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BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN

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The volume contains the following contributions.

Proteins and Haematopoiesis: Dr. A. ASCHKENASY.

The Effect of Malnutrition on the Eye, with Special Reference to Work with Experimental Animals: Dr. D. S. McLAREN.

Dietary Factors and Adrenocortical Hormone Secretion: Dr. ALBERT B. EISENSTEIN.

Microbiology of Digestion: Dr. D. P. CUTHBERTSON and Dr. P. N. HOBSON.

The Vitamin Interrelations of Ascorbic Acid: Dr. THERESE TERROINE.

The Role of Carotene and Vitamin A in Animal Feeding: Dr. W. A. MCGILLIVRAY.

Parathyroid Glands and Calcium Metabolism: Dr. ALEXANDER D. KENNY.

Vitamin-D Deficiency and Bone and Tooth Structure: Dr. B. ENGELFELD and Dr. S.-O. HJERTQUIST.

Fluorine: Prof. T. GORDONOFF and Prof. W. MINDER.

The number of books, special reviews etc. is increasing exponentially and it is obvious that much of what is being reviewed in articles of the types here presented has already been repeatedly reviewed competently by others. Specialists in the respective fields will on occasions presumably tire when faced with such numerous repetitions. On the other hand fresh views may at times be very valuable.

The reading of the articles here presented seems to the reviewer to be an overall pleasant task, they are well written and cover important topics.

Since the reviewer himself has worked with various topics of Ca physiology for nearly 30 years it is natural for him to discuss somewhat more specifically the calcium articles. The contribution from Sweden by ENGELFELD and HJERTQUIST is very valuable and is characterized by the outstanding work of the Swedish school of ARNE ENGSTRÖM to the biophysical examination of finer structures. KENNY's article on the parathyroids and calcium metabolism should certainly stimulate continued work and probably also induce revision of some present concepts with the aid of new and better experimentation. The

views he puts forward indicate that he has become well read in the field, and that he has spent considerable time in critical examination of some older concepts. He corrects a misquotation (a fairly obvious misprint) I have made (CARLSON wrongly quoted on the influence of Ca injections on absorption). Dr. KENNY is quite right in emphasizing that more work is needed on the influence of parathyroid on the absorption of calcium. I think the concept of the "endogenous factor" is a sound one, but I quite agree with Dr. KENNY in keeping it under scrutiny. An even better contribution would be new experiments to refute or to extend this concept. His discussion of gastrointestinal secretion and reabsorption of Ca is adequate, but, represents routine thoughts to those familiar with the field. It is a pity that the valuable contribution of Gran (*Acta. phys. Scand.* 1960, **49**, 211–215) was not available to Dr. KENNY. In fact GRAN demonstrated that the amount of Ca secreted with the digestive juices is linearly related to the filtrable Ca of plasma.

R. NICOLAYSEN (Oslo)

Zur Besprechung eingegangene Bücher

Zur Bedeutung der freien Nucleotide. (11. Colloquium der Gesellschaft für Physiologische Chemie am 28./30. April 1960 in Mosbach/Ba.) IV, 176 Seiten mit 88 Abbildungen (Berlin-Göttingen-Heidelberg 1961, Springer-Verlag). Preis: brosch. DM 29,80.

A. FLEISCH-Lausanne: **Ernähren wir uns richtig? VIII**, 50 Seiten mit 1 Abbildung und 5 Tabellen (Stuttgart 1961, Georg Thieme Verlag). Preis: brosch. DM 3,90

J. SCHORMÜLLER-Berlin: **Lehrbuch der Lebensmittelchemie**. XXIV, 728 Seiten mit 120 Abbildungen und 107 Tabellen. (Berlin-Göttingen-Heidelberg 1961, Springer-Verlag). Preis: geb. DM 49,60.