

General practitioners who prescribe ointments and suppositories, after little or no examination, are scored. A thorough examination by a specialist, who is equipped with special instruments for this work and who has made a study of these conditions, is advocated.

The author deprecates the use of suppositories and ointments because they do not cure, but cause temporary relief and in this way give the patient a false feeling of security, while the condition grows steadily worse. Sciatica, lumbago, stomach trouble and other ailments are said to have disappeared, after troubles of the rectum have been cured. Laxatives are discussed. Some are recommended, others are condemned.

This book is both interesting and informative. Those who "suffer in silence" should not fail to read it. It will impress them with the seriousness of neglect and the folly of self-medication. Furthermore, it commends itself to careful reading by the pharmacist. Its teachings will undoubtedly convince him that his greatest service lies in advising such cases to consult competent medical authorities, rather than use preparations which are advertised so widely for the treatment of these conditions.

W. G. CROCKETT.

Anthelmintics and Their Uses in Medical and Veterinary Practice. By R. N. CHOPRA, M.A., M.D. (Cantab), Professor of Pharmacology, Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and Asa C. Chandler, M.Sc., Ph.D., Professor of Biology Rice Institute, Houston, Texas. Pages 291. Baltimore: The Williams and Wilkins Company, 1928. Price \$5.00.

Contributions of a most useful and practical type have been made to Medical, Veterinary and Pharmacological literature in this monograph. The authors have presented the subject matter under three main headings.

Section I.—General Consideration.

Section II.—Anthelmintics Acting on Parasites in the Gut.

Section III.—Anthelmintic Used Against Somatic Parasitic Infection.

They have collected into one volume the widely scattered data on a subject which is at once of immense importance to any one interested in helminthology. The data are given in a concise and sufficiently detailed manner to be useful not only as a reference book, but equally in daily routine practice.

The style of presentation is particularly happy, in that the detailed knowledge so neces-

sary to successful practice in this field of therapy is supplemented by a sufficient amount of historical data to add zest to the volume, making it a most readable monograph.

A complete bibliography of more than 500 references is a very useful addition to the book. The volume should have a popular appeal to physicians, veterinarians, research workers and pharmacologists.

WM. B. P.

Recent Advances in Biochemistry. By John Pryde, 2nd edition. 379 pages. Price, \$3.50. Publishers, P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Phila. This is a revision of the original edition which was published in 1926. That the original edition was well received is evident from the fact that it has already been completely sold out. The arrangement of material in the new edition does not differ materially from that in the original edition except that a new chapter, Chapter IV, has been added dealing with the recent work of Harrington on the chemistry of thyroxine and of Raper and his associates on the formation of melanin from tyrosine through the action of the enzyme tyrosinase. Harrington's method for preparing thyroxine from the thyroid gland and the experimental evidence by which he proved its structure are given in considerable detail. A brief outline of its methods of synthesis is also given. Chapters I, II, III, VI, VIII and XI, dealing with protein catabolism; colloids and the physical chemistry of proteins, nucleo-proteins, fats; sulfur biochemistry; and the chemical basis of specific immunological reactions, have been but very slightly altered. The newer work of Haworth, Hirst and their co-workers on the structure of normal and reactive sugars have been added to the chapter on carbohydrates, also the more recent work on the rôle of insulin in carbohydrate metabolism. The chapters on the biochemistry of phosphorus, vitamins, hemoglobin and on chemotherapy have been more or less changed so as to bring them into agreement with the more recent work on the subjects, e. g., vitamin B is divided into B₁ and B₂, B₁ being the anti-neuritic vitamin and B₂ the pellagra-preventing and growth-promoting vitamin, the recent evidence in favor of this differentiation is fully discussed as well as the evidence supporting the possibility that ergosterol is the precursor of vitamin D, the anti-rachitic vitamin.—J. C. FORBES.

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