11. The final chapter deals with a wide variety of drugs which directly or indirectly affect the endocrine system.

In most instances, the coverage is quite superficial. This might be expected in view of the immense amount of material which has been condensed into a relatively small volume. The authors do not imply that they have intended to provide an in-depth treatment of the various aspects of endocrine pharmacology. Because of the concise nature of the presentation, the book may be difficult to follow unless the reader has a reasonable background in the basic aspects of endocrinology and pharmacology. This problem is further compounded by the fact that the authors have chosen not to include direct literature references. The only references which are cited are short lists of "Recommended Readings" which appear at the end of each chapter. The absence of direct literature references is somewhat surprising in view of the observation that many figures and tables in the book have been taken rather directly from scientific publications.

The information presented in some chapters (hypothalamic-releasing factors) is quite up to date, whereas other chapters (anterior pituitary hormones and insulin) are somewhat less current. This book may serve as a fast reference. It does not, however, contain sufficient detail to provide in-depth insight into the area of endocrine pharmacology.

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Introduction to Chemical Nomenclature. By R. S. CAHN. Halstead Press, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016, 1974. 128 pp. 13.7 × 21.5 cm. Price \$6.95.

This fourth edition has been completely revised and substantially rewritten to include new rules for chemical nomenclature. The inorganic section incorporates the essential features of the new IUPAC recommendations for coordination compounds,  $\pi$  complexes, and boron compounds. The organic section has been extended to aid the user in proceeding from principles to actual names. The book focuses, however, on the essentials of how names are formed rather than on formal rules. The book utilizes American conventions, with differences in British conventions noted where appropriate.

Staff Review

## NOTICES

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- British National Formulary, 1974–76. The Pharmaceutical Press, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 17 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1, England, 1973. 398 pp. 10.7  $\times$  17 cm.

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