later than the papers contributing to it. While the present publication is of the highest quality in terms of book production, it would be of more value to aim at less elegance and more haste. This applies to all modern symposia, and some action is needed. Most symposia on hypertension also have in common the state of affairs expressed in the following statement, which is taken from the preface to the present publication: "all participants agreed that considerable progress had been made, although the specific causative mechanisms and definitive therapy of hypertension remained elusive."

Practically all the current problems in hypertension are discussed by leading authorities from most parts of the world. Discussions on the natural history, epidemiology, aetiology, including the roles of renin and catecholamine metabolism, atheroma, and the treatment of hypertension in its widest sense, are included, and give an indication of the wide scope of the symposium.

One of the major defects is the amount of repetition in the different sections. This could only have been avoided by limiting the speakers much more to a single topic, and by extremely rigorous editing. However, there is an enormous amount of valuable material contained in these pages. To someone seeking information in the field of hypertension this book will provide a very full account of most of the current ideas. To such a seeker after knowledge, however, it has the disadvantage of falling within the Law of Symposia, which states: "The value is inversely proportional to the size." What is needed is a wide-ranging discussion of a small number of papers so that the weak points are brought into the open and the strength of the hypotheses can be better judged. The converse principle has been followed here, so that the discussions after the papers occupy 25 pages as compared with 599 pages of the papers themselves.

W. S. PEART.

# **OBESITY AND ITS TREATMENT**

Side Effects of Anti-obesity Drugs. By Ashton L. Welsh, M.S., M.D. (Pp. 243+xxii. 76s.) Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1962.

It is difficult to understand why Dr. Welsh chose this name for his book. The first and most important 48 pages are about obesity, and an admirable review of the subject they contain. The last 200 pages are about "anorexigenic" drugs (what a word!), but do not concern themselves particularly with side-effects. It is difficult to understand, also, what the publishers hoped to gain by the "blurb" on the front cover, which seems to have been designed to appeal to entirely ignorant readers and give a lurid and false impression of the contents of the book.

Most medical men in this country would take one look at the cover and throw the book aside in disgust. So, I would have thought, would the American medical men I know. But they would be wrong to do so. The subject of obesity is excellently presented from the physiological and clinical points of view. All the drugs and hormones used in treatment are fully discussed, and not in the unbalanced way the "blurb" would suggest. The side-effects are not given undue weight, and, Dr. Welsh being an assistant professor of dermatology, some of them are not well known to general medical readers.

RAYMOND GREENE.

## **BOOKS RECEIVED**

Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.

Learning from Experience. By W. R. Bion, D.S.O., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Pp. 111+xii; illustrated. 15s.) London: William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1962.

Methods of Learning and Techniques of Teaching. The Proceedings of the Second Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Medical Education, October 15-16, 1959. Edited by J. R. Ellis, M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 145+x; illustrated.) London: Pitman Medical Publishing Co. Ltd. 1962.

Antibiotica et Chemotherapia. Fortschritte, Advances, Progrès. Edited by O. Gsell. Volume 10. (Pp. 430; illustrated.) Basle and New York: S. Karger. 1962.

Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases, Bath. Reports Volume II, 1959-62. A Collection of Papers published by Members of the Staff and the Research Unit. (Pp. 124.) Bath: Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases. 1962. Gray's Anatomy. Descriptive and Applied. Edited by D. V.

Davies and F. Davies. Thirty-third edition. (Pp. 1632+xix; illustrated. £7 10s.) London: Longmans. 1962.

Surgery of the Chest. Edited by John H. Gibbon, Jr., M.D. (Pp. 902+xvii; illustrated. £9 9s.) Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1962.

Methods of Forensic Science. Volume I. Edited by Frank Lundquist. (Pp. 659+xii; illustrated. £7 10s.) New York and London: Interscience Publishers, a division of John Wiley and Sons.

The Science of Physical Education for Handicapped Children. By Donald K. Mathews, Robert Kruse, and Virginia Shaw. (Pp. 317+x; illustrated. 44s.) New York: Harper and Brothers. 1962.

Materia Medica for Nurses. A Textbook of Drugs and Therapeutics. By W. Gordon Sears, M.D.(Lond.), M.R.C.P.(Lond.). Fifth edition. (Pp. 294+vii; illustrated. 13s.) London: Edward Arnold Ltd. 1962.

*Ciba Foundation Symposium on Transplantation.* Edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P., and Margaret P. Cameron, M.A. (Pp. 426+xii; illustrated. 56s.) London: J. and A. Churchill Ltd. 1962.

Glucagon: Chemistry and Function in Health and Disease. By Piero P. Foa, M.D., Ph.D., and Giorgio Galansino, M.D. (Pp. 126+xii; illustrated. \$6.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1962.

Diseases of Porphyrin Metabolism. By A. Goldberg (Ed.), M.R.C.P.(Lond.), F.R.F.P.S.(Glas.), and C. Rimington, M.A., Ph.D.(Cantab.), D.Sc.(Lond.), F.R.S. (Pp. 231+xvi; illustrated. \$9.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1962.

Aspects of Psychotherapy. By I. Atkin, M.D.(Lond.), D.P.M. (Pp. 103+vii. 10s. 6d.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1962.

Carcinogenic and Chronic Toxic Hazards of Aromatic Amines. By T. S. Scott, M.D. (Pp. 208+xi; illustrated. D.Fl. 15.) Amsterdam and New York: Elsevier Publishing Company. 1962. Arbeitsunfall und seelische Belastung. Edited by Professor Dr. H. Thomae. (Pp. 97. Sw.Fr. 12.) Basle and New York: S. Karger. 1962.

Ophthalmology in the Tropics. By E. J. Somerset, M.B., D.O.M.S., M.S.(London). (Pp. 171+viii; illustrated. 40s.) London, Baillière, Tindall and Cox. 1962.

*Methods of Biochemical Analysis.* Edited by David Glick. Volume 10. (Pp. 309+ix; illustrated. £5 9s.) New York and London: Interscience Publishers, a division of John Wiley and Sons. 1962.

**Operating Theatre Technique.** By Raymond J. Brigden, S.R.N. (Pp. 580+viii; illustrated. 75s.) Edinburgh and London: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1962.

Fish in Nutrition. Edited by Eirik Heen and Rudolf Kreuzer. (Pp. 447+xxiii: illustrated. £6 6s.) London: Fishing News (Books) Ltd. 1962.

The Diagnosis of the Acute Abdomen in Rhyme. By Zeta (Z.C.). Fourth edition. (Pp. 102+vii; illustrated. 10s. 6d.) London: H. K. Lewis. 1962.

La Greffe—Aspects Biologiques et Cliniques. By G. Mathe and J.-L. Amiel. (Pp. 428; illustrated. NF 88.) Paris: Masson and Cie, Editeurs. 1962.

Wood.

Technical Method : Method for Electrophoresis of Colicines in Agar Gel. Paul J. Chapple. Book Reviews.

Volume 15, No. 5. (Bi-monthly; £4 4s. yearly.)

### BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND CHEMOTHERAPY

The contents of the October issue are as follows :

- Toxic Effect of Carbon Tetrachloride on Liver Cell. K. Aterman. Drug-induced Changes in Brain Acetylcholine. N. J. Giarman and G. Pepeu. ct of Dichlorolsoprenaline on Peripheral Vascular Responses to Adrenaline in Man. W. E. Glover, A. D. M. Greenfield, and R. G.
- Shanks.
- Shanks. Hyperpyrexia as Contributory Factor in Toxicity of Amphetamine to Aggregated Mice. Beryl M. Askew. Origin of Cholinergic Response of Rabbit Intestine to Stimulation of its Extrinsic Sympathetic Nerves After Exposure to Sympathetic Blocking Agents. G. Boyd, J. S. Gillespie, and B. R. Mackenna. Effect of Aldosterone and Cortisol on Leptazol-induced Seizures in Rats. M. J. Seller and R. G. Spector. Adrenaline, Anti-adrenaline Drugs and Potassium Movements in Rabbit Auricles. Anne Stafford. Method for Quantitative Estimation of Drugs on Isolated Intact Trachea. Dana Jamieson.

- Method for Quantitative Estimation of Drugs on Isolated Intact Trachea. Dana Jamieson.
  Stimulation and Sensitization of Isolated Venus Heart by Cerebrospinal Fluid. M. B. Bowers, Jr.
  Inhibition of Plasma Kininase Activity at Slightly Acid pH. H. Edery and G. P. Lewis.
  Proteus vulgaris Urinary Tract Infections in Rats; Treatment with Nitrofuran Derivatives. D. J. N. Hossack.
  Absorption of Folic Acid from Small Intestine of Rat. A. S. V. Burgen and N. J. Goldberg.
  Wound Healing in Rats with Antibiotic Fucidin. J. Calnan and H. J. H. Frv.
- Frv
- Fry.
  Trypanocidal Action of p-Biguanidoacetophenone Amidinohydrazone.
  F. Hawking.
  Occurrence and some Properties of Eledoisin in Extracts of Posterior Salivary Glands of Eledone. A. Anastasi and V. Erspamer.
  Pharmacological Actions of Eledoisin on Extravascular Smooth Muscle.
  V. Erspamer and G. Falconieri Erspamer.
  Retention of Injected Catechol Amines by Mouse. L. L. Iversen and L. G. Whitby.

Volume 19, No. 2. (Bi-monthly; £6 6s. yearly.)

# Societies and Lectures

- For attending lectures marked igoplus a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Application should be made first to the institution concerned.
- Monday, November 5
- POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—4 p.m., Dr. B. Creamer: Cell Turnover in the Gut in Health and Disease. ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW.—At Maurice Bloch Lecture Theatre, 5.15 p.m., Lock Lecture by Professor J. Norman Davidson, F.R.S.: Biochemical Aspects of Normal and Malignant Growth
- Growth. Rowal FREE HOSPITAL.—4.30 p.m., Professor K. R. Hill: Pathogenesis of Cirrhosis.

### Tuesday, November 6

- ABORTION LAW REFORM ASSOCIATION.—At Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London W.C., 7.30 p.m., Mr. K. Robinson, M.P.: Abortion Law Reform in Parliament; Dr. P. Darby: The Effects of Legal Abortion—Warsaw Conference 1062
- in Parliament : Dr. P. Darby : The Effects of Legal Abortion-Warsaw Conference, 1962. BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., Professor Dorothy Hodgkin, F.R.S.: The X-ray Analysis of Large Molecules. INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Professor C. D. Calnan : Allergic Reactions—Immediate Type. LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medi-cine, 5.30 p.m., Heath Clark Lecture I by Professor L. Dudley Stamp: Climate and Disease. NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, 8 p.m., Symposium on Iatrogenic Disease. ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Professor D. W. Smithers: Hodgkin's Disease and its Treatment.

- Hodgkin's Disease and its Treatment.
  Wednesday, November 7
  Assurance MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Medical Society of London, 11 Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London W., 5 p.m., Dr. Denis Williams: On Assessing Prognosis in Paraplegia.
  BIRMINGHAM MEDICAL INSTITUTE: MIDLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY SECTION.— 8.30 p.m., Professor I. E. Bush: Recent Advances in our Knowledge of the Adrenal Cortex.
  BROOK GENERAL HOSPITAL.—12.15 p.m., clinicopathological conference.
  INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. P. D. Samman: The Principles of Dermatological Treatment.
  INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—5 p.m., Dr. N. C. Oswald: Loeffler's Syndrome.
  INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. I. Friedmann, Dr. D. A. Osborn, Dr. M. 1. Wright: Clinical Pathological Conference.
  LONDON UNIVERSITY.—At London School of Hygeine and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., Heath Clark Lecture II by Professor L. Dudley Stamp: Climate and Health.

- MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH .- At Hall of Royal College of MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.—At Hall of Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, 8.30 p.m., Symposium by Dr. J. Marshall, Mr. F. J. Gillingham, Dr. J. Williamson: Stroke.
   POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL OF LONDON.—(1) 10.15 a.m., Medical Staff Round, followed by clinicopathological conference. (2) 2 p.m., Professor C. E. Dent' Investigation of Metabolic Bone Disease.
   YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ANAESTHETISTS.—At General Infirmary at Leeds, 8.15 p.m., Dr. T. Cecil Gray: Some Points in Anaesthesia for the Shocked Patient.

## Thursday, November 8

- Thursday, November 8
  ALFRED ADLER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At 11 Chandos Street, London W., 8.30 p.m., Miss Mariorie Inkster: Religion and Psychotherapy.
  BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION.—At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 5.30 p.m., Dr. A. C. Stevenson: Radiation-induced Genetic Changes.
  LIVERFOOL MEDICAL INSTITUTION.—At Adelphi Hotel, 7.30 p.m., annual dinner. Speaker: Lord Mayor of Liverpool; Sir John Nicholson; Mr. D. H. Carter.
  ROYAL COLLECE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—4.30 for 5 p.m., Robert Jones Lecture by Mr. H. Osmond-Clarke: Recurrent Anterior Dislocation of the Shoulder.

- Lecture by Mr. H. Osmond-Clarke: Recurrent Anterior Dislocation of the Shoulder. ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HYGIENE.—At Postgraduate Medi-cal School of the Institute, 23 Queen Square, London W.C., 6 p.m., Dr. W. F. Floyd, Ph.D.: Ergonomics. ROYAL VICTORIA HOSPITAL, BELFAST.—At Large Lecture Theatre, Institute of Clinical Science, Grosvenor Road, Belfast, 5 p.m., Scott-Heron Lecture by Dr. Eric Samuel: Radiological Investigation of Coronary Circulation. ST. ANDREWS UNIVERSITY.—At Physiology Department Lecture Theatre, Queen's College, Dundee, 5 p.m., Professor W. Burns: Some Aspects of Peripheral Auditory Physiology. ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Large Lecture Theatre, S.15 p.m., Sir Paul Mallinson: Demonstration in Psychiatry.

- F FILIARY, INOVEMBER 9 ASSOCIATION OF ANAESTHETISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.—At Royal College of Surgeons of England, 4 p.m., John Snow Memorial Lecture by Lord Cohen of Birkenhead: John Snow and His Contemporaries. BONE AND TOOTH SOCIETY.—At Institute of Orthopaedics, 234 Great Port-land Street, London W., 4.30 p.m., symposium on Citrate Metabolism. CLINICAL SOCIETY OF BATH.—At Teaching Department, Royal United Hos-pital, 8 for 8.30 p.m., Mr. R. Belsey: The Present Scope of Thoracic Surgery.

- Surgery. INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH.—At New Lecture Theatre, Hospital for Sick Children, London W.C., 5.30 p.m., Guest Lecture by Dr. P. Bray: The Smallpox Epidemic in South Wales. INSTITUTE OF DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—S p.m., Dr. E. H. Hudson: clinical
- demonstration
- INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOLOGY.—3.30 p.m., Mr. J. C. Hogg: Nasal Obstruction.
- Postgraduate Medical School of London.—(1) 10 a.m., Dr. S. Sevitt: Some Systemic Reactions following Injury. (2) 4 p.m., Professor J. S. Mitchell: Some Problems in the Study of Radiosensitizers and Radioactive Drugs.

#### Saturday, November 10

- Saturday, November 10
   BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY.—At Glaxo Laboratories Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex, 10.55 a.m., reading of original communications.
   CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL.—At Postgraduate Lecture Room, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Trumpington Street, Symposium on Respiratory Problems in Childhood, Morning, 10.30 a.m., Dr. Douglas Gairdner: The Catarrhal Child; 11.30 a.m., Dr. Martin Greenberg: Bronchiectasis in Childhood; 2.15 p.m., Dr. A. Bruce: The Asthmatic Child. Alternoon, 2.30 p.m., Dr. Janet Roscoe, Dr. Hugh Fleming; Clinical cases demonstrated; 3.45 p.m., Dr. Janes Drummond : Assessment and Training of the Mentally Subnormal Child.
   NORTH-EAST METROPOLITAN THORACIC SOCIETY.—At North Middlesex Hospital, 10.30 a.m., Dr. R. Heard, Dr. J. Laws: Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease without Emphysema. 12 noon, Dr. T. Simpson: Acute Respiratory Failure in Bronchitis (with film).

## **APPOINTMENTS**

APPOINTMENTS EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—B. F. Whitehead, M.B., B.Chir., D.P.M., Consultant Child Psychiatrist, Cambridge and Peter-borough Areas; J. G. Corson, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., Senior Surgical Registrar, Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital; T. McGovern, M.B., B.S., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., Registrar in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital Group; D. I. Porter, M.B., B.S., Medical Registrar, Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital; A. A. Khawaja, M.B., B.S., Araes-thetic Registrar, North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech, and County Hospital, Doddington; C. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.Ed., Surgi-cal Registrar, Ipswich and East Suffolk Hospital; K. C. Lee, M.B., B.S., M.B., B.S., D.M.R.E., Radiological Registrar, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital; M. G. Goverdhan, M.B., B.S., F.R.P.S., Registrar in Psychiatry, St. Andrew's Hospital, Norwich. HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.—Shalina K. Sontakay, M.B., M.S., House-surgeon (Orthopaedic and Plastic); Shirley G. Ratcilfie, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.Ed., D.C.H., House-physician; A. Tejavej, M.B., Ch.B., Assistant Resident Medical Officer, Tadworth. MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—K. C. Kewish, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Whole-time Assistant Physician and Deputy Medical Superin-tendent (S.H.M.O.), Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

### DEATHS

- BEATHS
  Evans.—On October 10, 1962, at 131b Thorne Road, Doncaster, John Davey Evans, M.B., Ch.B.
  Fenton.—On October 10, 1962, at Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Eire, after a long illness, George Patrick Ormsby Fenton, M.B., B.Ch.
  Frankling.—On October 5, 1962, at his home, Little Orchard, Bledlow, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, Herbert George Frankling, C.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
  Stanton.—On September 28, 1962, Thomas William Stanton, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of Folkingham, Lincolnshire, aged 93.
  Tatt.—On October 1, 1962, at Hammersmith Hospital, London, John Thomson Tait, M.D., M.S., F.R.A.C.S., of 2 Queen's Gate, London S.W.7, and formerly of Melbourne, Australia.