

of aging individuals of varying social, economic and health status.

The sixth volume contains a report of a survey of the needs of older people undertaken in Grand Rapids, Mich., and recommendations for community action developed by a local forum on aging.

PROBLEMS OF AGING. Edited by Nathan W. Shock, Ph.D., Chief, Section on Gerontology, National Heart Institute, National Institutes of Health, and The Baltimore City Hospitals, Baltimore, Md. \$4.25, pp. 213. The Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation, 1954.

The vision of the Macy Foundation in organizing various conference programs for the informal discussion of problems in the medical and social sciences made it possible for the distinguished director of the Macy Foundation, Frank Fremont-Smith, to bring together at a three-day conference on problems of aging a group of some thirty scientists from the various fields of the basic sciences and clinical practice.

In his introductory remarks, Roy G. Hoskins, Chairman of the Conference, directed attention to the anatomy and physiology of the cell. In the session devoted to cellular structure Warren Andrew of the Bowman-Gray School of Medicine indicated that cells are important in the study of aging because they are the basic common denominator. He demonstrates alterations in structure of cells which appear with aging, including alterations in the nerve cells.

In the session concerned with biochemical studies, Bacon F. Chow of Johns Hopkins University discussed the nutritional aspects of growth. In the maintenance of normal life, biochemically speaking, a series of enzymatic reactions was taken as a foundation process. In aging biologically, there may either be an over-abundance or underproduction of certain tissue enzymes or proteins, and, concomitantly, an over-all imbalance of the necessary metabolites for subsequent reactions to maintain health.

In presenting the role of comparative physiology in studies of aging, F. Bourliere of the University of Paris School of Medicine discussed the aging of various species

including warm-blooded and cold-blooded vertebrates. He showed that there is a different growth and aging pattern for each of the species, but the differences appear to be more that of tempo than of mode.

At the end of this little volume, packed with information of utmost importance, is a summary by Clive M. McCay of the Department of Nutrition of Cornell University. McCay emphasizes that the goal of gerontology is not merely the extension of the life span but, more especially, the creation of better health in the higher years.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGIC CONFERENCES OF COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL (Volume I—Cardiovascular-Renal Problems.) Edited by Hans Popper, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Department of Pathology, Cook County Hospital; Scientific Director, Hektoen Institute for Medical Research of the Cook County Hospital; Associate Professor of Pathology, Northwestern University Medical School, and Daniel S. Kushner, M.D., Associate Director of Medical Education, Cook County Hospital, Research Assistant, Hektoen Institute; Clinical Assistant in Medicine and Fellow in Pathology, Northwestern University Medical School. \$5.00, pp. 324. The Blakiston Co., Inc., New York, N. Y., 1954.

This book is replete with instructive discussions of interesting and unusual cases, presenting problems of the sort with which the physician treating diabetic patients must be familiar because of the frequent association of cardiovascular disorders with diabetes. The editor can be complimented on the excellent work he has done in preparing these discussions for publication. The illustrations are clear-cut and adequate. The references have been well selected.

As stated in the introduction, "The real purpose is not to arrive at the right diagnosis and thus succeed in a guessing game, but rather to present logical and constructive thought processes which the audience can follow, and to exercise medical logic." The physician who uses the book to browse through while waiting for patients and in spare time will profit greatly.