THE CHEMICAL CONTROL OF CONCEPTION

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By

JOHN R. BAKER, M.A., D.PHIL.

WITH A CHAPTER BY

H. M. CARLETON, M.A., D.PHIL.

RESEARCH FELLOW OF NEW COLLEGE AND LECTURER IN HISTOLOGY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



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JULIAN HUXLEY

FROM HIS FORMER PUPIL

PREFACE

This book is the result of many years' work, resulting from a suggestion by Dr. C. P. Blacker that a scientific study of chemical contraception should be made. I wish to thank the Birth Control Investigation Committee for its long-continued support, and in particular to express my gratitude to Dr. Blacker, who, as its Secretary, has always been generous with advice and encouragement. Professor E. S. Goodrich, F.R.S., has kindly allowed the work to be done in the Department of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy at Oxford. Since the spring of 1932 Mr. R. M. Ranson has worked with me on this subject, and has not only performed a large number of tests of spermicidal power, but also has made many valuable suggestions for the improvement of the technique. Dr. J. M. Gulland gave me the great benefit of his knowledge of organic chemistry during the course of the work on the mode of action of the aldehydes, phenols and quinones, and synthesized many substances for trial, some of which had not been prepared before. This part of the work could not have been done without his collaboration. Dr. H. M. Carleton has always worked in close collaboration with me, and has kindly written a chapter on the morbid histology

PREFACE

of chemical contraception, of which he has made a special study under the auspices of the Birth Control Investigation Committee.

A summary is given at the end of each chapter.

JOHN R. BAKER.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE ANATOMY, OXFORD.

June, 1935.

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