

curacy and reliability on patients who were taken care of in the open wards. The influence of this work upon young physicians and upon students in stimulation of desire and interest to further research work in clinical medicine was incalculable.

During his life Geyelin was associated professionally in the following positions: at Presbyterian Hospital, Blumenthal Fellow in Medicine 1912-16, Assisting Visiting Physician 1915-21, Associate Attending Physician after 1921; at Babies' Hospital, Consulting Physician 1923-28, Assistant Visiting Physician 1928-32, Associate Attending Physician after 1932; at Vanderbilt Clinic, Chief of Medical Clinic 1918-19; at Colum-

bia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Instructor in Clinical Pathology 1913-16, Associate in Clinical Pathology 1916-17, Associate in Medicine 1917-21, Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine after 1921. He was also Consultant Specialist in Diseases of Metabolism at the United States Veterans' Hospital, Number 81, New York City, from 1924 to 1933.

Geyelin was a member of many scientific societies, among which were the American College of Physicians, the Association of American Physicians, the Harvey Society, the Interurban Clinical Club and many others. His clubs were the Century Association of New York and the University Barge Club of Philadelphia.

BOOK REVIEWS

ABC FOR DIABETICS, A MANUAL FOR PATIENTS. (ABC FÜR ZUCKERKRANKE, EIN RATGEBER FÜR DEN KRANKEN) By Prof. Dr. F. Bertram, Hamburg, \$1.00, pp. 84. 8th completely revised edition, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany, 1956.

The new edition of Bertram's well-known manual for diabetic patients summarizes again in clear and simple form the essentials of etiology, symptomatology and therapy of diabetes mellitus. As in the previous editions the importance of dietary management is stressed and the value of oatmeal days, which have not found equal appreciation in the U.S.A., is emphasized. Insulin treatment and the technic of insulin injections is thoroughly described as well as the importance of exercise, hygiene and regularity in mode of living for the control of diabetes and the prevention of complications.

The American reader will be surprised, however, that some etiologic and therapeutic concepts are presented to the patient as factual information which at least in this country are considered to belong still in the field of investigation. Thus diabetes is divided into the commonly accepted insulin-deficiency type and into the contra-regulatory type which is said to be due to preponderance of the A cells and to hyperfunction of glucagon. The oral therapy with sulfonylurea compounds is presented as a distinct practical therapeutic progress useful particularly in the contraregulatory type. The author makes the rather bold statement that "there are several drugs which act in a large number of diabetic patients, unfortunately not in all, often even better than insulin and which offer in addition the advantage that they do not need to be injected." Accordingly, the chapter on dangers of the sulfonylureas

minimizes their possible side effects and conveys the impression that the new drugs are safer than insulin, since they do not produce hypoglycemic reactions. The serious shortcoming of these drugs that they are ineffective in diabetic acidosis is not mentioned.

It would have been wiser, particularly in a manual for the laity, to indicate clearly which part of the information is based on secure and confirmed knowledge and which is speculative or hypothetical.

ESSAYS IN BIOCHEMISTRY. Edited by Samuel Graff. \$6.50, pp. 345, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1956.

This collection of twenty-five splendid essays was assembled to honor Hans Thacher Clarke on the occasion of his retirement as Professor of Biochemistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. The essays were written by Professor Clarke's former students and close academic associates, all of them distinguished leaders in the field of biochemistry. They cover a wide range of subjects, indicated by this partial list of topic headings: metabolic products of fungi; development of a plasma expander; conjugated proteins; thymine metabolism; steroid hormones; biochemistry of bacterial viruses; the nature of cancer; lipid metabolism; nitrogen-sparing effect of glucose; inositol; ferritin; biosynthesis of porphyrins; chemical structure of proteins; glycogen turnover; and the chemical basis of heredity determinants. The discussions constitute a critical survey of the present status of many major problems in several closely allied fields of biochemical research, and offer provocative speculations on probable future trends. The concise well-written essays reflect the high standards of scientific scholarship set by Professor Clarke.