numerous halftone figures, and some photographs are included. The text seems remarkably free of errors, despite an appendix of *errata* and *addenda*. A detailed table of contents is included at the end of the book, along with an index of 50 double-column pages.

Not all protozoologists will find the systematic treatment and emphasis completely satisfactory. The most difficult problems still reside within the Rhizoflagellata. Chatton's account of the crucially placed Amoebaea (completed after his death by Grassé) seems to suffer from a rather diffuse, less well documented treatment of taxonomic affinities than most other sections, but this group is admittedly difficult to handle. The general emphasis in the work is frankly upon taxonomic and morphologic aspects. Although this organization is not especially fitted to the currently expanding trend toward comparative biochemical and physiological studies on Protozoa, nevertheless a substantial foundation can be assembled from careful selection in the text.

All in all, this section of the *Traité* clearly seems to achieve its major objectives: to organize our current knowledge of these groups of the Protozoa and to indicate future lines of fruitful research.

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Renal Function. Transactions of the Fourth Conference, 1952. Stanley E. Bradley, Ed. Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation, New York, 1953. 189 pp. Illus. $3.50.

This report on renal function takes the same form as its well-known predecessors. In addition to an informal discussion of "Ion exchanges between extracellular and intracellular fluids" led by R. F. Pitts, it contains presentations on "Cation exchanges in the renal tubular epithelium" (Mudge), "Ion transport across living membranes" (Ussing), and "Water and ion movements across intestinal and renal epithelium" (Visscher).

As a means of promoting meaningful communication between scientific disciplines, which is a fundamental aim of the conference program, the transactions are probably less useful to the readers than the conference is to the participants. Moreover, the substance of these presentations is no longer new or has been published elsewhere, and the discussions, when read, seem unsatisfyingly diffuse and uneven. In places one finds a spirited, *avant-garde* sort of atmosphere—for example, where a participant vigorously challenges the validity of application of a Donnan-type equilibrium for certain cells—but it dissipates quickly, and one winces at the inclusion of such unregenerate arguments as, "Accuracy is supposed to be one of the virtues of mathematics, and if an equation is found to be inaccurate, I don't see why we keep using it."

This slim volume would have been helped by an index, particularly since many nephrologists will experience a certain obligation to own it. For physiologists at large, however, the report is too specialized and will have limited value. Clinicians, who may be misled by the title, will not acclimate to its rarefied air.

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British Veterinary Codex 1953. Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Pharmaceutical Press, London, 1953. 737 pp. 45s. + 1s. postage.

The *British Veterinary Codex,* published under the direction of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, sets forth standards for substances and preparations employed in the prophylaxis and treatment of animal diseases, and supplies information on actions and uses of these preparations. The material in it was compiled by the British Veterinary Codex Committee, composed of veterinarians and other interested individuals working in specialized fields of science in Great Britain. In addition, members of the veterinary profession from other countries served as corresponding members of the committee.

These major sections appear: Part I is devoted to monographs that briefly describe the chemical and physical properties, actions, uses, dosage, incompatibilities, and toxicity of drugs and chemicals employed in veterinary medicine. A total of 431 monographs appear. A summary of standards is given for substances that appear in the *British Pharmacopoeia* or in the *British Pharmaceutical Codex.* For agents not listed in these sources, standards prepared by the Veterinary Codex Committee are described. Chemical formulas are in accordance with current practice in Great Britain. Only those agents for which the committee considered there is adequate pharmacological and/or clinical evidence of usefulness and for which adequate standards could be prepared are included. Part II contains similar monographs on antisera, vaccines, and related biological products. Part III lists formulas and describes methods of preparation and standards for therapeutic and prophylactic agents. These monographs are listed according to the type of preparation—boluses, capsules, creams, dusting powders, and so forth. In addition to these major sections, the book contains a therapeutic and pharmacological index, tables of weights and measures, a synonym list, and information on chemical and biological assay methods.

Publication of the *British Veterinary Codex* fills a critical need in veterinary medicine for an authoritative source of information on agents used in the treatment and control of animal disease. All those who participated in this effort are to be congratulated. Perhaps the greatest service rendered by this book is the listing of standards for a number of drugs and biologicals that are widely used in veterinary medicine but for which no such standards appear in other authoritative sources. Veterinarians in the United