BOOK REVIEWS


To those hematologists becoming increasingly aware of the connection between endocrine activity and the blood, this symposium held under the auspices of the Ciba Foundation in London will be of great interest, for it reviews current concepts concerning the nature of hypothalamic-pituitary control, the mechanisms of hormonal regulation, and their interrelations. Much unpublished work and the interesting speculations of active investigators are recorded, giving this volume a particularly personal and "front seat" approach. The anatomy, histology, and cytology of the anterior pituitary gland is described, and the evidence concerning cell types responsible for specific trophic functions is summarized, including recent physiologic and histochemical data. Neuroendocrinology is dealt with at length, and it seems certain that the pituitary gland, both anterior and posterior lobes, and thus indirectly the gonads, adrenals, thyroid, and mammary glands are under the control of the nervous system. Details of these mechanisms have not as yet been fully worked out, but Harris and Green's emphasis on the importance of a porto-hypophysial system carrying an effector hormone from the median eminence to the sinusoids of the anterior pituitary gland seems most attractive. Detailed evidence on neural-pituitary control is presented by C. N. H. Long, J. R. Brobeck, M. Vogt, J. W. Everett, D. M. Hume, and R. W. Rawson, among many others. The use of radioactive tracers in following the fate of pituitary hormones and thyroxin is reviewed: radioiodine tagged ACTH is localized in the adrenal, tagged L.H. in the ovary, and TSH in thyroid, lymphatic tissue, and orbital tissue. The relation between lymphatic tissue and TSH is briefly mentioned; as yet no really satisfactory explanation exists for the lymph node and splenic hypertrophy, and lymphocytosis which is seen in thyrotoxicosis. Labeled thyroxine seems to localize in the pituitary gland and in the median eminence and posterior lobe as well; this is evidence suggesting that the pituitary-thyroid axis must be enlarged to include the neurohypophysis.

As in all symposia, the content is not uniformly good and unfortunately the few clinical papers are of inferior quality.

Many of the investigators are European, and this volume gives their views a wider circulation in this country, but it seems unfortunate that the work of Heinbecker, one of the few active Americans in this field, has so little European circulation. No direct mention of hematology was made at this conference.

A second section, included for convenience, gives an excellent, if technical, discussion of hormonal regulation of water metabolism.—Seymour Reichlin


This latest year book continues the previous high standards of excellence of this series in making available comprehensive and readable abstracts of current literature, as culled, edited, and commented upon by a distinguished group of editors. The section on the blood and blood forming organs, edited by William B. Castle, contains about 146 pages and abstracts of some 95 articles. These are well selected for their general interest. Castle's comments at the end of many of the abstracts enhance their value immeasurably. Recent interest in the purpuras is exemplified by the abstracting of 14 articles in this field.—William Dameshek


In many respects this volume looks like the best of the "Advances" series. It is good to see here broad gauge reviews written by investigators who have usually been content to
write short investigative articles dealing with some small phase of their favorite topic. For example, Cartwright and Wintrobe have a fine review of the anemia of infection, Waldenström has a full discussion of the abnormal proteins in myeloma together with a note on his "macroglobulinemia" syndrome, and Blakemore discusses very thoroughly portal hypertension and its treatment. There is a remarkable chapter by Bing on catheterization of the heart, and gout is fully discussed by Gutman and Yu. Diseases of the pregnant women affecting the offspring by Murray H. Bass contains a chapter on blood dyscrasias. A rather routinely written review dealing with experiences with ACTH and cortisone by Charles Ragan has no mention of the use of these hormones in auto-immune hemolytic anemia.—

William Dameshek


This volume, "the first fascicle of a handbook of Biological Data" is crammed full of important data, presented in tabular form, of standard values in blood. The data were supplied and the tables thoroughly reviewed by "over six hundred leading investigators in biology and clinical medicine." Contents include data for physical properties of the blood, coagulation phenomena, blood groups, erythrocytes and hemoglobin, leukocytes, blood and bone marrow cells, certain chemical constituents of the blood, blood vitamins and hormones, blood levels of therapeutic agents, etc. The compilation of this indispensable reference volume was undoubtedly a Herculean task and the editor, Professor Albritton, and his committee deserve great credit for carrying the task through to completion.—

William Dameshek


Immunohematology as a specialty has now come of age. One of the subjects with which the immunohematologist is sometimes concerned is the medicolegal application of blood grouping tests, especially in cases of disputed parentage. An up-to-date report on the medicolegal aspects of blood grouping tests was recently published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (June 14, 1952). Therefore, the appearance of this book by John F. Lombard is timely.

At one time it was difficult to convince the courts of the reliability of blood tests for the exclusion of parentage, but at present the use of blood tests in such cases is routine, at least in the courts of New York City. The excellent book prepared by Lombard is evidently intended primarily for lawyers in Massachusetts, and will help to further the use of blood tests in courts of that state. However, the information it contains, especially concerning the scientific aspects of the blood tests, is valid in any state, and therefore the book will be widely used by lawyers throughout the country. Lombard has written the second treatise on this subject, and his book constitutes a fine companion volume to Sidney B. Schatkin's Disputed Paternity Proceedings.

With regard to the legal aspects, the volume contains a wealth of references taken almost exclusively from cases tried in courts of Massachusetts. The substance of all these decisions has been carefully digested and summarized by the author, and the text makes interesting, instructive and pleasant reading. To the immunohematologist, the section on blood grouping tests (pages 723-798) will be of greatest interest. In that chapter a great deal of space has been devoted to reproducing S. B. Hooker and W. C. Boyd's excellent article on the subject, dealing with the use of the A-B-O and M-N tests in medicolegal cases of disputed parentage. The author has also reproduced Wingate's appraisal of blood tests, as well as a fine article by Clyde E. Keeler. The chapter closes with Wiener's tables showing the heredity of the Rh-Hr types, which will be useful to lawyers in interpreting reports of blood grouping tests.

This book is a valuable addition to the library, not only of lawyers concerned with prob-
Book Reviews


Here in this brief monograph of 55 pages is included as simple and lucid a discussion of acute arterial occlusion as can be found in contemporary writing upon peripheral vascular diseases. The author relates his considerable experience with the sudden occlusion of major arteries of the extremities, discussing trauma, embolism and thrombosis as the major etiologic mechanisms. The rapidity of the occlusion, arteriospasm and progressive arterial thrombosis are discussed in relation to the hemodynamic changes following acute arterial occlusion. A particularly helpful description is that of the distinction between neurogenic and myogenic arteriospasm with pertinent case histories to illustrate the distinctions. The author believes that it is quite unusual to observe an arterial embolus lodged at any site other than at the bifurcation of an artery and he believes that embolic occlusion is almost always followed by necrosis of the extremity or by symptoms characteristic of severe ischemia. Embolectomy is believed to be the only justifiable therapy with embolic occlusion at either of these sites if no contraindications are present. The observer is cautioned to place more emphasis upon the distribution and character of pain accompanying arterial embolization than upon color and temperature changes alone in order to avoid being misled as to the site of lodgement of the embolus. In the author's experience the longest interval that has elapsed between acute occlusion with loss of motor power and the restoration of the circulation with complete return of motor power has been eight hours. A description of the signs in the extremity following acute arterial occlusion is one of the highlights of the book and should be ready by anyone interested in or forced by circumstances to treat a patient with this condition. The final chapter is concerned with the management of acute arterial occlusion and includes the treatment of arterial lacerations, traumatic arteriospasm, extravascular compression and embolectomy. Periadventitial sympathectomy is said to stand little chance of relieving severe traumatic arteriospasm. The author urges that surgical embolectomy is an operation that must be performed by general surgeons and not reserved for vascular specialists since time does not permit the transport of such cases from small communities to larger teaching hospitals and clinics. It is not enough merely to prevent necrosis of tissue by conservative treatment of acute arterial occlusion, but every attempt should be made to restore the circulation to as near normal as possible and this can only be accomplished in the author's opinion by the removal of the embolus. The number of failures occurring after embolectomy is decreasing as knowledge of the condition improves and technical skill of surgeons increases. While there is little in the book that will be new to the specialist in vascular diseases it should have a very wide appeal to beginners in the field and particularly to physicians lacking consultation service who are called upon to treat an occasional patient with this affliction.—Allan D. Callow

Books Received for Review


REQUEST FOR REPRINTS

Dr. Hans Selye, Director of the Institute of Experimental Medicine and Surgery at the University of Montreal, Canada, requests reprints, immediately upon their receipt, from all authors who have written on any subject dealing with stress and allied topics. These would be abstracted in the *Annual Report on Stress*, published by Acta Medical Publishers, Montreal.
BOOK REVIEWS

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://www.bloodjournal.org/content/8/3/291.citation.full.html
Articles on similar topics can be found in the following Blood collections

Information about reproducing this article in parts or in its entirety may be found online at:
http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/misc/rights.xhtml#repub_requests

Information about ordering reprints may be found online at:
http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/misc/rights.xhtml#reprints

Information about subscriptions and ASH membership may be found online at:
http://www.bloodjournal.org/site/subscriptions/index.xhtml