Book Reviews

The endocrine glands. **Max A. Goldzieher. New York: Rudolf Schick, 1945. Pp. 49. $1.20. 5 wall charts, $6.50 ea.**

Dr. Goldzieher has spent much of a long and productive lifetime as an investigator and practitioner of endocrinology. A strikingly large part of his erudition has come to graphic epitomization in a series of five wall charts that set forth much of our fundamental knowledge of the subject. The charts are expounded in an accompanying brochure that does credit to the author but not the publisher: the illustrations are distressingly muddy.

For the most part the text is accurate and clearly expounded. Whether, however, the rather elaborate diagram setting forth glandular relations is more instructive than confusing might be questioned. The picture representing Addison's disease is misleading in that the characteristic pigmentation is exaggerated. Froelich's disease is ascribed to anterior pituitary disorder rather than to its fundamental neural cause. The illustration of the normal thyroid gland is seemingly a poorly executed section of a colloid goiter. Finally, the curious error is made in the text of expressing the output of adrenal steroids in misused terms of gammas instead of milligrams as is correctly done in the chart itself. These are all errors that can be corrected easily in the revised edition to which the material by its general excellence is abundantly entitled. The charts should be of much aid in the teaching of endocrinology.

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Endocrine man: a study in the surgery of sex. **L. R. Broster. New York: Grune and Stratton, 1945. Pp. xi + 144. $3.50.**

On the internal evidence of Broster's book the author is a naturalist turned surgeon. He writes both as a biophilosopher and as an authority on the subject of the sexual functions of the adrenal glands. In the latter capacity, the work is satisfying, affording, as it does, an excellent epitome of the contributions of himself and colleagues on a difficult subject. The chief adverse criticism that might be offered in this connection is that oversweeping claims are made for the specificity of the fuchsin-dye method for the identification of the sex-hormone-producing cells of the adrenal cortex.

The exposition of the biology of man is less acceptable. Broster plays fast and loose with the concept of instincts. He overfacilely ascribes the impetus of integrative evolution to three "instincts," those for growth, self-preservation, and reproduction. He then further equates growth with the pituitary gland, self-preservation with the adrenal glands, and reproduction with the gonads. While it is true that the pituitary does furnish a growth hormone, it is also true that growth is promoted by numerous other factors. Likewise, preservation is promoted by many other structures than the adrenal glands. On the whole, the book may be rather well characterized in the writer's own words as "a kaleidoscopic picture of impressions gathered in the pursuit of the practical clinical application" (of endocrinology). The story of evolution is interestingly told but leaves the author's amateur standing essentially unimpaired.

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Transmission lines, antennas and wave guides. **Ronold W. P. King, Harry Rowe Mimno, and Alexander H. Wing. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1945. Pp. xv + 347. $3.50.**

Developments in the field of antennas and transmission lines underwent a marked change during the years from 1930 to 1940. New concepts and new researchers appeared on the scene, impelled by the development of frequencies far above the old range. What had been a purely theoretical field in electromagnetics suddenly became an integral part of the very practical communication and detection devices developed during the course of the war.

This text is the joint effort of three prominent specialists in the field of ultrahigh frequencies. Alexander H. Wing, in the first chapter, skillfully covers the field of high and ultrahigh-frequency transmission lines. Ronold W. P. King covers the next two chapters on antennas and UHF circuits and provides most of the original material. The brief concluding chapter on wave propagation is by Harry Rowe Mimno.

The authors have contributed materially to the rapid development of the field, and much of the material in this book is original. The body of the text consists of the lecture material from a part of the pre-radar course given to officers in the Armed Forces by the staff of the Cruft Laboratory and is very direct in its approach. Mathematical rigor is preserved, but there are several places where a fuller exposition could be justified, especially in the matter of approximations. In addition, some of the conclusions, such as those to be found in the section on Poynting Vector and Effective Cross Section, are not universally accepted, and little or no mention of the other versions is made except in the references.

It must be concluded that this is an advanced text which must be accepted per se by the uninitiated unless they have time to make a careful study of the references. In fact, it is a most unique example of transference of the skill and learning of the authors in a matter-of-fact way to hundreds of clever young men for the very practical purpose of operating radar and similar devices. The results were excellent, and this volume will serve as a standard of comparison for years to come.

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