

## BOOK REVIEWS

that this aim will be achieved, but I would not call the work a text-book: rather, it is a scientific monograph. After a short historical survey, the succeeding chapters, Cell Metabolism; Essential Metabolites; Enzyme Inhibition; Drug Antagonism; Drug Resistance, lead logically to the final consideration of the relation of structure and activity. In each case the known facts are discussed in relation to their effect on the problems encountered in chemotherapy. The whole is very stimulating to thought, and, as one reads, research problems frequently suggest themselves. The authors themselves admit that quicker results in chemotherapeutic research may yet be obtained by the older empirical method than by following suggestions based upon knowledge of reactions taking place in living cells. For some time it will be more important to gain a more accurate knowledge of such reactions than to apply them to chemotherapy. It may be that the chemical reactions of living cells may never provide the basis for chemotherapeutical design because of the similarity of one cell with another. The cells of the host and those of the invading organism may be too much alike in chemical sensitivities to be differentiated in this way. However, no matter what the ultimate result may be, the worker in the field of chemotherapy cannot help but benefit by a fuller knowledge of those subjects covered by this book. There is one little grouse that I would like to make. This book mentions a large number of medicinal chemicals, and in most cases ignores the Pharmacopœial names for them. Do all biochemists speak of thiamin rather than aneurine? It would be better to include the official names, even though they be given in brackets. The book is remarkably free from errors, and is exceedingly well documented (the bibliography covers 54 pages), the references including work done in 1946. Perhaps it would be fair to point out that the group of workers mentioned on page 334 did not synthesise for the first time all the compounds treated in Table 34. The book affords the worker in closely related fields the opportunity of obtaining, in a summarised and palatable form, the results of research on the biochemistry of the living cell, and I have every pleasure in recommending it highly as accurate, authoritative and well written.

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## BOOKS RECEIVED

*PRACTICAL METHODS IN BIOCHEMISTRY* by F. C. Koch and M. E. Hanke. Pp. 420, Ballière, Tindall and Cox, 1948, 5th ed., 16s. 6d.

*THE STUFF WE'RE MADE OF* by W. O. Kermack and P. Eggleton. Pp. 350 and Index. Edward Arnold and Co., London, 1948, 2nd ed., 10s. 6d.

*THE PRESENTATION OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION* by Reginald O. Kapp. Pp. 140 and Index. Constable and Co., Ltd., London, 1948, 6s.

*A MANUAL OF PHARMACOLOGY* by T. Sollman. Pp. 1132. W. B. Saunders Company, London, 1948, 2nd ed., 57s. 6d.

*AMERICAN PHARMACY*, edited by R. A. Lyman. Vol. 1. Pp. 522, 1948, 2nd ed. Vol. 2. Pp. 328, 1947. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.

*PHARMACOLOGY, THERAPEUTICS AND PRESCRIPTION WRITING* by W. A. Bastedo. Pp. 840, W. B. Saunders Company, London, 1947, 5th ed., 42s.