

and their diverse applications in the industrial arts are in virtue of this property.

The book makes no attempt to indicate, other than very briefly, the use of the resins, either individually or collectively. E. F. A.

(1) *Proceedings of the Second International Congress for Sex Research, London, 1930.* Edited by A. W. Greenwood. Pp. xi + 637 + 33 plates. (Edinburgh and London: Oliver and Boyd, 1931.) 21s. net.

(2) *The Conquest of Old Age: Methods to Effect Rejuvenation and to Increase Functional Activity.* By Dr. Peter Schmidt. Translated by Eden and Cedar Paul. Pp. xvii + 319 + 40 plates. (London: George Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1931.) 21s. net.

(1) THE Second International Congress for Sex Research was held in London in 1930, when more than 250 members from about thirty different countries were present. Nearly all the papers delivered have now been published in the proceedings of the Congress. The editor has arranged them in five sections, biology, hormones, therapy, contraception and sociology. The majority of the papers deal with the physiology and biochemistry of the sex hormones and afford an excellent summary of recent work on this subject, since they are given *in extenso* with figures and tables, instead of in abstract as is more usual in the published reports of congresses.

(2) The other volume before us deals with only a small corner of the field of sex research, namely, the problem of rejuvenating the organism by stimulation of the internal secretion of the sex glands or by provision of this secretion from an external source. The author devotes a certain amount of space to refuting the criticisms which have been levied against the grafting of sex glands or the operation of vaso-ligature and also to attacking his critics. Perusal of the numerous case histories quoted shows the difficulty of maintaining a critical attitude in the evaluation of the results of the operations. It must, however, be remembered that all the functions of the body, and not the sexual alone, on which the emphasis is sometimes laid, are stated to be rejuvenated: thus digestion is improved, intellect functions more sharply and movements are brisker.

Both these volumes may be studied by those interested in the effects produced on the body by the most recently isolated hormones and in the therapeutic possibilities opened up by these investigations.

*Archæology in England and Wales, 1914-1931.* By T. D. Kendrick and C. F. C. Hawkes. Pp. xix + 371 + 30 plates. (London: Methuen and Co., Ltd., 1932.) 18s. net.

THIS book, the authors explain in their preface, is an enlarged English version of an article in German to be published under the auspices of the Romisch-Germanische Kommission of the Deutsche

Archæologisches Institut. Chapters have been added which deal with Roman and Anglo-Saxon antiquities.

The preparation and publication of this version was a happy thought, upon which archæologists will congratulate the authors, and for which they will be duly grateful. A critical survey such as this is useful as a reminder of how much fresh evidence has accrued during the last seventeen eventful years—and the amount is indeed considerable—and it serves to stimulate research by bringing into relief points upon which further evidence is required before anything approaching certainty in conclusion is attainable. For confirmation we need only refer to Mr. Kendrick's admirably impartial summary of the evidence available, at the time of writing, which relates to the earliest stone age industries in England. On the other hand, the considerable advances that have been made may be gauged—to take one example only—from the chapter on the 'Henge' monuments.

Of the twelve chapters into which the book is divided, Mr. Kendrick is responsible for Chaps. i-viii and Chap. xii, while Mr. Hawkes has written Chaps. ix-xi. The numerous illustrations have been chosen with sound judgment and a discrimination which has kept in view the needs of the text.

*Astronomy.* By Dr. F. R. Moulton. Pp. xxiii + 549. (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1931.) 18s. net.

THIS is an elementary textbook suitable for a general introductory course in descriptive astronomy, and differs from most books of a similar nature in the order of development of its subject and in its balance of emphasis. After introductory chapters on the constellations and telescopes, the earth is considered as an astronomical body. Its nature, motions, and problems connected with time, occupy three chapters, leading naturally to a consideration of the various bodies and phenomena of the solar system. All this occupies the greater portion (400 pages) of the book, and questions relating to sidereal astronomy or astrophysics (apart from solar physics) are relegated to the last two chapters.

The brevity and necessary condensation in the final section leads occasionally to an unfortunate obscurity of style. It also, however, allows other questions to be dealt with more fully than is usual in elementary textbooks; the chapters on gravitation and the evolution of the solar system, as well as parts of the final chapter on sidereal structure, being specially noteworthy in this respect. Nothing of fundamental importance is omitted, and many of the latest advances are well described, such as the discovery of Pluto, axial rotations of stars, and the new constellation boundaries (to a rough approximation). Apart from a few errors and minor blemishes, the illustrations (including numerous reproductions of photographs) form an attractively useful feature of the book.