but neither is it a handbook on experimental laboratory methods. The first section covers a range of topics from the function of the neuron and glia, microchemistry of human cerebral cortex, and clinical and tissue culture studies on demyelinating disorders to hereditary and viral ataxias in animals, and radiation injury to a group of three papers on Alzheimer's disease.

The second section is a symposium on geographic pathology. (Mariana Islands syndromes, kuru, hepato-cerebral diseases in Japanese and West Indian neuropathy) and the third section is on special methods such as CSF examination, cerebral biopsy, histochemistry of nervous tissue and muscle, fluorescence and electron microscopy of the nervous system.

Some of the chapters make difficult reading but the book is worth its place in a library for those who can remember where they read such an assorted list.

J. A. SIMPSON


This publication presents the proceedings of the Symposium which was organized by the Permanent Section of Microbiological Standardization and held in London in November, 1968. It affords an excellent survey of recent laboratory and clinical research, not only on rubella vaccines but also on all aspects of rubella infection. The main concern of the participants was maternal infection resulting in infection of the foetus in utero. This problem has raised many fascinating lines of research requiring active co-operation between clinicians, virologists, immunologists, and epidemiologists, and its world-wide interest was manifest by the high standard of the papers presented in this Symposium and the discussion sessions.

The first session on epidemiology comprised papers from France, United States, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, Israel, Japan, Taiwan, Germany, Teheran and the United Kingdom. They showed that there was a striking similarity in the epidemiology of rubella in these countries. However, in Japan, rubella infection was apparently associated with a lower incidence of congenital defects than in the United States. A preliminary report from Cincinnati indicated that immune serum globulin with a high rubella antibody titre was effective in preventing infection when given within 24 hours of exposure to rubella; the protection afforded by increasing the time-interval between infection and administration of immune globulin was subsequently being studied.

The second session comprised papers giving up-to-date information on laboratory techniques. For serological diagnosis there were reports on a method for collection of blood on filter paper discs and comparison and interpretation of antibody studies by the various techniques of specific immunofluorescence, haemagglutination-inhibition, neutralization, complement-fixation, haemadsorption-inhibition, immuno-diffusion and platelet-aggregation. The influence of non-specific serum factors on neutralization tests was also described. Virus isolation studies included reports on the growth of rubella virus in various cell cultures and also on rubella virus interference. Comparison of the antigenic structures of American and Japanese strains and the results of experimental vertical transmission of these strains in rabbits was also reported.

The third session dealt primarily with the attenuation of rubella virus for vaccine production, and the final and fourth session presented 28 communications on clinical trials with various attenuated rubella vaccines. The protective efficacy of these vaccines was amply demonstrated and no evidence of virus spread to susceptible contacts was detected in any of these studies.

This book affords a valuable compendium on most aspects of recent work on rubella and should be consulted by anyone concerned with the details of prophylaxis or diagnosis of rubella infection.

CONSTANCE A. C. ROSS


This book is an account of one man's teaching, and for this reason alone would be noteworthy. The reader sits in a class of students through a year of neurological teaching, and each brief chapter narrates the weekly case presentations, with history, signs, diagnosis, and treatment. Many patients are presented, with disorders ranging from the commonplace to the rare. The style