useful to all who consult these volumes, namely all endocrinologists. The book is well printed and produced, but 48s. does seem expensive.

D. N. BARON.

Chemistry and Biology of Mucopolysaccharides. A Ciba Foundation Symposium edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme and Cecilia M. O'Connor. (Pp. xii+323; 48 illustrations. 45s.) London: J. and A. Churchill. 1958.

The mucopolysaccharides may be defined as amino-acid carbohydrate complexes with big molecules. They occur in the body in a variety of associations—in cartilage, in connective tissue, associated with blood group specificity, in mucus, in relation to the glycoproteins of plasma, in urine, and so forth. Some occur in micro-organisms and viruses. Our knowledge of mucopolysaccharides is still scanty, and therefore the present volume is largely concerned with the results of work on individual mucopolysaccharides, much of it analytical; a broad picture of these substances is not yet possible. For the clinical pathologist who seeks to know something about these substances, which are becoming daily of greater biological importance, this book will make interesting and difficult reading. Naturally the different contributions are of varying interest and value. It is impossible not to feel that this published Ciba Symposium, in common with the others, would benefit by drastic editing of the discussions, in which important points emerge; they would emerge more clearly if the discussions were pruned.

ARTHUR JORDAN.

Tuberculosis in White and Negro Children, Vol I: The Roentgenologic Aspects of the Harriet Lane Study. By Janet B. Hardy. (Pp. vii+122; illustrated. 60s.) Vol. II: *The Epidemiologic Aspects of the Harriet Lane Study.* By Miriam E. Brailey. (Pp. 103; 8 graphs. 36s.) Harvard University Press (London: Oxford University Press). 1958.

All medical books are out of date by the time they are published, but some more so than others. This is particularly the case with books on tuberculosis.

Here we have two beautifully produced volumes, the result of many years' study, which, by virtue of the rapid advance in the treatment of tuberculosis, have been rendered almost of historical interest.

The first volume consists of an atlas of radiological appearances of the chest and other regions in childhood tuberculosis. This probably represents one of the best collections of such radiographs available. The plates are beautifully reproduced, and their value is enhanced by the photographs of necropsy specimens which accompany some of them. Unfortunately the results of treatment are only available for a short period extending into the streptomycin era. Nevertheless the photographs are most informative, and their perusal would be of great value to all who are working in this field. There is also a discus-

sion on bronchography and bronchoscopy in tuberculosis, and attention is rightly drawn to the important effects of tuberculosis on the bronchial tree. It is rather surprising, however, to find that these techniques are used in children from the age of 4 upwards under local anaesthesia. These procedures are often tolerated badly by adults, and the effect on young children scarcely bears contemplation.

The second part deals with epidemiology and prognosis. An extremely full analysis of these aspects is provided, both in text and tabular form, and as a document this may well stand comparison with the best of such surveys, such as that of the Highwood workers, or those of Wallgren, Gedde-Dahl, Holmdahl, and others. But here again it has not been possible to take into account the profound effect of drug therapy on infection rate due to shrinkage of the reservoirs of infection, and on the prognosis as regards morbidity and mortality. However, even as they stand both these volumes should prove most useful additions to the literature on this subject.

L. J. GRANT.

Psychopharmacology: Pharmacologic Effects on Behaviour. Edited by Harry H. Pennes. (Pp. xiii+362; 35 figures, 49 tables. 60s.) London: Cassell. 1958.

Within the past few years, symposiums on many subjects have been held, and the proceedings are subsequently published. One such meeting was held in the United States when the subject was psychopharmacology, in which some 41 persons took part. The 13 chapters are mainly devoted to the effects of various drugs on chemical mechanisms of the brain with special reference to mental disorders.

A few chapters on physiological findings or on clinical appraisals of the effect of the drugs are also included.

The general standard of communications is high, and it is good to see clinical psychiatrists realizing that chemical processes may be related to mental disease.

This is a volume that should be read by those whose interests lie in this field.

J. N. CUMINGS.

Books Received

Laboratory Applications in Clinical Pediatrics. By Irving J. Wolman. (Pp. xi+1,019. £5 16s. 6d.) London: McGraw-Hill. 1957.

The Nature of Brucellosis. By Wesley W. Spink. (Pp. xiv+464; 56 figures. 63s.) Minnesota University Press (London: Oxford University Press). 1957.

Microtechnique of Clinical Chemistry for the Routine Laboratory. By Samuel Natelson. (Pp. xv+484; 160 figures. 82s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1957.