

FROM OUR BOOKSHELF

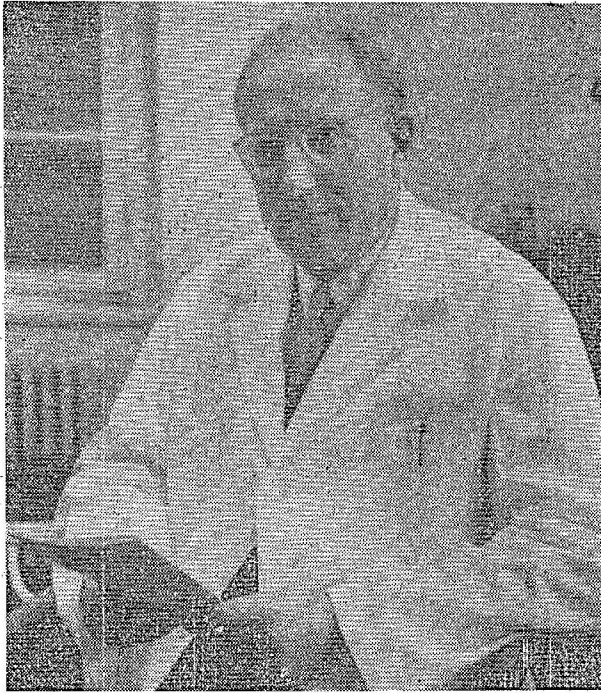
PROGRESS IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES IN RELATION TO DERMATOLOGY, Vol. 2, Edited by A. Rook and R. H. Champion, Pp. 499 (Illustrated). Price £ 10s., Cambridge University Press, London, Publication Date, 3 December 1964.

This is a publication containing the course on "Progress in the Biological sciences in Relation to Dermatology-2" held by the Postgraduate Medical School of the University of Cambridge in October 1963. The organisers of the course are the editors of the present volume which reflects many new areas of research in which important advances are currently taking place and which have imminent relationship to Dermatology. The scope of the book can be gauged by the number of contributors (38) and the nature of the specialized fields (from A to Z) from which the contributions have come. The latter are those of anatomy, physiology, pathology, gerontology, histology, biochemistry, radiology; tissue culture and biophysics, animal breeding research, textile industry, defence to chemical warfare, biomechanics, animal physiology and Zoology. Contributions from all the above fields have been grouped into topics on the Functions of Connective Tissue, Ageing of Skin, Regeneration and Repair, Subcutaneous Fat, Keratinization, Percutaneous Absorption and the Epidermal Barrier, Hair, Cutaneous Circulation, Physiopathology of Bulla Formation, and finally New Techniques in Dermatology Research, the last containing applications of techniques of Electrophoresis, Immuno-diffusion, Fluorescence Microscopy, Autoradiography, and tissue Culture of Skin. The bewildering breadth of knowledge from various special fields mentioned above has been succinctly reduced to sizable topics of interest in dermatology, and to give a further practical touch, the chairmen of the sessions on each of the above topics have been selected from practising dermatologists with research background. Some of the fields of biological sciences covered in this publication may be particularly mentioned to give a perspective to the readership of the details of subjects tackled in this book. Those are of Structure and Metabolism of Collagen, Connective Tissue as an Antigen, Degradation of Collagen, The Biology of Ageing, Regeneration of epidermis, structure and Metabolism of Adipose Tissue, the Genetics of Keratinization and Keratin Formation, Studies on Skin Permeability and Percutaneous Absorption, Studies on Hair Molting, Replacement and Growth and Structure of Hair Keratin, Importance of Arteriovenous Circulation of the Skin in its Relationship to Diseases, the Pathophysiology and enzymatic Factors in Bulla Formation. The book reflects the tremendous amount of planning and organization besides the scholarship and ability of the editors to integrate research from many fields, and they have eminently succeeded in their objective. They deserve congratulations not only from the research workers in the fields of many biological sciences who may be interested in referring to the current status of their particular fields and valuable bibliography

pertaining to them. Hence this book has a practical appeal to many medical and non-medical specialities and is a necessary reference work in many departments besides those of dermatology.

—Sharat C. Desai

OBITUARY



With profound sorrow, we announce the sad demise of Professor Alfred Marchionini M. D., the Director of the Munich University Dermatology Clinic and the President-elect of the 13th International Congress of Dermatology. He died in Munich on 6th April 1965. We the members of the Indian Association of Dermatologists and Venereologists offer our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

May his soul rest in eternal peace!