

Books Received

- Blood Coagulation and Thrombosis—British Medical Bulletin*, Vol. 11, No. 1 (1955). Pp. 1-82. Price 15 sh.
- Hormones in Production—British Medical Bulletin*, Vol. 11, No. 2. (The Medical Department, The British Council, 65, Davis Street, London, W. 1), 1955. Pp. 83-168. Price 15 sh.
- Determination of Organic Structures by Physical Methods*. Edited by E. A. Braude and F. C. Nachod. (Academic Press, Inc.), 1955. Pp. xiii + 810. Price \$ 15.00.
- Annual Review of Biochemistry*, Vol. 24. Edited by J. Murray Luck, Herbert S. Loring and Gordon Mackinney. (Annual Reviews, Inc., California, U.S.A.), 1955. Pp. xvi + 805. Price \$ 7.00.
- The Ether and Its Vortices*. By C. F. Krafft. (Published by the author, Route 2, Box 687, Anandale, Virginia), 1955. Pp. vii + 66.
- Principles and Practice of Antibiotic Therapy*. By Henry Welch in collaboration with sixteen clinicians. (Medical Encyclopædia, Inc., Interscience), 1954. Pp. xix + 699. Price \$ 12.00.
- Erythromycin*. (Antibiotics Monograph No. 1.) By Wallace E. Herrell. (Medical Encyclopædia, Inc., Interscience Pub.), 1955. Pp. viii + 56. Price \$ 3.00.
- Antibiotics Annual*, 1954-55. Edited by Henry Welch and Felix Marti-Ibanez. (1955). Pp. ix + 1154. Price \$ 10.00.
- Luminescence of Biological Systems*. Edited by H. Johnson. (AAAS, Washington 5, D.C.), 1955. Pp. xi + 452. Price \$ 7.00.
- Advances in Experimental Caries Research*. Edited by Reidar F. Sognnaes. (AAAS, Washington 5, D.C.), 1955. Pp. ix + 236. Price \$ 6.75.
- Antimetabolites and Cancer*. (AAAS, Washington 5, D.C.), 1955. Pp. vi + 312. Price \$ 5.75.

SYMPOSIUM ON ARTIFICIAL RAIN*

A SYMPOSIUM on artificial rain was held under the joint auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Indian Meteorological Department in February 1953 in New Delhi, and the proceedings have since been published.

Twenty papers were presented and discussed at the symposium. The main conclusions derivable from the discussions may be summarised as follows:

(1) The results of the experiments carried out so far on the subject have been generally inconclusive; neither complete failure of the methods employed nor the certainty of getting any substantial increase of rainfall by those methods have been demonstrated; (2) the most favourable meteorological conditions for the artificial inducement of precipitation are to be sought in regions and during seasons where natural precipitation is most likely; (3) the methods so far employed, viz, seeding clouds of temperature below the freezing temperature with dry ice or silver iodide, and spraying clouds of temperature above the freezing temperature with water have not been effective in

augmenting precipitation in an area of very low rainfall or during dry periods in regions of normally moderate rainfall

These tentative conclusions indicate the need for further studies and experiments on artificial modification of clouds and precipitation. There is, in fact, urgent necessity for properly designed and rigorously checked experiments being undertaken in regions where there is a possibility of success, and for proper methods being developed to evaluate the amount of precipitation resulting from such experiments. It is also essential that in all such experiments, the collaboration of the meteorological service is made available for ensuring the required reliability in the interpretation and assessment of the result.

The volume also contains as Appendix I abstracts of papers not published in full in the volume; Appendix II contains the recommendations made by the Atmospheric Research Committee to the CSIR in the light of the symposium. The Council has accepted the recommendations in principle, and has been considering the implementation of the proposal of forming a Rain Research Unit and a Cloud Physics Research Unit, to facilitate further advances in this important subject.

* *Symposium on Artificial Rain* (Published by the CSIR, New Delhi), 1955, pp. v + 148 Price not given.