

I. CHESTER JONES

THE
ADRENAL
CORTEX

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

THE ADRENAL CORTEX

BY

I. CHESTER JONES

Department of Zoology, University of Liverpool



CAMBRIDGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1957

PLATE I

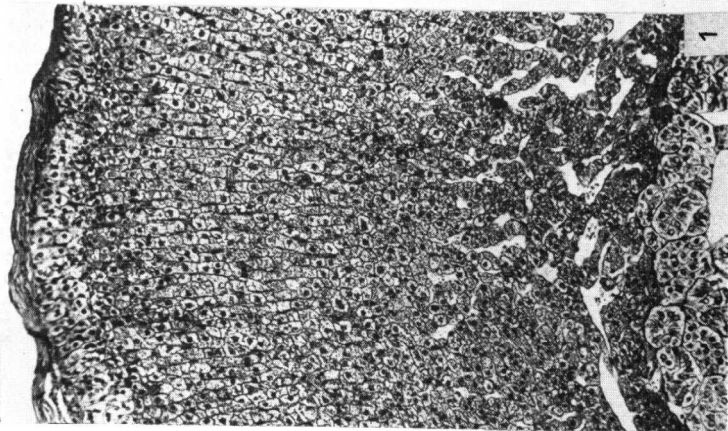
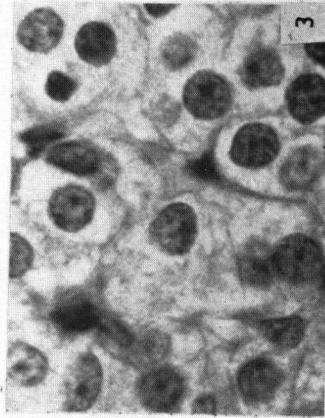
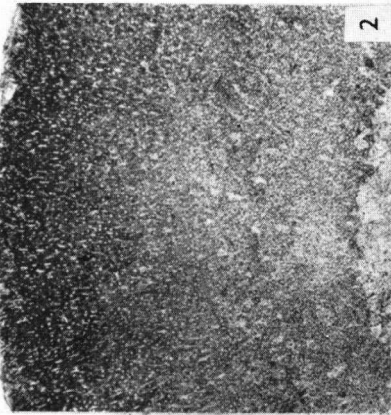
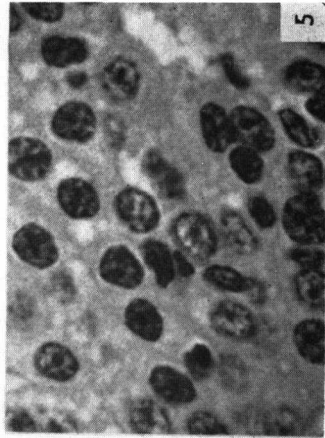
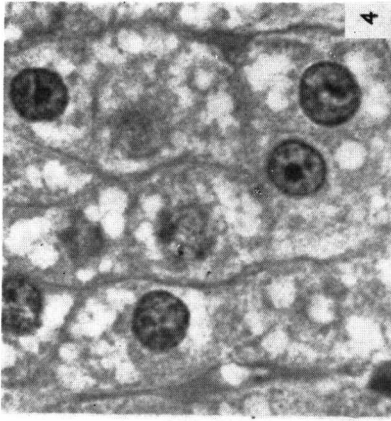


PLATE II

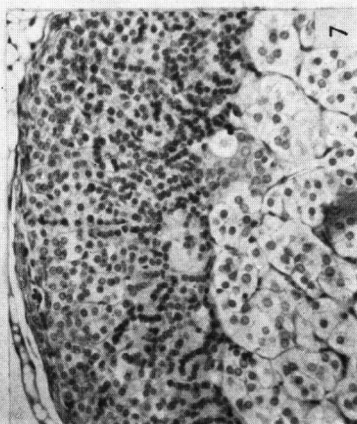
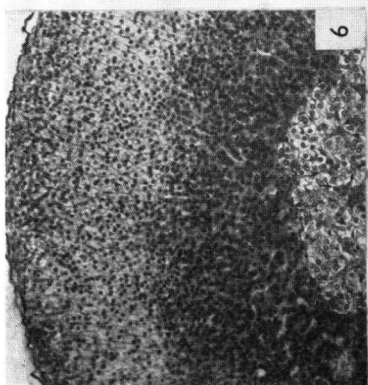
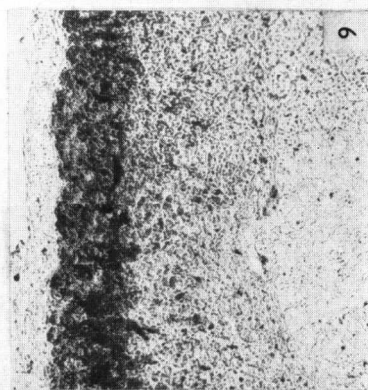
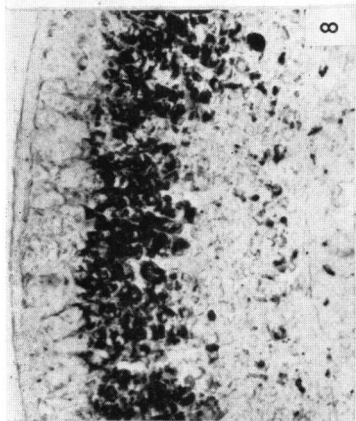
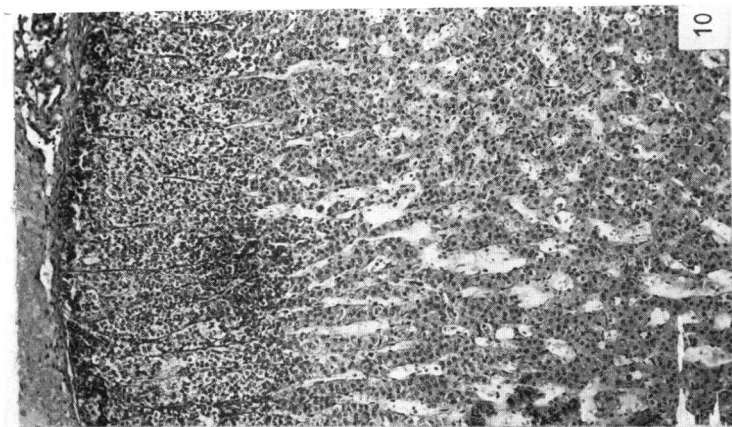


PLATE III

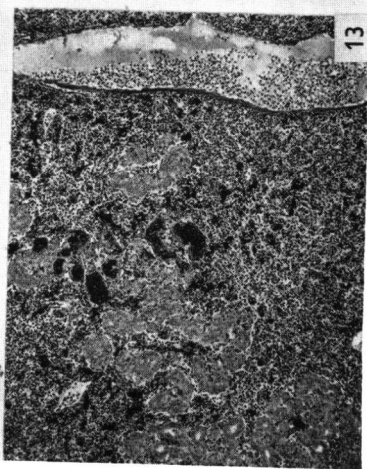
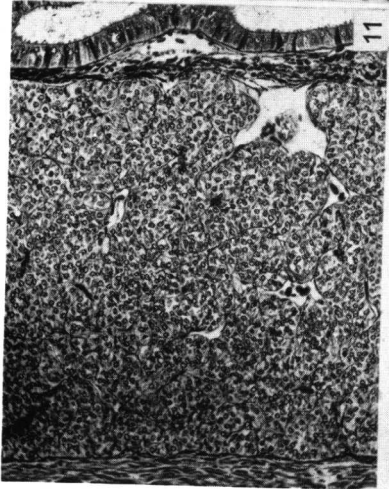
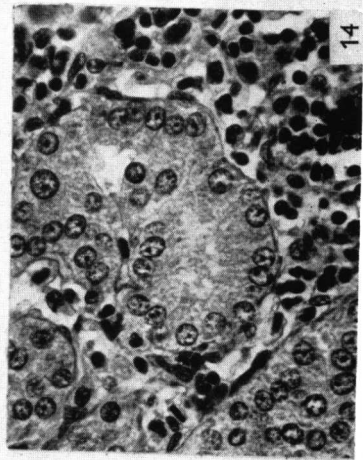
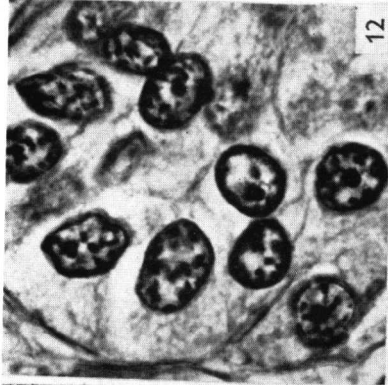
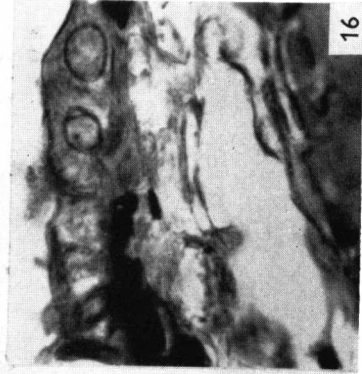
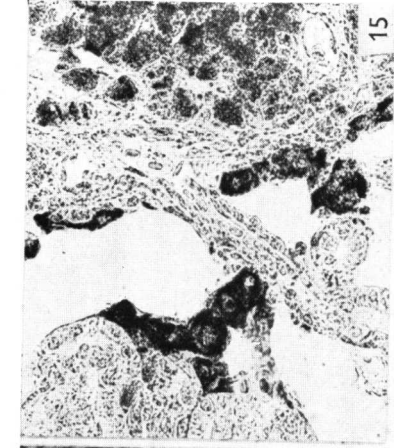


PLATE IV

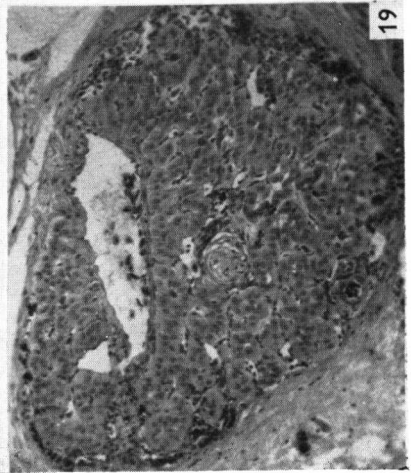
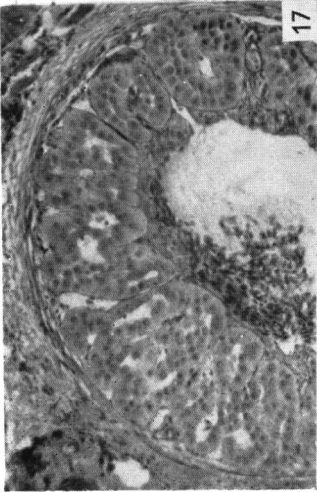
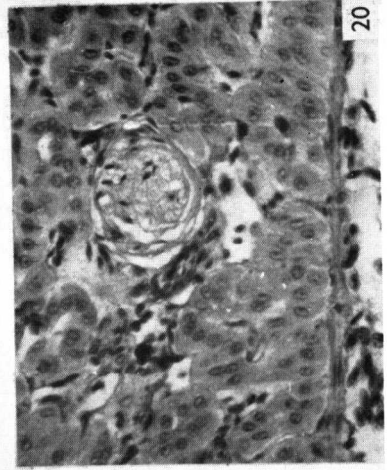
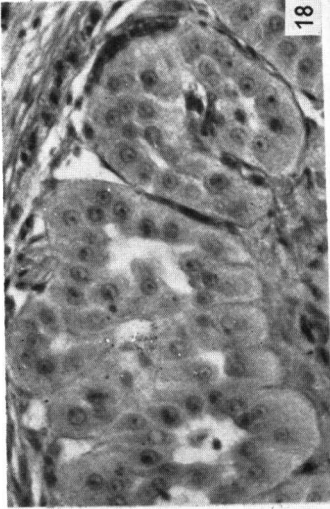
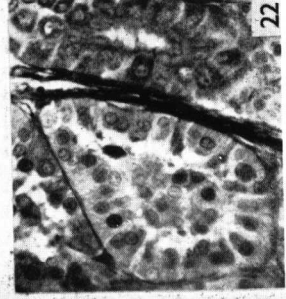
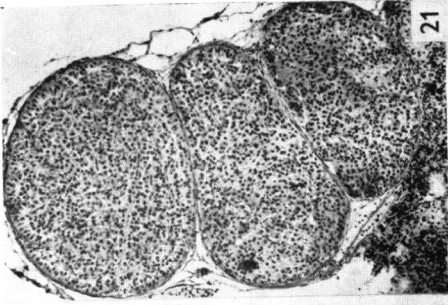


PLATE V

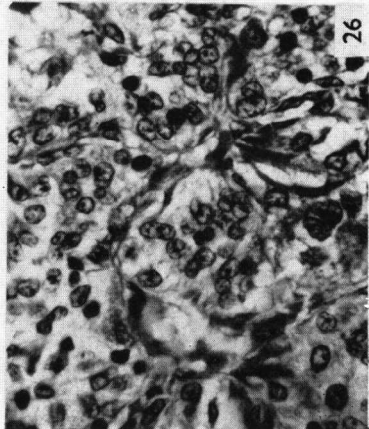
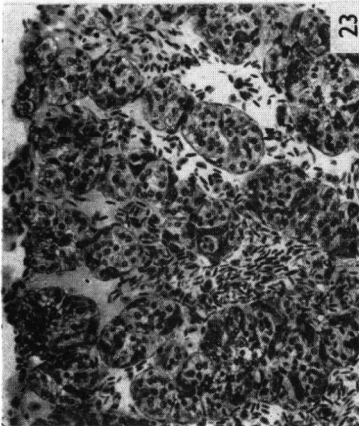
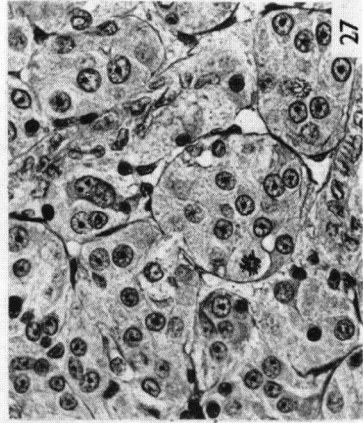
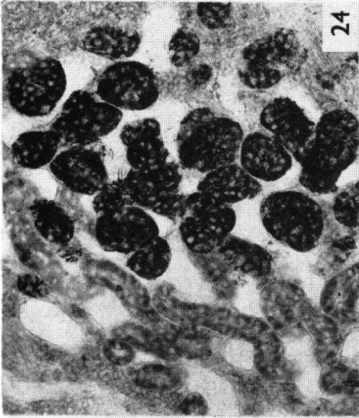
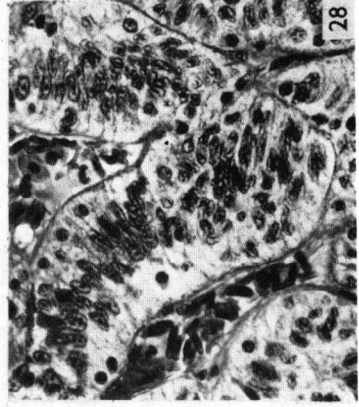
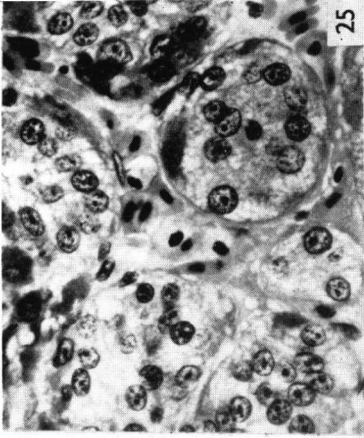


PLATE VI

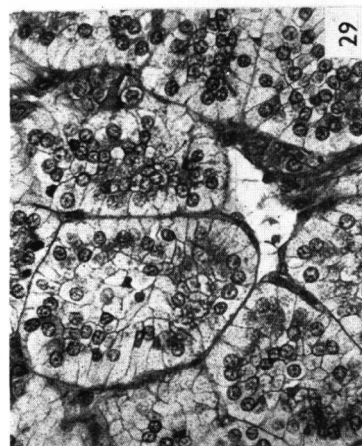
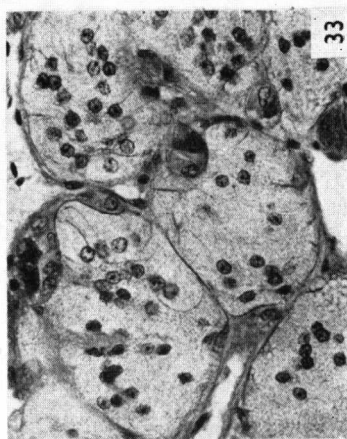
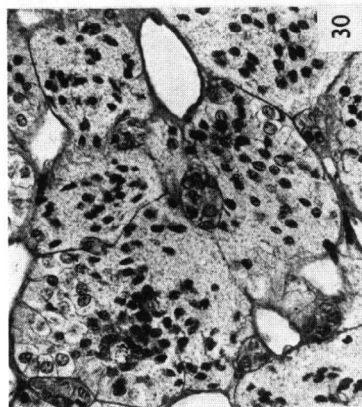
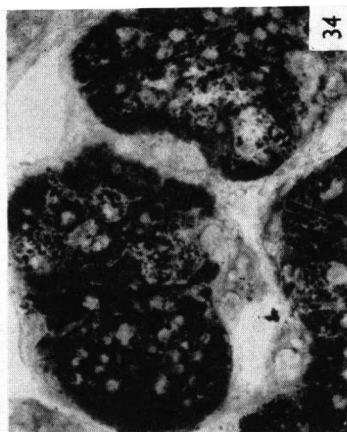


PLATE VII

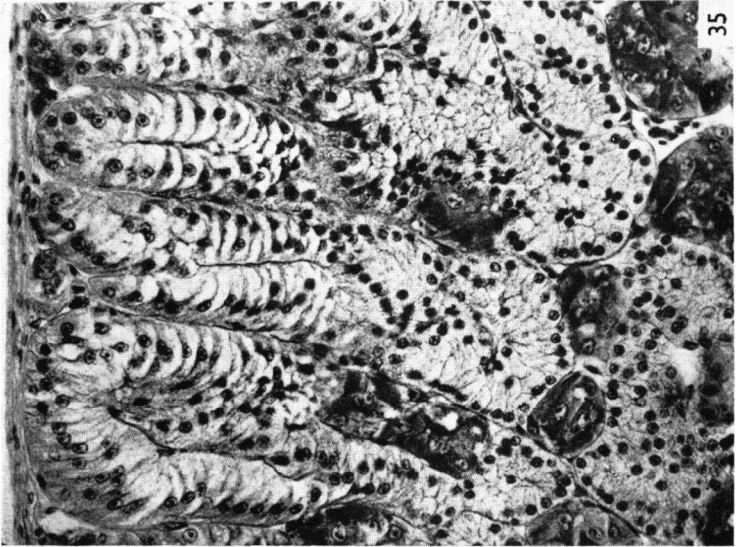
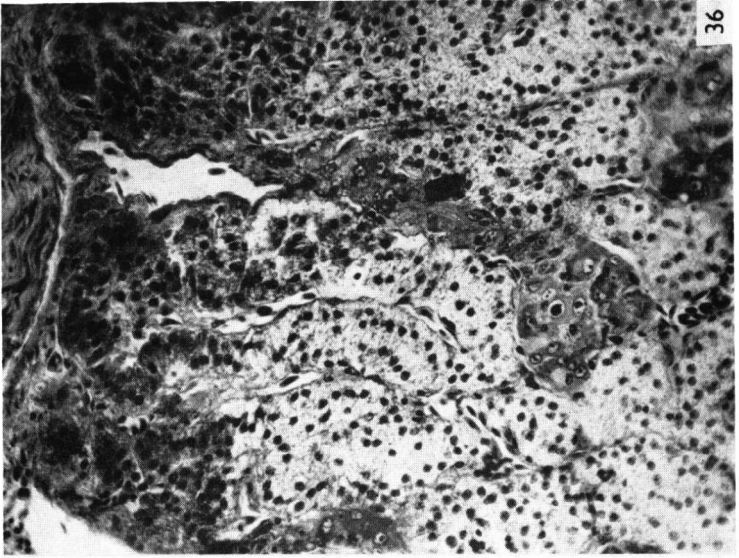


PLATE VIII

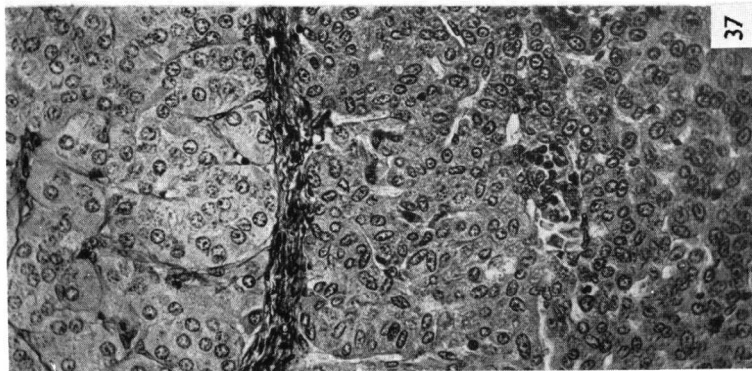
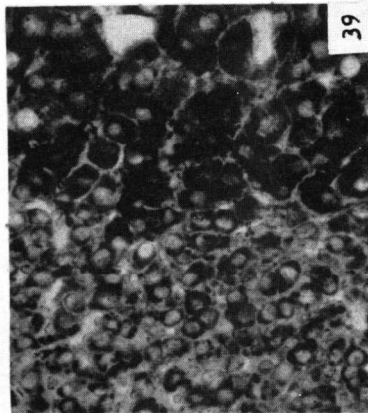
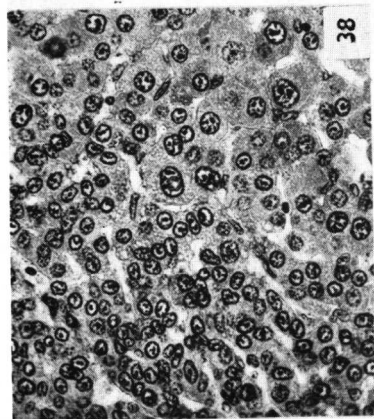
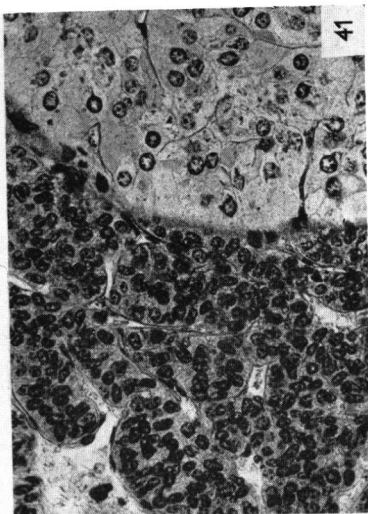
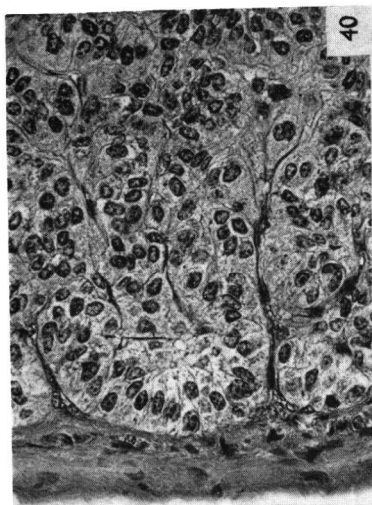
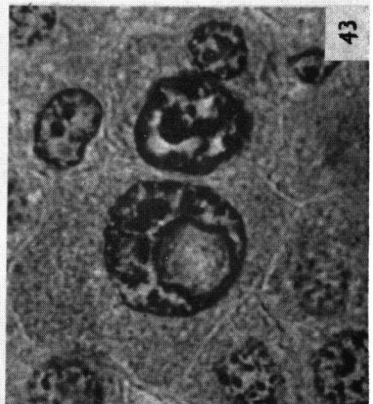
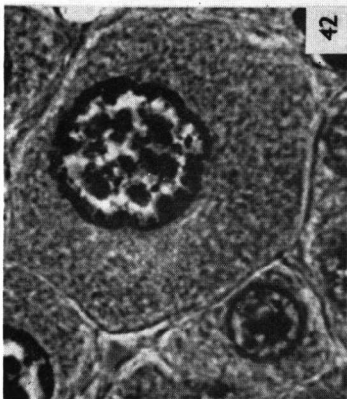
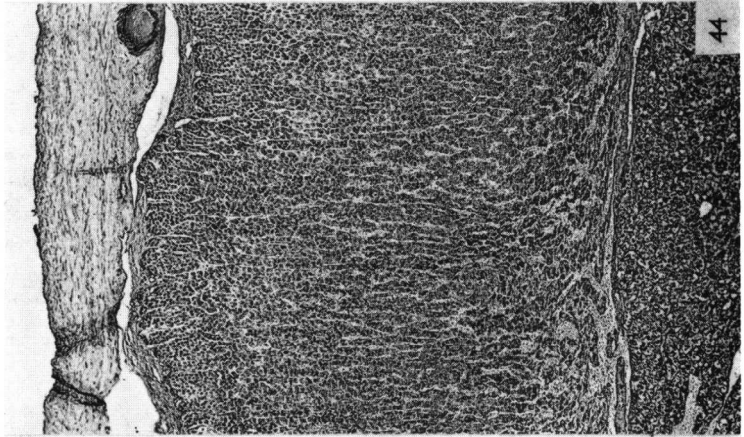
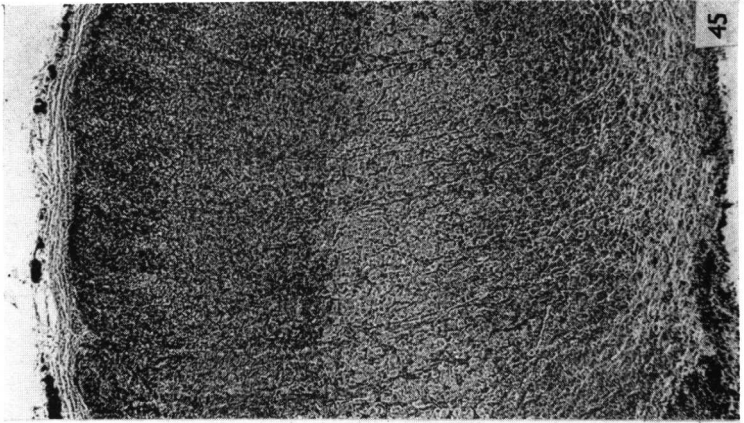


PLATE IX



PREFACE

I WROTE this book, at the suggestion of Professor P. B. Medawar, for the series of 'Cambridge Monographs in Experimental Biology'. It proved to be too long for inclusion there and now appears as a separate volume.

The Eutheria apart, the book contains a complete survey of what is known about the adrenal cortex of animals from marsupials to fish, covering the literature up to about the spring of 1955. It includes many data obtained by my research group at Liverpool. In particular, Dr A. Wright contributed to the chapter on Reptilia and, with Mr J. G. Phillips, to the section on Prototheria; Dr M. A. Fowler to that on Amphibia; Miss M. H. Spalding (Mrs Lawson) to that on Teleostei and Mr Phillips to that on steroids. To these and to Dr N. W. Nowell, Dr M. Christianson and Mr W. N. Holmes who have also worked with me in the field of comparative endocrinology, I am very grateful, especially for the lively and stimulating atmosphere they created.

The literature on the adrenal gland of the eutherian mammals is enormous and growing constantly. The chapter on the Eutheria can therefore, of necessity, be only an incomplete account. In it I have tried to give general background information and to provide a survey of current problems. As much of our information has been obtained from the rat and a few other species, it would be greatly to the advantage of the subject if a wide range of mammalian species were investigated. Moreover, it is my hope that workers will be stimulated to study also the lower vertebrates with an assiduity comparable to that bestowed on the common eutherian laboratory animals.

I am in debt to many people for their generous help in the making of this book, which, of course, remains my responsibility. I gained a great deal by being able to restart endocrinological work after the war under Professor R. O. Greep's skilled and sympathetic guidance at Harvard. More recently a travel grant from the Commonwealth Fund, generously arranged by Mr Lansing V. Hammond, allowed me to visit research centres

Preface

in the United States and to talk over problems with many workers. I am grateful to Dr W. Holmes and Dr P. Gérard for *Protopterus* material (Plate III); to Dr M. Olivereau and Mademoiselle Fromentin for microphotographs of the adrenal of the eel (Plate IV); to Professor Benoit and Dr Leroy for preparations of the duck adrenal (Plate VII); to Professor H. Waring and Dr I. G. Jarrett for freshly fixed adrenals of monotremes and marsupials (Plates VIII and IX). Professor F. G. Young was most kind in clarifying for me the present status of our knowledge of ACTH. I was helped a great deal by Professor Sir Solly Zuckerman, Professor R. J. Pumphrey, Dr C. L. Smith and Dr D. F. Cole, all of whom read either the manuscript or proofs at various stages and made many valuable suggestions. In addition Dr Cole contributed to the discussion on the action of hormones at the kidney level. Mrs Lawson assisted me throughout the preparation of the book and in the compilation of the bibliography and the index. The Cambridge University Press was at all times helpful, and tolerant of my errors.

I. C. J.

Department of Zoology

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I AM grateful to the following publishers and publications for material used in compiling the tables and text-figures noted: *Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin* (Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore), Text-figures 1 and 4; *Journal of Pathology and Bacteriology* (Oliver and Boyd, London), Table 1; *American Journal of Anatomy, Anatomical Record* (Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Text-figures 2, 5, 26, 28, 32 and 33 and Tables 13, 14, 15, 21, 27, 29, 30; *Handbuch der mikroskopischen Anatomie des Menschen*, volume 6 (Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Göttingen, Heidelberg), Text-fig. 3; *British Medical Bulletin* (British Council, London), Table 2 and Text-figures 15, 16; *Ciba Foundation Colloquia on Endocrinology* (J. and A. Churchill, London), Table 5 and Text-figure 9; *Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine* (New York), Text-figure 8; *The Hormones* (Academic Press, New York), Tables 6 and 7; *Biochemical Journal* (Cambridge University Press), Tables 10 and 11; *Transactions of the Zoological Society of London*, Text-figures 17 and 18; *Pflüger's Archiv für die gesamte Physiologie* (Springer-Verlag, Berlin), Text-figure 17; *Zeitschrift für wissenschaftliche Zoologie* (Geest und Portig, Leipzig), Text-figures 17 and 34; *Zeitschrift für mikroskopisch-anatomische Forschung* (Leipzig), Text-figures 19 and 34; *Memorie della reale Accademia delle scienze dell'Istituto di Bologna*, Text-figure 20; *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London* (Cambridge University Press), Text-figure 21; *Monitore zoologico italiano*, Text-figures 22 and 32; *Archives internationales de Physiologie* (Hermann et Cie, Paris), Tables 17 and 18; *Revista Brasileira de Biologia* (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), Table 21; *Revista de la Sociedad Argentina de Biología* (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Table 20; *Universita de Buenos Aires*, Table 21; *Growth* (Menasha, Wisconsin), Tables 21 and 25; *Anatomische Anzeiger* (Fischer, Jena), Table 22; *Endocrinology* (Banta, Menasha, Wisconsin), Table 26; *The Auk* (Cambridge, Massachusetts), Table 24; *Ohio Journal of Science* (Ohio State University and Academy of Science, Columbus, Ohio), Table 24; *Journal of Agricultural Research* (U.S. Government Printing

Acknowledgements

Office, Washington D.C.), Text-figure 27; *Journal of Pharmacology* (Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, Maryland), Text-figure 29; *American Journal of Physiology* (American Physiology Society, Waverly Press, Baltimore, Maryland), Tables 28 and 30; *Rendiconti delle sessioni della Reale Accademia delle scienze dell'Istituto di Bologna*, Text-figure 32; *Journal of the College of Science, Tokyo* (Faculty of Science, Tokyo, Japan), Text-figure 32; *Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science* (Clarendon Press, Oxford), Text-figure 32; *Hertwig's Handbuch der vergleichenden und experimentellen Entwicklungslehre der Wirbeltiere* (Fischer, Jena), Text-figure 32; *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology* (C. C. Thomas, Springfield, Illinois), Text-figure 32; *Journal of Anatomy*, London (Cambridge University Press), Text-figure 33; *The Mammalian Adrenal Gland* (Clarendon Press, Oxford), Text-figure 34; *The Life of Vertebrates* (Clarendon Press, Oxford), Text-figure 34.

NOTES

Unless otherwise stated, body weights are given in grammes and organ weights in milligrammes.

Wherever variance of a mean figure is shown, this is the standard error.

CONTENTS

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>Introduction</i>	i
I. EUTHERIA	4
(I) GROSS ANATOMY	4
Weight of adrenal glands, <i>p.</i> 6. Cortex-medulla relationship, <i>p.</i> 10.	
(II) HISTOLOGY	11
Histochemistry, <i>p.</i> 18. Accessory cortical bodies, <i>p.</i> 22. Nervous system, <i>p.</i> 22. Effects of hypophysectomy, <i>p.</i> 22. Effects of stimulation, <i>p.</i> 27.	
(III) ADRENAL STEROID HORMONES	29
Chemistry of steroids, <i>p.</i> 29. Main types of adrenal steroids, <i>p.</i> 33. Nature of circulating adrenal hormones, <i>p.</i> 39. Levels of circulating hormones, <i>p.</i> 42.	
(IV) BIOSYNTHESIS OF CORTICAL HORMONES	43
(V) CONTROL OF ADRENOCORTICAL SECRETION	47
Corticotrophin, <i>p.</i> 47. Control of corticotrophin secretion, <i>p.</i> 54.	
(VI) FUNCTIONS OF THE ADRENAL CORTEX	58
General, <i>p.</i> 58. Carbohydrate metabolism, <i>p.</i> 60. Protein metabolism, <i>p.</i> 67. Fat metabolism, <i>p.</i> 69. Muscle work, <i>p.</i> 71. Water and salt-electrolyte metabolism, <i>p.</i> 72.	
(VII) RELATIONSHIP OF THE CORTEX TO PERIPHERAL TISSUE	91
General, <i>p.</i> 91. Cartilage and bone, <i>p.</i> 92. Skin and hair, <i>p.</i> 93. Lymphatic tissue and blood cells, <i>p.</i> 94. Connective tissue, <i>p.</i> 96. Mammary tissue, <i>p.</i> 98.	

Contents

(VIII) ADRENAL-GONAD RELATIONSHIPS	<i>page</i> 99
General, <i>p.</i> 99. The X zone, <i>p.</i> 109. The foetal or transient cortex in man, <i>p.</i> 112.	
(IX) NATURAL ABNORMALITIES OF FUNCTION	115
Adrenocortical insufficiency, <i>p.</i> 115. Adrenocortical excess, <i>p.</i> 118. The diseases of adaptation, <i>p.</i> 120.	
II. PISCES	123
(I) ELASMOBRANCHII	123
(II) TELEOSTEI	131
(III) DIPNOI	141
(IV) CYCLOSTOMATA	143
III. AMPHIBIA	146
IV. REPTILIA	168
V. AVES	186
VI. PROTOTHERIA AND METATHERIA	206
(I) PROTOTHERIA	206
(II) METATHERIA	211
VII. EMBRYOLOGY	219
VIII. CORRELATION OF STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION	230
<i>References</i>	246
<i>Index</i>	303