NOTES AND COMMENTS

LASA AUTUMN MEETING
28 November 1973

MANAGEMENT AND FEEDING OF A CONVENTIONAL AND GERM-FREE GUINEA-PIG COLONY. A. R. Smith: Charles River (U.K.) Ltd., Manston Research Centre, Manston Road, Margate, Kent.

GENETIC CONDITIONS AND DISEASES IN THE GUINEA-PIG. M. F. W. Festing: M.R.C. Laboratory Animals Centre, Woodmansterne Road, Carshalton, SM5 4EF.


SENSITIZATION TESTING IN THE GUINEA-PIG. P. H. Elliott: Huntingdon Research Centre, Huntingdon, PE18 6ES.

SOME ASPECTS OF REPRODUCTION IN THE RAT. J. May: Rowett Research Institute, Bucksburn, Aberdeen.

CALCULATION OF PERMISSIBLE NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER ROOM FROM VENTILATION DATA. W. H. Weihe: Kantonsspital Zürich, Biologisches Zentralaboratorium, Universität Zürich, 8006 Zürich, Rämistrasse 100, Switzerland.

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF FOLATE LEVELS IN BLOOD AND LIVER OF LABORATORY ANIMALS IN THE IMMEDIATE POST-NATAL PERIOD. P. P. Scott, S. J. G. Amyes, B. S. Suri & P. M. Roberts: Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 8 Hunter Street, London, WC1N 1BP.

BIOCHEMICAL PARAMETERS IN THE PATAS MONKEY. M. Paterson: John Wyeth & Brother Ltd., Huntercombe Lane South, Taplow, Maidenhead, SL6 0PH.

CONTROL OF INFANTILE DIARRHOEA OF MICE. A Sebesteny: Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PX.

LASA SPRING MEETING 1974
Friday, 10 May 1974

This meeting will be devoted to aspects of quality control of laboratory animal colonies, and will be held at the Meeting Room of the Zoological Society of London in Regent's Park, starting at 1000.

Anyone wishing to contribute should contact Dr R. J. Ward, Carworth Europe, Alconbury, Huntingdon, PE18 6ES, as soon as possible.

LABORATORY ANIMALS—MICROFICHE EDITION

Volume 7 of Laboratory Animals is now available complete with index on 4 microfiches (each 148 × 105 mm) for £1.50, post free (but plus VAT in the U.K.). This price is less than the cost of binding the 3 issues.

If sufficient interest is shown, all future volumes (and probably back numbers) will be similarly treated.

Applications to Laboratory Animals Ltd, 7 Warwick Court, London, WC1R 5DP. Remittances payable to Laboratory Animals Ltd, a/c no. 3481115.
EARLY LASA PUBLICATIONS

Bound copies are available of selected papers presented at the LASA symposia of 1964 and 1965, and of papers presented at the 1963 NATO meeting in Harrogate, 'The experimental animal in research'. Anyone wanting copies should send a request, enclosing 50p, to Dr R. J. Ward, Carworth Europe, Alconbury, Huntingdon, PE18 6ES, when a copy of both publications will be posted to them.

PET ANIMALS AND SOCIETY

A symposium on this subject is being held by the British Small Animal Veterinary Association at the Meeting Room of the Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, on 30-31 January 1974. There will be papers on technical, sociological and administrative aspects, including human and animal health, and commercial and environmental considerations. Anyone wishing to attend this meeting should contact the Registration Secretary, Mr M. D. Keeling, Veterinary Surgery, Gardner Road, Guildford, Surrey.

REVIEW


This book is intended for the routine veterinary diagnostic laboratory including those run by private veterinary practitioners.

The first 4 chapters deal with general topics including the selection and submission of clinical specimens, cultural procedures and isolation and identification. Chapters 5 to 24 are concerned with the main genera of bacteria with chapters devoted to Rickettsia and Chlamydia, Mycoplasma and 5 chapters on fungi.

Reflecting their importance in veterinary medicine there are special chapters on bovine mastitis and diagnosis of infectious abortion; these are followed by chapters on antibacterial agents, immunofluorescence and 5 appendices on technical methods.

After each chapter further references are listed, and my main criticism of the book is that it is not sufficiently comprehensive, requiring continual further reference to standard works. By itself, it lacks the detail of technique, methodology required for the successful isolation and identification of the causal organisms always requiring reference to standard works.

The book does not deal with serological methods nor with viruses both of which must form an important part in the work of most routine laboratories.

Although the chapters on Mycobacterium and Yersinia stress the potential hazards of handling these particular genera, not enough is stated on the general hazards which inevitably accompany examination of tissues for pathogenic organisms, many of which may also be potential human pathogens.

W. J. Brinley Morgan.