

New Books

Vitamins and Hormones, Advances in Research and Applications. Edited by Robert S. Harris and Kenneth V. Thimann. Volume V (1947) and VI (1948) Academic Press, Inc., New York.

It is no wonder that the preceding volumes of this series have been so favorably received by scientists working in the vitamin and hormone fields. These fields are widening rapidly, and the number of papers dealing with the chemical, biological and clinical properties of vitamins and hormones increases steadily. However, it is not only due to the fact that it is humanly impossible for a single individual to keep conversant with the enormous original literature that this series of monographs has met with approval, but mainly that the reviews given in the 'Vitamins and Hormones' have been found to be up to date, complete and reliable. They give, in a brief form, surveys of questions of actual interest, written by specialists with critical outlook. Volume V contains the following chapters: The synthesis of vitamin A and related products, by N. A. Milas; Physiological availability of the vitamins, by D. Melnick and B. L. Oser; Thiamine and peripheral neurophysiology, by A. von Muralt; The physiological effects of the pteroylglutamates in man with particular reference to the pteroylglutamic acid (PGA), by W. J. Darby; The vitamin requirements of chicks, by H. R. Bird; Vitamin requirements of the mouse, by

H. P. Morris; The properties of the growth and adrenocorticotrophic hormones, by C. H. Li and H. M. Evans; Effect of exogenous estrogens on the male mammal, by C. W. Emmens and A. S. Parkes; The biology of antithyroid agents, by H. A. Charipper and A. S. Gordon; The use of androgens in women, by A. C. Carter, E. J. Cohen and E. Shorr; The clinical uses of testosterone in the male, by C. G. Heller and W. O. Maddock.

Volume VI contains a cumulative index of volumes I through V. Surveys published in this volume are: The chemistry and biological action of pteroylglutamic acid and related compounds, by B. L. Hutchings and J. H. Mowat; Vitamin K, by Henrik Dam (København); Nutritional requirements of the cotton rat and hamster, by B. S. Schweigert; Vitamins as pharmacologic agents, by H. Molitor and G. A. Emerson; The assessment of human nutrition, by H. M. Sinclair; Vitamins in microorganisms—distribution and quantitative synthesis, by J. M. van Lanen and F. W. Tanner, Jr; The B vitamins as plant hormones, by J. Bonner and H. Bonner; The influence of the adrenal cortex on the metabolism of water and electrolytes, by E. C. Kendall. These titles give an idea of the magnitude of the field covered by the 'Vitamins and Hormones'; it seems rather superfluous to state that they are extremely valuable to anyone interested in vitamin and hormone questions.

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