The medical papers cover a wide range. G. I. M. Swyer describes a misleading testicular biopsy from a hypogonadal man, and J. K. Russell gives an analysis of medical histories in sub-fertile men, finding no cause for the condition in half of the 120 cases.

Dorothy M. Shotton discusses the outcome of pregnancy in 472 previously infertile women, and finds that the figures compare favourably with those for primigravida in general. Uterine tubal spasm appeared to be the only infertility factor correlated with an increased abortion rate and disordered uterine action during labour.

The value of the precise timing of ovulation by means of his rat ovary hyperaemia test is discussed by Dr. E. J. Farris, of the Wistar Institute; his paper suggests that, provided rats of the Wistar strain are used, the best time for coitus or for doing artificial insemination can be predicted with considerable accuracy.

Other papers are those by J. Lowenstein describing a coital training apparatus to help the impotent male; by Mary Pollock on the use of a 30% watery solution of sodium acetate for hysterosalpingography; and by R. Palmer on the value of coelioscopy in the diagnosis of sterility.

In the last papers G. E. S. and H. W. Jones (Johns Hopkins Hospital) mention some interesting clinical syndromes associated with changes in the adrenals ranging from congenital pseudohermaphroditism to cases where hirsutism, oligomenorrhoea, and infertility became manifest after puberty, either with or without increased urinary excretion of 17-ketosteroids. They find quite small doses of cortisone (25 mg. daily) of value in dealing with these cases, regular menstruation being established and more than 50% of the previously infertile patients becoming pregnant.

CLARE HARVEY.
MARGARET H. JACKSON.

Serological Approaches to Studies of Protein Structure and Metabolism: Annual Conference on Protein Metabolism, 1954. Edited by William H. Cole. (Pp. 88. \$2.00.) New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press. 1955.

This symposium comes at a most opportune moment. The advances it discusses are of equal interest to students of immunology, experimental biology, and protein chemistry. The papers dealing with the serological attack on protein orientation are scattered through the literature and liable to be overlooked by workers in one particular field.

The contributors to the symposium have presented the material they have to offer with clarity, and Dr. Boyden, as well as contributing to the programme, helped to gather together a group covering such a wide range and is to be congratulated on the part he played in producing this well-balanced volume.

Haurowitz and Heidelberger are such distinguished contributors in their fields that the articles on proteins as antibodies and antigens and on the effects of denaturation on the precipitin reaction, though they contain little new information, must command interest and respect. Gitlin's article, a veritable Cook's tour, shows how the precipitin reactions may be applied to clinical research into protein disposal. He touches on the use of "light scattering methods" to refine the precipitin reaction itself. Cohn devotes the major portion of his article to a study of the formation of galactosidase in *Bact. coli*. The wider implications of this data and the problem of enzyme synthesis are the most exciting parts of this book.

Munoz's contribution on the use and limitations of serum and agar techniques should be read by the host of workers who daily use this method.

This is not a book for beginners.

N. H. MARTIN.