Clinical Urology, 3rd ed., Vols. I and II. By Oswald Swinney Lowsley and Thomas Joseph Kirwin. Illustrated by William Didusch. (Pp. xvi+464+index, and x+520+index; illustrated. 12 gns. the set; \$32.50.) London: Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1956.

The first edition of *Clinical Urology* by Lowsley and Kirwin appeared in 1940 and the second four years later. After an interval of another twelve years the third edition, much altered and enlarged, has just been issued, appearing a few weeks after the untimely death of the senior author, Dr. O. S. Lowsley. For many years this two-volumed book with its 1,000 pages and 800 illustrations has been a standard book of reference for urological surgeons, and it is likely to remain so for many years to come. Its value for this purpose is much increased by the excellent drawings by W. Didusch and by the extensive bibliography at the end of each chapter, which gives not only the author and journal reference but also the title of the paper to which reference is made.

In a journal such as the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* it is natural to concentrate chiefly on the chapters dealing with laboratory work and pathology, and it must be admitted that these are very variable in their quality. For instance, the chapter on urine tests appears to have been written by someone with very little practical experience of clinical pathology, as evidenced by the methods recommended for examining the urine for tubercle bacilli and by the advice given concerning the making of routine cultures of the urine. The chapter on renal function tests is more comprehensive in character, but here also it would seem as though the author had little personal familiarity with the performance of some of the tests described. Since space is so valuable, surely it would have been better to have omitted all detailed descriptions of laboratory procedures which are commonly undertaken by pathologists only. It would have been sufficient to give references to technical books on clinico-pathology in which the various bacteriological and chemical tests are fully described.

CUTHBERT DUKES.

The Biology of the Laboratory Mouse. Reprint of 1st edition, 1941; new Dover edition, first published 1956. Edited by George D. Snell. (Pp. viii+497. \$6.00.) New York: Dover Publications, Inc. 1956.

This is an unaltered and unabridged reprint of the first edition of this standard work on the laboratory mouse, which first appeared in 1941. Every aspect of the life (and death) of the laboratory mouse is dealt with extensively and in great detail. The Editor, Dr. G. D. Snell, was in the happy position to obtain the best experts in their fields from the Ruscoe E. Jackson Memorial Laboratory, and the contributors to the book thus give a composite picture rarely attained in a book by many authors.

The book goes into the details of embryology, reproduction, and histology before the pathology of the laboratory mouse is dealt with. Doubtless the mass of details given here will make this part of the book, though not widely read, extremely valuable for reference.

The chapters dealing with spontaneous neoplastic diseases of the laboratory mouse have, however, an appeal to a much wider circle of readers, and the same applies to the following chapter on the gene and chromosome mutations. Every human geneticist will envy Dr. Snell, who wrote this chapter, the opportunities given in the breeding of the laboratory mouse, which make it possible to understand these problems so much better in mice than in men. The chapters on the genetics of spontaneous tumour formation and tumour transplantation are most illuminating, and one would wish that much more use in cancer research had been made of the material available.

There is a chapter on the milk factor by Bittner himself, which gives all the well-known facts in a very lucid summary. Chapter 10 must be regarded as one of the best contributions in the book. It deals with the value of inbred and hybrid animals from every aspect of this field. Again, much more use should be made of the knowledge accumulated and so often disregarded. The rest of the book is taken up with the pathology of the laboratory mouse and "Care and Recording." The details are again meticulously described.

The only criticism that comes to my mind is that the quality of the illustrations is rather poor when compared with other American standards. The book, however, is an absolute necessity to any laboratory keeping a large stock of laboratory mice, and, though the price is comparatively high, its study will save a great deal of money by avoiding unnecessary wastage of material.

W. WEINER.

Bone Structure and Metabolism. A Ciba Foundation Symposium. Edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme and Cecilia M. O'Connor. (Pp. xii+299; 122 figures. 45s.) London: J. & A. Churchill. 1956.

Since its inauguration in 1949 the Ciba Foundation has arranged a series of symposia on various topics of medical interest, and at each of these a number of selected research workers have been able to meet informally in order to exchange ideas and information on a particular subject. In July, 1955, such a symposium was devoted to "Bone Structure and Metabolism," and was attended by about 25 distinguished workers from Europe and North America. The present volume, edited by Dr. Wolstenholme and Miss O'Connor, of the Ciba Foundation, is designed to bring the substance of the meeting to the attention of a wider audience. It takes the form of a series of papers, together with a more or less verbatim account of the informal discussion that followed each contribution.