

DIABETES MELLITUS. By Dr. B. Hejda and Prof. J. Syllaba. pp. 266, *Státní Závotnické Nakladatelství, Prague, 1956.*

This little volume presents a good summary on diabetes. Dr. Hejda wrote the first part which deals with: insulin, etiology and pathology, pathological physiology, laboratory methods. It is well done and brought up to date.

The second part is written by Dr. Syllaba and deals with the clinical aspects of diabetes in all its phases and complications. The author shows good knowledge of the world literature, and his own views and treatment are presented in great detail and are rational. It was a pleasure to read the book, and to see how closely the Prague school follows all that is happening in the world at large. Unfortunately it is written in Czech and thus accessible to a very small percentage of the scientific world at large.

DIABETES MELLITUS WITH EMPHASIS ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS. By T. S. Danowski, M.D., *Professor of Research Medicine, Children's Hospital, University of Pittsburgh.* \$13.50, pp. 510, *The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1957.*

This book is an excellent review of the basic knowledge presently available, regarding juvenile diabetes as viewed especially from the biochemical standpoint. The author effectively uses his extensive original data to illustrate the fundamental alterations in intermediate metabolism, and to draw comparisons and contrasts between the clinical manifestation and characteristics of diabetes in children and adults. A thorough bibliography after each chapter with a careful table of contents makes this a very valuable reference book. Dr. Danowski lucidly discusses the pathologic physiology of diabetes. His strongest section reviews the hormonal factors and various aspects of fluid and electrolyte disturbances. The author gives detailed information on the biochemical changes, occurring with treatment of juvenile diabetes in coma and acidosis, but less information on the day-to-day care of the non-acidotic diabetic child. The therapy of the young diabetic with a discussion of the various types of insulin is brief but thorough; however, the section on dietary management is somewhat limited. The book

includes an excellent review of the relationship of experimental diabetes to human diabetes. It also includes information and a well written section on growth and development as well as sections dealing with vascular and other complications of the disease.

The book has its greatest value in bringing together most of the current knowledge of the field and the very lucid discussion of the biochemical changes occurring during treatment of acidosis. It is recommended highly for anyone who has a serious interest in the management of children with diabetes mellitus.

NORADRENALINE. By U. S. von Euler. \$11.50, pp. 382, *Charles C Thomas, Springfield, Illinois, 1956.*

This monograph by von Euler is a compilation of studies on noradrenaline. After an introduction by Sir Henry Dale and a brief historical review, there are sections dealing with the chemical properties, metabolism, preparation and purification, and means of assay of the compound. These sections are thorough, and the descriptions of analytical methods are especially good. Following this, the pharmacology of noradrenaline is well reviewed. However, the section on carbohydrate metabolism is somewhat brief. Eight publications are listed as dealing with the effects of noradrenaline and adrenaline on glycogenolysis and glycemia. The author summarizes these reports by stating that "all agree that the actions of noradrenaline in this respect are very slight and only about one-fifth to one-tenth of that of adrenaline." Finally, the last two chapters deal with the urinary excretion of noradrenaline in pathologic conditions, and the therapeutic use of the drug in hypotensive states. Comparisons are made with adrenalin throughout.

The bibliography is extensive, with coverage of approximately 750 publications through 1953. The contents are well organized so that matter and references dealing with any particular aspect of noradrenaline can be easily found. There are really few criticisms that can be made of this book. The author is an eminent authority in the field. The book should be of greatest interest to physiologists, anesthesiologists, and those working in the field of hypertension. It will serve as a useful reference book for anyone desiring to obtain information about noradrenaline.