

to mind. Editing plays no small part in producing a work of this nature; manifestly, this translation has not been edited at any stage. For the garbled result, the blame rests equally on Mr. Scott and the Yale University Press. It certainly does no credit to either.

In view of these latter considerations it might be thought that the stipulated price is inordinately high.

L. BRKETT

## PROGRESS IN CANCER RESEARCH

### Cancer Progress, 1960

Edited by Ronald W. Raven. Pp. xv+242+16. (London: Butterworth and Co. (Publishers), Ltd., 1960.) 60s.

ONE of the problems of the organization of research, particularly in the cancer field, is to steer between the Scylla of lack of co-ordination and the Charybdis of too much. When the ship sails too near the latter, senior workers find themselves spending almost all their time attending committees and meetings and writing review articles, while junior workers, who are in any event forced to specialize too early, rarely find the time to read review articles outside their own subject. Regrettably, it is with increasing frequency that we see the same data presented in more than one paper, and worse still, the same fields of investigation reviewed more than once by the same individual.

Against this background the editor, Mr. R. W. Raven, and his advisers, are most certainly to be congratulated both on their choice of well-defined subjects and on their selection of authors. The brevity of most of the contributions, and the fact that many of them are presented as sequels to chapters in the parent book, *Cancer*, gives this volume an entirely different form and function from *Advances in Cancer Research* or the *Year Book of Cancer*.

As one would expect, the standard of contributions varies considerably. Articles on tumour viruses (R. J. C. Harris), bone marrow replacement (H. E. M. Kay and P. C. Koller), circulating cancer cells (J. W. Stewart), carcinomatous neuropathies (D. S. Russell), carcinoid tumours (P. J. D. Snow), industrial causes of cancer of lung, nose and paranasal sinuses (P. L. Bidstrup), the effects of radiation on the normal lung (T. J. Deeley) and the effect of oxygen in radiotherapy (I. Churchill-Davidson) are among the many interesting and useful contributions.

Russian authors (N. I. Lazarev and L. F. Larionov) contributed three of the five chapters in the section on chemotherapy. In one of these it is cogently, though somewhat naïvely, argued that both the carcinogenic and the anti-tumour effects of hormones rest on their physiological activities. The last chapter in this section (D. A. G. Galton) corrects any impression given by the previous four, that chemotherapy almost holds the key to the cure of cancer.

In an interesting article on cancer in the South African Bantu, A. G. Oetlé describes the enormous difficulties in obtaining a clear picture of the incidence of cancer in a primitive society. This is a timely warning to those who criticize civilized practice on the grounds that cancer is infrequent among communities living a more 'natural' life. With regard to treating a member of such a community, he writes, "His fears and prejudices, his misunderstandings and his phobias have all to be considered

in the therapy of the whole man". Such is equally true treatment of less-primitive men.

Among the least pleasing features of the book are the fairly small size of the type and the narrow width of the margins: it is hoped that this form of economy will be dispensed with in future volumes.

F. J. C. ROE

## MEDICINE AND INSECT PARASITES

### Medical Entomology

By Dr. William B. Herms and Dr. Maurice T. James. Fifth Edition. Pp. xi+616. (New York and London: The Macmillan Co., New York, 1961.) 87s. 6d.

THE fourth edition, by the senior author only, was published in 1950. This fifth edition is the work of Prof. M. T. James, who has clearly, with much care and endeavour and with considerable success, produced a book several pages shorter than its predecessor yet combining a good deal of its original format and material with new matter. This includes both new text, which brings the book more up to date in many aspects of the subject, and new illustrations, which enhance the pictorial presentation of its topics. As noted in the preface, veterinary entomology has been pruned considerably and the sub-title of the fourth edition, implying this aspect, has been dropped. Nevertheless, sufficient remains to serve the medical man who might well, in rural communities, have to think broadly, especially of mites and ticks, cestrids and biting flies.

In general, trends in control are well revised regarding contact insecticides and repellents. Malaria is discussed, with leading references, in terms of control and world eradication—for which the book observes a cautious optimism. The mathematical approach to the epidemiology of malaria, as analysed by Macdonald, is indicated usefully and briefly. Due elaboration is given to more recent discoveries on arthropod-borne virus diseases transmitted by mosquitoes and by ticks. Revision of the housefly and its allies is commendable and, although the section on tsetse is barely altered, the reader is led to the newer important general works on this subject. Nomenclature has usually been brought into line with recent authoritative works. There are, of course, points of criticism: Garnham is spelt Garman; there is no indication of the use of dieldrin for triatomid bugs; the section on loiasis makes no mention of the important ecological studies of this disease in the past decade, nor is the association of *Simulium* larvæ with crabs noted; there could be more about *Mansonia* mosquitoes.

Of the several keys, some new, those referring only to American fauna (for example, mosquitoes, *Culicoides*) must have limited interest, but others (for example, on fleas, ticks and mites) will have wider utility. It is difficult to see how, in a general work, such selection can be avoided.

Many sections are simply reprinted, but much new information is included in the re-arrangement of chapters and within chapters, the new format providing much clearer printing of sectional headings. The reader is assisted to main discussions of particular topics by bold-face page references in the index.

This is a worthy successor to the four previous editions and should prove an informative and useful general work for the student, and teacher, of medical entomology.

D. S. BERTRAM