have not the time to peruse the larger textbooks or the individual papers on this subject.

E. M. DARMADY

PROGRESS IN CHEMICAL TOXICOLOGY, Vol. 2 Edited by
A. Stolman. (Pp. x + 416. 100s.) New York and
This book follows the publication of 'Toxicology,
Mechanisms and Analytical Methods', Volumes 1 and 2,
in 1960-61, and Volume 1 of 'Progress in Chemical
Toxicology' in 1963. It consists of six main chapters by
seven American and two British authors. Very nearly half
the book is taken up by a chapter by the Editor and C.P.
Stewart and is a survey of the literature on absorption,
distribution, and excretion of poisons. This will be of
special interest to pathologists in that it provides a most
useful review of the interpretation of toxicological data,
plugging the gaps left in the original 1960-61 book, but
it should be noted that all the references (nearly 500)
except one are to 1962 or before that year.

The other six chapters are of a practical nature, involving
infra-red analysis of volatile compounds and toxic
gases, especially substances that can appear in the breath,
the analysis of tissue for some alkaloids by a distillation
procedure followed by ultra-violet scanning, spectro-
graphic sample preparation, and chromatographic
techniques. The quality of these chapters is, on the whole,
high, especially that on the analysis of metals by spectro-
graphic analysis which is comprehensive and includes an
excellent review of the concentration, isolation, and
enrichment of trace elements.

The two chapters on chromatography will be of
interest to pathologists in that the one by H. V. Street is a
selected selection of his previously published papers on
rapid methods of analysis using mainly paper chromato-
graphy, while the Editor's second chapter, on thin-layer
chromatography, presents 51 tables on the separation of
compounds as diverse as the mercury derivatives of
olefines, through the sulphonamides, to many categories
of organic compounds and drugs.

The book looks both forward and backward and as
such fulfills in part the promise of its title. It is provocative
in including research material not previously published,
especially the chapter on ultra-violet scanning of distillates
of alkaloids, as well as procedures of proven value.
It should not be pretended that it is other than a book for
specialists in analytical toxicology and as such the price
is relatively high, although the quality of the paper and
diagrams, some of which are superfluous, is also high.
There is a subject and author index.

A. S. CURRY

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF BLOOD PLATELETS By A. J. Marcus
and M. B. Zucker. (Pp. x + 162. $7.00. New York and
For the scientifically inclined physician platelet stickiness
and platelet aggregation seem now to be stimulating almost as much attention as anticoagulants, and the
underlying phenomena—physicochemical, enzymatic, and
hydrodynamic—to mention only a few, are of great interest.
When two acknowledged experts write a little book at
this time on platelet physiology and include 875 references
(with one or two minor mistakes) we are all very fortunate.
It is a masterful catalogue of present knowledge, and
essential reading to those entering the field. To this
initiated, it is a valuable reference book. Many others
physiologists, chemists, and clinicians—should read this
book, but they might wish for a distillation of all that is
reports. Were the authors too modest to propose their
own synthesis? Perhaps no synthesis is yet possible.
This book follows the authors' wide interests, but is not wide
enough to justify the title; for example, five pages devoted
to thrombosis seem unreasonably little, but even this
section includes over 50 references.

J. R. O'BRIEN

WACHSTUMSHORMON UND WACHSTUMSSSTORUNGEN. DER
CUSHING-SYNDROME Edited by E. Klein. (Pp. 309;
130 illustrations. DM. 78.—) Berlin: Springer-Verlag.
1965.
This paper-back volume contains the proceedings of the
eleventh symposium of the German Society for Endo-
crinology held in Dusseldorf from 4 to 7 March 1964. The
first part is devoted to growth hormone and disturbances
of growth, and the 13 contributions contain some useful
information on the chemistry and estimation of the
hormone and its significance in human dwarfism.
The second section contains 14 papers on Cushing's
syndrome, some dealing with differential diagnosis and
others with treatment. The third section contains a
variety of endocrinological papers unrestricted as to topic.
The participants were mainly German but included some
from other European countries and the discussions are
given verbatim. As usual with Springer-Verlag, the book
is beautifully produced, but it has no index.

G. K. MCGOWIN

ADRENAL STEROIDS AND DISEASE By Cuthbert L. Cope.
(Pp. xi + 827; illustrated. 126s.) London: Pitman
Dr. Cope, who is a pioneer in many fields of research
relating to medical aspects of the adrenal cortex, has now
written an excellent book dealing with virtually every
aspect of the function and disease of this gland, and with
the use of corticosteroids in therapy. Starting with
adrenal steroid chemistry, biosynthesis, and metabolism,
he proceeds through tests of adrenal function and the
biological effects of adrenal steroids to diseases associated
with the adrenal cortex. He then deals in detail with
steroid therapy and its complications, and ends with
chapters on the adrenal cortex in the pregnant woman
and the infant, steroid fevers, progestins, foetal masculi-
nization, and hyperadrenalism in malignant disease.
Each of the 38 chapters includes a critical review of
the relevant literature, together with a balanced and author-
itative summing-up which reveals the author's intimate
knowledge of previous work in this field. In addition to
the sections dealing with his own particular specialties,
the chapters on stress and diseases of adaptation strike
the reviewer as being particularly well done.

Dr. Cope, who has had so much experience in the
laboratory as well as the ward, has attempted with great
success to bridge the gap between the practical clinician