has added a chapter on the concept of thrombolytic therapy and its laboratory control.

This excellent book should prove to be widely acceptable as the standard reference text in this field and can be recommended without hesitation.

J. L. STAFFORD

WILSON'S DISEASE Some current concepts. Edited by
John M. Walshe and John N. Cumings. (Pp. x + 292 +
Index; 98 figures; 52 tables. 47s. 6d.) Oxford: Blackwell

This book contains the proceedings of a symposium on
hepato-lenticular degeneration held in London in 1960. The
reader can find therein a very up-to-date review of the
problem by distinguished workers as well as many
important original contributions. Especially interesting
are chapters devoted to the metabolism of copper, the bio-
chemistry of caeruloplasmin, and genetic aspects of the
disease. Less thorough is the clinical part dealing mainly
with penicillamine treatment and hepatic aspects of the
condition.

There are some points open to doubt, e.g., the patho-
genetic implications of the heterogeneity of caerulo-
plasmin, but the discussion of this is very valuable and
shows the difficulties of the problem.

Summing up, it is a very stimulating book, of interest
not only to people working on hepatolenticular degenera-
tion but also to many other clinicians and pathologists.

I. WALD

THE COLOR ATLAS OF INTESTINAL PARASITES By Francis
M. Spencer and Lee S. Monroe. (Pp. xvii + 142;
232 figures. 7xs.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C.
Thomas; Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications.
1961.

This atlas is unusual in that it has been prepared and
written by interested clinicians primarily for the American
laboratory diagnostician.

The authors are to be congratulated on their obvious
industry, care, and skill in preparing the many colour
photomicrographs which are of very high quality and
have good descriptive and explanatory notes. The value
of the atlas as a practical guide is diminished by an
excessive bias towards the routine use of stained faecal
smears whereas on this side of the Atlantic more attention
is given to the general naked-eye, physical, and direct
microscopical characteristics of wet stool specimens.
Some statements, such as the necessity to take mucosal
biopsies to diagnose schistosomiasis, are too dogmatic,
and the use of eosin-saline preparations is omitted.

One plate of a saline preparation of an E. histolytica
cyst is frankly confusing as it shows two very clearly
defined nuclei and a 'chromatoidal bar' looking very
like several other nuclei. Several illustrations demon-
strate the characteristic crescentic thickening of the
nuclear membranes of E. histolytica but no reference is
made to this in the text.

The photographs have been produced to a standard
magnification but constant reference has to be made
back to one plate on which polymorphonuclear leucocytes
are used as a relative guide for parasite size. No measure-
ments are given of parasite size even in the text.

The atlas contains superb photographs and is useful
for reference purposes, particularly for the more atypical
forms of parasite. As a practical guide to copromancy it
does not attain the status hoped for by the authors.

ROGER MORTIMER

HANDBOOK OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUE By F. J.
Baker. (Pp. ix + 369; 73 figures. 50s.) London:
Butterworth. 1962.

Although at first sight the need for another handbook of
bacteriological technique might not appear obvious, this
book has much to commend it. It is concise, simple to
follow, and dogmatic, and gives a remarkable amount of
detail. As might be expected, it gives better guidance on
certain topics, particularly the identification of mycob-
bacteria and medical mycology, than do either of the
other books in wide use; it also covers parasitology and,
rather sketchily, virology. On the other hand, the
theoretical basis of the serological procedures described
is only lightly touched on, and no clear guidance is given
on the value of anaerobic culture for routine specimens.

This book will undoubtedly help technicians working
for the final examination in bacteriology if supplemented
by one of the books giving a fuller theoretical background.
Pathologists will find it useful for quick reference.

H. I. WINNER

HANDBOOK OF MEDICAL LABORATORY FORMULAE By
R. E. Silverton and M. J. Anderson. (Pp. xii + 676;

Laboratory workers all over the world will, I am sure, be
indebted to the authors of this book of recipes for col-
lecting so much useful material together.

The book is divided into four sections: Bacteriological
and Parasitological Reagents; Histopathological Stains
and Reagents; Haematological Reagents; and Bio-
chemical Tests and Reagents. There is also an appendix,
and among its many useful tables is one of saturated
solutions giving weights for solutions at room tempera-
tures (actual temperature stated) and the amount of
water required to make 100 ml. solution. This could with
advantage by expanded to include all common hydrated
salt solutions; hydrated disodium hydrogen phosphate,
for example, is omitted.

In a book of this kind there must inevitably be occasional
errors. These are not likely to mislead unduly, howev-
er, since references to the original methods are always
given and in many cases the source of supply of materials,
with the address from which they may be obtained, is
also included.

E. JOAN STOKES

BACK NUMBERS

Back numbers for February, between 1948 and 1956,
are out of print; also those for May, between 1948 and
1950 and in 1954 and 1956, and for August 1948 and
November 1949. Issues for January 1960 and January
1961 and March 1961 are also out of print. There are a few
back numbers of other issues which may be obtained from
the Subscription Department, B.M.A. House, Tavistock