

pages of the book appear to be identical, for the most part, with the contents of ordinary cook books; including sections dealing with cookery processes, jelly making, the canning of tomatoes, and the drying of fruits and vegetables. The chapter devoted to laboratory tests tends to be equally irrelevant; it includes a page and a half on a test for glycosuria and sugar tolerance tests.

The critical reader of the book will be impressed with the large amount of irrelevant material but will consider it harmless until he comes to the chapter entitled, "The Diabetic and the Rice Diet." This consists almost entirely of a communication from "a well-known dietitian and laboratory researcher." The following statement appears: "If you are a diabetic—no matter what your age, duration of your disease, or degree of its severity—and are experiencing symptoms or signs of mounting blood pressure, which does not yield to a modified salt-poor, fat-poor diet, then the rice diet is designed for you. If your physician informs you that because of your diabetic condition, the rice diet is *not* indicated in your case, then he is either misinformed or

uninformed, and should take steps to correct both." This book cannot be recommended.

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ENDOCRINE FUNCTIONS OF THE PANCREAS. By Bernard Zimmerman, M.D., Department of Surgery, University of Minnesota. Cloth. \$2.50. Pp. 82. Illustrated. Charles C. Thomas, Springfield, Ill., 1952.

The author has undertaken to present a collection of past and recent physiological information in regard to the pancreas. Among over 250 references cited, the two referring to his own studies show his interest in alloxan diabetes and the hyperglycemic hormone of the pancreas. Short chapters deal with the history of the pancreas as an organ of internal secretion, the nature of insulin, the metabolism in diabetes and the action of insulin, the regulation of the internal pancreatic secretion, special problems in lipid metabolism, and the hyperglycemic factor. The author achieves his goal of presenting an introduction to the absorbing field of scientific literature on the subject.

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