esters, and alkyl boron halides. Likewise included are boron fluoride with its many addition compounds, fluoroboric acids, crystalline boron, boron oxide, metaboric acid, boron carbide, and borides.

Section 2 on gold covers the main subjects of occurrence, technical extraction, preparation of special forms of gold in the pure state, concentration and separation of gold isotopes, colloidal gold, and the surface treatment of gold and gold alloys.

Section 3 on gold completes the series on this metal. It covers the physical properties of gold, its electrochemical, chemical, and physiological behavior, its detection and determination, the general reactions of gold compounds, and alloys of gold. This last chapter emphasizes the copper-gold and the copper-silver-gold alloys, since they are the ones pertinent to the goldsmith's trade and to dentistry.

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List of Land Mammals of New Guinea, Celebes, and Adjacent Islands, 1758–1952. Eleanor M. O. Laurie and J. E. Hill. British Museum (Natural History), London, 1954. 175 pp. + 3 plates. £1 10s.

Our knowledge of the land mammals of New Guinea, Celebes, and many of the adjacent islands has reached a stage where a check list of the known forms has been urgently indicated. Such a list together with a considerable amount of generic revision has now been provided in this work.

As reference material for their revisionary work the authors have had the use of the very fine study collections in the British Museum. Much additional material in foreign museums and the incomparable Archbold collections of nearly 20,000 specimens at the American Museum could not be reviewed first hand. The opinions of the revisers of these collections, however, have been carefully evaluated by the authors in reaching their own decisions. Much additional fieldwork will be necessary before the systematic picture becomes reasonably stabilized in this "frontier" region. The present list with its meticulously compiled bibliographic detail checked against the original sources and its view of establishing groups with biological reality will be of untold value to future revisers.

Some of the details of solid reference value that should be noted in this work are: complete listing of valid names and synonyms; ranges, when known, concisely drawn; bibliographic notations (for example, last revisers of certain genera) generously provided throughout; when the authors follow the classification of other writers, it is so stated and the reference given; subspecies arranged in the chronological order of their names; a gazetteer of all type localities and of the more obscure collecting stations; an excellent index.

The authors recognize 351 species. They have described a number of new species and subspecies, but most noteworthy is the description of a new Hydromyine genus, *Mayermys*. The molar teeth of this peculiar little rodent are minute and are reduced to one in each of the upper and lower jaws, a condition now reported for the first time and adequately illustrated by three plates. The omission from the list of the genus *Xenuromys*, described by Tate and Archbold in 1941 is an oversight.

Laurie and Hill should be complimented on their addition to the British Museum's growing file of regional check lists of the mammals of the world. The printing job is excellent.

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Proceedings of the Second National Cancer Conference, 1952. vols. I and II. American Cancer Society, New York, 1954. 1687 pp. + index. Illus. Set of two volumes, $7.50.

Of nine papers in general sessions, seven dealt with problems of interest to the practicing physician.

According to Overholt, lung cancer should be the most readily discovered form of internal malignancies. In Pendergrass' opinion, early detection of lung cancer requires at least two chest films and interpretation by two competent radiologists. Pack reviewed the puzzles of melanoma and Papanicolaou lectured on cytodiagnosis. Wangensteen started his paper asserting that "no one knows very much about cancer," and later maintained that the *only* hope lies in early diagnosis and most radical surgery, the results of which it is still "too early" to appraise.

The philosophy of early diagnosis was courageously challenged by Lees and McKinnon, and defended by others. No decisive proof was provided by either side. The discussion of therapeutic progress encompassed matters of classifying carcinoma *in situ*, of borderline and doubtful cases, of precancerous conditions, of improved technique, as well as the often reviewed problems of clinical versus histological criterions, of simple versus radical mastectomy, of surgery versus roentgentherapy, supervoltage radiation, and hormonal therapy and castration. Following bilateral adrenalectomy Bergenstal and Huggins observed temporary tumor regression in some of their 35 patients with only two operative deaths.

One-half of the panels were devoted to histology, diagnosis, clinical features and therapeutic achievements including isotopes, chemistry and caloric restriction in cancer of the head and neck, breast, genitourinary organs, gastrointestinal organs, lung and in lymphoma and leukemia. In other panels were considered virology including "vertical" transmission in mice (Bittner, Gross), chemo-cancerogenesis, radiobiology, steroids and genetics. Several papers dealt with familial occurrence of cancer (Macklin, Busk, Wintrobe, Murphy, Oliver).

Relatively little space was given to epidemiology. Statistical papers were read by Dorn, Symeonidis, and Stewart. Surveying epidemiology of lung cancer,