

Chemistry of Proteins

Protein Sequence Determination: A Source-book of Methods and Techniques. Ed. Saul B. Needleman. (Pp. 345; £9.75) Chapman & Hall, 1970.

Since the pioneering work of Sanger on the structure of insulin, investigation of the amino-acid sequences of proteins has become an ever more popular pursuit for biochemists and molecular biologists. The techniques available for such studies are constantly being refined and extended and to those not familiar with the field may seem rather forbidding. This book provides a useful guide to these techniques for the beginner in protein chemistry, as well as a reference book for more experienced workers.

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The book consists of a series of specialist chapters written by experts in the field. The emphasis is on practical aspects, and in most cases there is sufficient detail to enable the reader to use a technique without reference to the original source. The account of the automatic protein sequencer by P. Edman is particularly welcome and includes much work previously unpublished. Almost inevitably, individual authors emphasize some aspects of their subjects and rather neglect others; this is no disadvantage for those already familiar with the field, but may give the beginner a rather unbalanced view.

The overall approach of the book is fairly

conventional, and partly because of this there are several quite serious omissions. Thus, determination of active centre sequences of enzymes and chemical modification techniques are not mentioned, and the use of paper electrophoresis and chromatography for peptide separations (including peptide mapping and "diagonal" techniques) receives very brief consideration. These are often the very techniques most needed by workers with no previous knowledge of sequence studies. Despite these omissions, this book will be of great value to both beginners and experts in the field of protein chemistry. It is another useful volume in what is proving to be a most successful series on molecular biology.

MICHAEL WALLIS

Primer of Endocrinology

Essentials of Clinical Endocrinology. Norman G. Schneeborg, M.D. (Pp. 449; £10.10) Henry Kimpton, 1970.

The distinction between a book which is deliberately authoritative and one which is frankly didactic is a fine one, depending perhaps on the length of the text. This book is not short, but is written in a terse, factual style reminiscent of a student's primer. As such, its appeal to the practising physician may be limited, since in its aim to cover all aspects of clinical endocrinology discussion on controversial points is often limited.

On the credit side, the book is carefully set out, is easy to read, and has an excellent index. Each section deals with the physiology and chemistry of an endocrine gland followed by clinical descriptions. Laboratory investigations of the different disease syndromes are clearly explained, with detailed accounts of methods used and underlying theory. More emphasis is placed on diagnosis than on therapy. The sections on the disorders of the pituitary gland and on diabetes mellitus are especially good, but in a 36-page section on calcium metabolism I was slightly surprised to find only a cursory mention of thyrocalcitonin. A chapter on cytogenetics in

endocrinology is clear and relevant. The quality of the diagrams and illustrations is very high, and the text is thankfully free from eponyms.

The non-endocrinologist will be confronted by a large number of facts if he dips into this book; for a reference text, however, he may prefer a more considered appraisal of clinical endocrinology. If the medical student can afford to buy it he will become greatly informed although he may feel that the title—*Essentials of Clinical Endocrinology*—is slightly misleading.

A. BRECKENRIDGE

Tackling Alcoholism

The Treatment of Alcoholics: An Evaluative Study. Sidney Cahn. (Pp. 246; £3.75) Oxford University Press, 1970.

The Department of Health has recently given the cheering news that more money is to be made available for alcoholism treatment services. Those who have for long argued that alcoholism is a sadly neglected problem have much cause to rejoice—would that Dr. Lincoln Williams had lived to see the day. But as the sounds of grateful jubilation die away on the breeze, a rather embarrassing question makes itself heard. Has anyone even the hint of an informed notion as to how such new money should most effectively be spent?

With astonishing timeliness, there arrives from across the Atlantic a book which looks

at America's alcoholism treatment services. The writing is based on four years of field research in which Mr. Cahn jogged around the U.S.A., visited 300 treatment centres, and talked to more than 700 people who in many different capacities were concerned with the care of alcoholics. The fruits of such an experience could, of course, have been no more than a well-documented confusion. In the event, what Mr. Cahn has produced is a detailed analysis of a problem, a clear statement of possible alternative solutions to that problem, and a reasoned choice of solution from among those listed alternatives.

In health planning the American experience is sometimes only dubiously relevant to Britain. In this instance, the relevance of the American review to our response to the Secretary's largesse cannot be doubted. The relevance is not, however, a matter of un-

critical point-by-point transference of American answers to the British scene, but of Cahn's having identified large and central questions which are closely similar on either side of the Atlantic. The most fundamental planning question of all is whether alcoholism services are to be expanded as a specialty or whether, on the contrary, the expansion should be encouraged to take place as integrated within general health and welfare systems. The latter choice is the one which Cahn would favour. But whether the problem is specialism versus generalism, skid row solutions within or without mainstream responses, planning versus bold leaps in the dark, the relationship between voluntary and statutory effort, the problems of liaison between care and after-care—on all these and other questions, this book offers sagacious argument.

GRIFFITH EDWARDS

SHORTER NOTICES

The desirability and importance of physical fitness is accepted by the medical profession among others, and how to achieve this through a controlled programme of exercise starting at school age is described in Mr. Harcourt Roy's book. The author was

a former Royal Air Force physical training instructor and is now an educational supervisor with the Inner London Education Authority. In his book he discusses concepts of fitness and its importance, and then goes on to give a detailed account of how to test for physical fitness factors, and to develop those found wanting. Various sporting and athletic activities, with the bene-

ficial effects that can be expected to accrue from indulging in them, are set out in detail with a comprehensive list of various professional organizations with facilities for physical education and recreation or with special interests in the field of sport and good health. (*Physical Fitness for Schools*. Harcourt Roy. (Pp. 198; £2.) Pelham Books, 1971).

SELECTED NEW TITLES

Books noticed here may be reviewed later

Teamwork for World Health. Ed. Gordon Wolstenholme and Maevae O'Connor. (Pp. 242; £3.) J. and A. Churchill, 1971.

Sympathectomy and the Innervation of the Kidney. Z. M. Asfoury, Ph.D.(Cairo), M.R.C.S. (Pp. 179; £3.40.) Butterworths, 1971.

Atlas of the Human Brain. 2nd revised edition. Donald H. Ford and J. P. Schade. (Pp. 233; £4.25.) Elsevier Publishing Company, 1971.

Current Topics in Membranes and Transport. Vol. 1. Ed. Felix Bronner and Arnost Kleinzeller. (Pp. 243; £5.85.) Academic Press, 1971.

International Review of Experimental Pathology. Vol. 9. Ed. G. W. Richter and M. A. Epstein. (Pp. 309; £8.40.) Academic Press, 1971.

COMING EVENTS

Royal College of Physicians of London.—Clinical pharmacology session, "Diuretics", 25 May. For details see advertisement on page xix.

Medical Art Society.—28th Annual Exhibition of paintings, drawings and sculpture by members, 27 May-12 June, Mon. to Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-12 noon (closed 29 and 31 May), Chandos House, 2 Queen Anne Street, London W.1. Admission by ticket only, obtainable free from the honorary secretary, M.A.S., 55 Morley Grove, Little Parndon, Harlow, Essex. (Tel. Harlow 36070.)

Prison Medical Officers' Annual Conference.—27 May, Institute of Psychiatry, London. Applications to Miss Braybrook, room 521, Home Office, 89 Eccleston Square, London S.W.1. (Tel. 01-828 9848.)

East London Postgraduate Medical Centre.—Details and copies of the summer programme are obtainable from the postgraduate secretary, Bethnal Green Hospital, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 9NP. (Tel. 01-980 3413.)

Royal College of Surgeons of England.—College evening, "Benign Prostatic Enlargement—a New Look at an Old Problem," 7 June, 6 p.m., an advanced discussion group for consultants and senior registrars. Fee £1 (including supper). Applications by 2 June to the secretary, R.C.S., Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

Westminster Hospital Summer Arts Festival.—Music, drama, films, exhibitions, 14-20 June. Details from the secretary, Arts Festival, Westminster Medical School, Horseferry Road, London S.W.1. (Tel. 01-828 9811, extn. 2112.)

British Association of Urological Surgeons.—Annual meeting, 23-26 June, London. Details from the honorary secretary, B.A.U.S., Royal College of Surgeons of England, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

European Organization for Research on the Treatment of Cancer.—International meeting, "Current Topics in Cancer Therapy", 25 June, C.N.R.S., 15 Quai Anatole France, Paris. Details from Professor E. H. Cooper, Department of Experimental Pathology and Cancer Research, Leeds University, Leeds, 2.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institution concerned.

Monday, 24 May

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. W. Rubin (New Orleans): Advances in Diagnosis of Vestibular Disease.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.—At clinical lecture theatre, 12 noon, Horder lecture by Professor H. Lehmann: The Haemoglobin Molecule.

Tuesday, 25 May

INSTITUTE OF DERMATOLOGY.—4.30 p.m., Dr. J. Greaves: Psychosomatic Aspects of Skin Disease.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.30 p.m., Professor J. Lindop: Radiation as a Factor in Cancer Incidence.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE.—5 p.m., Sir James Fraser: The Surgical Undergraduate.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—5 p.m., Hunterian lecture by Professor J. P. Pryor: Improved Function of Cadaver Kidneys after Transplantation.

Wednesday, 26 May

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—5.30 p.m., Dr. D. Stafford Clark: Films as Bridges in Psychiatry II.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—At Radcliffe Infirmary, 5 p.m., Litchfield lecture by Mr. D. N. Ross: Use of Biological Valves in Cardiac Surgery.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—4 p.m., Arnott demonstration by Dr. D. H. Tompsett: Museum Preparations of the Lymphatics.

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—2 p.m., Professor K. Zinnemann: Problems of Classification of *Haemophilus* Species.

WHITTINGTON HOSPITAL, LONDON.—11.30 a.m., Dr. J. N. Blau: Migraine—a Soluble Problem in Our Time.

Thursday, 27 May

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY.—At Medical Buildings, Foresterhill, 5 p.m., Professor S. Cohen: Some Implications of Antibody Structure.

DUNDEE UNIVERSITY.—5 p.m., Dr. B. B. Brodie (Bethesda, U.S.A.): Of Micce, Microsomes and Men—Factors which Affect the Duration of Action and Toxicity of Drugs.

FACULTY OF HOMOEOPATHY.—5 p.m., Symposium by Dr. Margery Blackie: Observations and Symptoms Used in Choosing Remedies for Children.

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—12 noon, Dr. R. P. Liberman (Camarillo, U.S.A.): Behavioural Approaches to Family and Couple Therapy.

LONDON JEWISH HOSPITAL MEDICAL SOCIETY.—At Medical Society of London, 8.15 p.m., Professor P. Polani: Some Errors of Sex Determination and Differentiation in Man and their Biological Background.

WEST LONDON MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY.—At West London Hospital, 8.30 p.m., Cavendish lecture by Sir Roger Ormrod: Clinical Aspects of Some Legal Problems.

WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL.—5.15 p.m., Professor J. R. Hobbs: clinicopathological conference.

Friday, 28 May

CHARLES BURNS CLINIC, BIRMINGHAM.—At Queensbridge Road, Moseley, 4 p.m., Dr. N. Raine: Biochemical Aspects of Psychiatric Disorders in Children.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE REGIONAL NEUROLOGICAL CENTRE.—At Newcastle General Hospital, 5.30 p.m., Dr. D. F. Roberts: Genetic Studies in Neurological Disorders.

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL.—11 a.m., Research in Progress meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Basil Strickland (honorary consultant in radiology, Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, London).

BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—D. G. Scott, M.D., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G., M.R.C.G.P. (part-time postgraduate adviser in general practice jointly to the board and to Birmingham University).

NORTH-EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—D. N. Davies, M.B., F.F.A.R.C.S. (consultant anaesthetist, South Essex group); B. E. Heine, M.B., D.P.M., D.C.H. (consultant psychiatrist, Runwell hospital and South Essex group).

UNITED MANCHESTER HOSPITALS.—F. Warwick, M.B., F.F.R. (consultant radiologist).

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

The title of honorary professor has been conferred on the following:

Dr. G. F. Adams (geriatrics). Dr. M. G. Nelson (haematology). Dr. J. F. Pantridge (cardiology).

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF LONDON

Licences to practice have been conferred on the following candidates:

D.I.H.—K. V. Shah.
D.M.R.D.—Y. S. I. Al-Khattab, J. J. Barrett, B. P. Barry, D. E. Beckly, L. A. Berger, T. R. Brown, A. E. R. Campbell, A. R. Carter, J. G. Daly, H. F. Devine, O. P. Fitzcerald-Finch, E. B. Garner, D. E. Gordon, I. Gordon, T. K. Gurumurthy, G. Harverson, I. A. Hatim, M. C. Hickey, R. S. Jackson, D. N. Jones, W. E. MacFeely, B. A. Markell, H. B. Meire, R. S. Monro, J. D. O'Connell, Caroline M. Parks, M. J. C. Patrick, P. D. Phelps, R. L. Philips, F. W. Pick, J. T. J. Privett, A. S. Rappoport, J. D. Russell, D. L. Rubin, A. J. S. Saunders, A. T. Scher, R. B. Sellwood, J. Soong, Grace Tan, K. A. L. Tan, L. Vlahos, J. R. Webster, R. J. S. West, B. K. Wignall, D. J. Wilkinson, M. B. Zafar.

D.M.R.T.—Barbara M. Backhouse, S. Bellaluddin, M. Colman, R. Gopal, J. M. Hughes, K. Lloyd, Santosh Madan, Zoe C. Randall, P. Reddy, Margaret R. Sandland, V. M. Sharan, J. R. Wilkie, E. P. Wraight.

D.O.—K. M. Abdalla, H. M. Abdel Gader, A. Ahmad, A. S. Albeedh, T. Arulampalam, A. S. Brook, R. Canagaratnam, J. Coleiro, J. R. O. Collin, A. H. Dastoor, A. M. A. El Basha, C. J. Gill, Mary R. Goodwin, Sudeshna Goyal, P. Gyftoulas, R. Harfitt, M. A. Hug, S. Hussain, J. Hyde, J. Keast-Butler, A. J. Khan, Lesley M. Knight, Y. K. Kole, J. G. A. Lee, Y. K. Mahendra, A. Masih, A. T. Morris, T. Poopalaraiah, A. Rehman, A. W. Rifkind, R. M. Sahai, C. C. G. Sakmann, R. R. Shah, S. M. Then, Tun Aung Kyaw, M. P. Upadhyay, Thrity P. Vazifdar.

D. Phys. Med.—M. S. Hoque, Eurwen H. Innes, M. T. Moc, D. D. T. Perera, A. G. White.
D.T.M.&H.—C. M. French, J. A. R. Longwill, B. T. McMahon, J. E. Taske, S. Vohra.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF EDINBURGH

At a quarterly meeting of the college held on 6 May, with the president, Dr. J. Halliday Croom, in the chair, the following were elected Members:

R. Scott, J. L. Gylloran, C. W. M. Wilson, R. Rankine.

ROYAL COLLEGES OF PHYSICIANS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

At a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of London held on 29 April, at a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh held on 6 May, and at a meeting of the Royal College of Physicians of Glasgow held on 3 May the following were elected Members of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom:

D. F. Abbott, A. N. Acharya, M. Ahmad, S. Ahmad, D. V. Ash, A. R. Bailey, Gillian Baird, M. J. Banham, E. W. Barnes, J. G. Barnett, B. M. Bassil, R. Beaglehole, D. Beales, P. O. Behan, M. J. Bendall, M. J. Betty, J. S. Birkhead, Alison T. Brennan, R. P. Burden, P. J. Burrows, T. A. Campbell, P. G. Campbell, Frances E. Carter, R. H. Chinn, P. M. Coats, W. T. Conner, Fiona C. V. Cormack, K. M. Cottrell, P. V. L. Curry, V. V. Date, M. Davies, P. S. Davies, J. C. Delaney, J. Dent, H. A. De Ruyter, S. K. Dhar, B. V. Dugani, W. F. Durward, K. J. Elkayir, D. W. Empey, C. D. Eraut, A. O. Falase, M. G. Falcon, R. H. Felix, E. P. Fernando, C. E. Freer, R. N. Frye, D. B. Galloway, B. S. Gaynor, Helena M. Ginns, M. J. Goodman, D. Green, R. C. D. Greenhall, G. A. C. Grell, A. N. Györy, D. L. Harding, A. D. B. Harrower, J. R. Hayes, M. J. Hayes, J. C. Healey, A. V. L. Hill, Hla Mon, A. M. Hoare, P. E. Holden, H. Ho Ping Kong, A. Howell, Patricia M. Howse, P. E. Hutchinson, R. M. Ibbotson, P. Isaac, A. J. Isaacs, S. R. Jain, I. McD. Jessiman, S. P. Joseph, S. P. Kane, B. M. Kaufmann, P. J. R. Kearney, T. M. Kemp, R. V. Kerr, N. Krasner, C. R. Kumana, V. M. Kutty, E. B. Larbi, G. T. Lealman, J. V. Leonard, Frances T. Lester, B. Livesley, D. R. Love, R. O. McKernan, A. D. Malcolm, J. G. Malik, B. N. Mallik, D. K. Mallik, I. G. Mannall, W. J. Moore, D. M. Moorsom, A. G. Morgan, J. G. L. Morris, G. D. Morrison, I. M. Morrison, N. A. G. Mowat, M. Nadarajah, N. Naganathan, B. Naik, J. M. Nanavaty, M. O. Nasrullah, M. A. Nassim, B. N. Nayak, D. Neary, H. Niamatali, Soraya Nouri-Moghaddam, E. T. O'Brien, K. J. O'Grady, D. G. Ombati, P. W. Overstall, A. C. Parker, D. M. Parkin, J. A. Parsons, Anne E. Perry, T. A. E. Platts-Mills, C. Powell, Glenda J. Powell, M. A. Preece, T. J. Priestman, M. M. Rahman, Bheeshma Rajazopalan, V. Rajeswaran, C. W. G. Redman, A. F. Rickards, J. C. Robertson, M. K. Sale, Diana M. Samson, M. Sarv, G. D. Schott, Gillian Scott, Seim-oo, M. Shafi, M. D. Sharma, Evelyn C. Sheldrick, P. Sheridan, L. A. Simons, L. J. Sineh, D. G. Small, Elizabeth D. O. Small, D. H. Smith, J. D. Spencer, Isobel J. N. Sterling, D. W. Stevens, R. H. Swanton, P. G. F. Swift, B. W. Taylor, R. Thavasothy, Thein Htut, S. Tomlinson, P. S. L. Tugwell, J. M. W. Tully, T. L. Turner, K. K. Vadi, P. L. D. Walde, M. Ward, H. M. Warenius, Judith A. W. Webb, C. S. Wilcox, P. W. Wilkinson, Isobel P. Williams, D. F. Woodings, Mary A. Wright, A. Zafar.

H.M. FORCES

ARMY

Colonel (Acting Brigadier) S. H. Janikoun, late R.A.M.C., to be Brigadier.

Colonels T. W. Carrick and J. E. Miller, late R.A.M.C., to be Brigadiers.

Lieutenant-Colonels A. T. Cook, R. L. Bell, H. S. Moore, and D. Olliver, from R.A.M.C., to be Colonels.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Wing Commanders I. R. Lindsay and D. J. White, to be Group Captains.

Notice to Authors

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