

## BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

**THE CARE AND BREEDING OF LABORATORY ANIMALS.** Edited by EDMOND J. FARRIS, The Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, and 15 contributors. Pp. 515; 67 ills. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1950. Price, \$8.00.

As the Editor states, species included in this book were selected on the basis of their frequency of use in research laboratories today. Ten species of mammals are considered. There is a chapter on the common fowl, and a chapter each on reptiles, amphibia, fish, and *Drosophila*. One chapter deals with the control of laboratory pests and parasites.

The book should prove especially useful to research laboratories having occasion to work with a variety of animals. C. B.

**FUNCTIONAL ANATOMY OF THE LIMBS AND BACK.** By W. HENRY HOLLINSHEAD, A.B., M.S., Ph.D., Head, Sect. of Anatomy, Mayo Clin.; Prof. of Anatomy Mayo Found., Univ. of Minnesota. Pp. 341; 122 ills. Phila.: W. B. Saunders, 1951. Price, \$6.00.

The Author is to be congratulated for this "down to earth" coverage of two far-reaching basic sciences. He has condensed considerable anatomy and physiology in this volume. It naturally follows that the subjects are reduced to their simplest levels. As such, the book will be useful to early medical students, biology students, physiotherapists, and possibly nurses. The illustrations, while not copious, are excellent in that they are clear-cut, readily understood diagrams. A. S.

**THE LOW FAT, LOW CHOLESTEROL DIET.** By E. VIRGINIA DOBBIN, HELEN F. GOFMAN, M.D., HELEN C. JONES, LENORE LYON, and CLARA-BETH YOUNG. Pp. 371. Garden City, N. Y.: Doubleday, 1951. Price, \$3.45.

The rapidly increasing body of evidence tending to incriminate disturbed lipid metabolism in the etiology of atherosclerosis has led to a great interest in the means available for providing a nutritionally adequate and reasonably pleasant low fat, low cholesterol diet. This volume, written by two dieticians, a physician and housewife, a home economist, and another housewife, provides in a remarkably practical manner the information needed by the physician prescribing the diet and by the patient or the patient's wife. Recipes are

supplied in abundance and with complete details as to the preparation of the various foods. In each diet presented the authors have been careful to determine that nutritional requirements have been adequately provided. This book meets a very real need in the medical practice of today. T. D.

**PLASMA PROTEINS.** Edited by JOHN B. YOUNG, M.D., Dean and Prof. of Med., Vanderbilt Univ., Nashville, Tenn. Vol. 2, Symposia on Nutrition, Robert Gould Found. Pp. 352; figs. Springfield, Ill.: Charles C. Thomas, 1950. Price, \$6.50.

This volume consists of 18 papers delivered at a Symposium on Plasma Proteins held under the auspices of the University of Illinois in the fall of 1949. The papers cover all aspects of the plasma proteins ranging from biochemical to clinical. The book is of extreme value since it makes readily accessible a great volume of research material which would otherwise remain scattered through the literature. N. G.

**A GUIDE TO MEDICINE.** By IVO GEIKIE-COBB, M.D., with Special Articles by Various Contributors. Pp. 416. New York: Duell, Sloan & Pearce, 1951. Price, \$5.00.

The apparent intention of this book is to serve as something between a medical dictionary and an encyclopedia. It is said to be "for professional and home use". It is impossible, however, to see how it can contribute anything of value to the physician or to the medical student who will desire either the far more extensive word listing of the medical dictionary or the much more detailed descriptions of the standard medical texts, depending on the need of the moment. For the layman the book may have some value, but there are a number of "definitions" which would leave such a reader confused, and harm might be done. The discussion of hypotension may be cited as an example of this. The implication here is that it is important, regardless of circumstances, to raise a low blood pressure. We are told that it is important to "insist on adequate rest, to give a full diet, with alcohol (if indicated), and to amplify the general treatment by tonics"! Some of the contributions (such as the 4-page discussion of the antibiotics by Dr. Fleming) are, however, excellent. T. D.