. 19.5 × 24 cm. Price \$13.95.

Catalysis and Enzyme Actions. By MYRON L. BENDER and LEWIS J. BRUBACHER. McGraw-Hill, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, 1973. 203 pp. 13.5 × 20 cm. Price \$3.95.

Australia Antigen. Edited by JAMES E. PRIER and HERMAN FRIEDMAN. University Park Press, Chamber of Commerce Building, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1973. 236 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. Price \$12.50.

Introduction to Public Health. By D. M. WILNER, R. P. WALKLEY, and L. S. GOERKE. Macmillan, 866 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022, 1973. 470 pp. 15 × 24 cm. Price \$8.95.

Microautoradiography and Electron Probe Analysis. Edited by U. LUTTGE. Springer-Verlag, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010, 1972. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$14.60.