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Book Notice

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This book consists of twelve chapters, an appendix of basic laboratory procedures or techniques in serology, and an index by subject and authors. Only one chapter is devoted entirely to infection and immunity. According to the author, "greater emphasis is placed upon serology than upon immunology, partly because more is known about it." Definitions or viewpoints, presumably the author's, on protection or immunity to infectious diseases, in which antibody becomes the major factor in all natural immunity, are probably equally responsible for this emphasis.

This concept of immunology is in contrast to the view that many biological, chemical and physical factors are involved in both native and acquired immunity, and in fact, many antigen-antibody phenomena are completely unrelated to immunity. Serious difficulty might be anticipated in the use of the book as a text in a course on immunology taught from this latter viewpoint. However, the various aspects of antigens and antibodies and their relationship to acquired immunity are adequately presented for students, "at the advanced undergraduate and early graduate level," for whom the book was intended by the author.

M. C. Dodd.