# Book Reviews

*Advances in Veterinary Science,* Vol. 1. C. A. Brandly and E. L. Jungherr, Eds. Academic Press, New York, 1953. 431 pp. Illus. $9.

This first volume of a proposed series on *Advances in Veterinary Science* consists of eight chapters: Animal Diseases and Human Welfare; Virus Diseases; Sulfonamides; Antibiotics; The Infertility Problem of Cattle; Bovine Mastitis; Swine Diseases; and Veterinary Public Health. The various chapters, written by experts in their respective fields, contain up-to-date information, documented by an exhaustive list of references. Some of the subject matter deals with progress and findings primarily in the veterinary field; other information pertains to public health and preventive medicine transcending the spheres of human and veterinary medicine. Thus the book will be of value to the veterinary practitioner, the researcher, and the public health worker.

The comprehensive reviews of the literature on sulfonamides and antibiotics contain the available information on dosages for the different animal species, the toxicology, and the susceptibility of various pathogens to the action of these therapeutic agents. Bovine mastitis is dealt with from the standpoint of etiology, diagnosis, prophylaxis, and therapy. Bacterial and viral infections of swine are discussed, with emphasis on the essential need for more adequate research and less reliance upon control by disposal of infected herds and replacement with new animals free of disease. There is a discussion of the methods of study of virus diseases, and a review of the more important virus infections of the different animal species. Infertility of cattle is analyzed from the standpoint of the effect of nutrition, heredity, endocrine imbalance, and infection.

The importance of animal diseases transmissible to man is properly stressed and the more common ones of the zoonoses are discussed. In addition, due significance is attached to the effect of animal losses in general upon human welfare by reducing the available world supply of animal products for human consumption. The cost of the more important diseases of livestock and poultry in the United States is tabulated, estimated at one and a half billion dollars annually. The ever increasing scope of veterinary public health from a national and international standpoint is well illustrated in a discussion of the activities in this field by such agencies as the United States Public Health Service, the Pan American Sanitary Bureau, and the World Health Organization.

It is gratifying to see the information contained in this volume made available to the veterinary profession, and to medical scientists in general. As stated in the Preface, ". . . the scope of veterinary science, together with the great expansion of study and research in the specialized fields, has produced a literature so comprehensive that no one can keep abreast of all advances." And by looking toward additional publications in this series, the editors anticipate that "by enlisting the efforts of different authorities on the same subject at succeeding periods, it is hoped to maintain a broad, but fluid, front line of modern knowledge." We shall eagerly look forward to the future volumes.

I. Live

*Department of Microbiology*
*School of Veterinary Medicine*
*University of Pennsylvania*

***Sex Determination.*** ed. 3. F. A. E. Crew. Methuen, London; New York, Wiley, 1954. vii + 68 pp. $1.50.

This little book is sound, but its usefulness is limited. The reader who already has a fair knowledge of genetics and cytology will find little beyond the usual textbook treatment of the salient facts; the beginner would do better to start with a well illustrated treatment. Eight pages are devoted to *Lymantria dispar,* but plants are disposed of in a five-page chapter, along with fishes and *Paramecium.* Reference to the bibliography will not lead the reader directly to such pertinent papers as Warmke's "Sex determination and sex balance" in *Melandrium* (1946). The most valuable feature of the book is the historical thread which runs through most of it. Relegation of speculations to a final chapter, appropriately labelled, is commendable. There are 146 references, well chosen for the most part, and a 56-word glossary.

J. A. Weir

*Department of Zoology, University of Kansas*

***The Physiology of Man.*** L. L. Langley and E. Cheraskin. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1954. 609 pp. Illus. $5.50.

This is a very unusual book in that it incorporates some of the better ideals of teaching in an elaboration of the principles of general, human physiology. *The Physiology of Man* is very well written, and the diagrams illustrating the text are original and very interestingly presented. Of further interest is the unique fashion in which many physiological concepts are presented as an integrated pattern throughout the entire book.

The authors state: "This book is dedicated to the proposition that learning can be fun." I share this thought wholeheartedly. Throughout the text, the authors have attempted to interdigitate some very humorous cartoons depicting the sequence of events associated with physiological expressions. This is certainly a measure of their originality and their down-to-earthness in textbook writing. Their clear, simple, picturesque style will gain considerable popularity for their book.

This book is divided into five parts: "The Nervous