MATERIALS & METHODS

The following is a generalized account of the species of animals used in the study and the technique employed in various experiments in order to avoid repetition. The details regarding the number of animals used, the dosage and duration of treatment and other experimental procedures will be given under each individual section.

Animals

Rats. — Young male albino rats from the inbred colony of the Central Drug Research Institute were used. The experimental animals along with their appropriate controls were kept under uniform husbandary conditions and their initial and final body weights were recorded.

Mice. — Male albino mice of an inbred strain imported from Switzerland and bred in this Institute were used.

Hormones and other drugs used

Testosterone propionate, U.S.P. (Chas. Pfizer & Co., U.S.A.). — This hormone, dissolved in sterile sesame oil, was administered by intramuscular injections.

Thyroxine. — The l-thyroxine-sodium (Eltroxin, Glaxo Laboratories, Bombay) was dissolved in distilled water and was administered orally.
Thiourea. — This drug, dissolved in sterile distilled water was administered through subcutaneous injections.

Biochemical, histological and histochemical techniques employed.

Adrenal ascorbic acid. — This was estimated according to the method of Karkun et al. (1955). Each gland was homogenized in an acetate buffer and the protein was precipitated with trichloroacetic acid. The vitamin was finally estimated from the filtrate by the method of Bessey et al. (1947).

Adrenal cholesterol. — Each gland was homogenized in glacial acetic acid and the total cholesterol was estimated from the filtrate according to the method of Roy et al. (1955a).

Serum potassium. — The potassium content of the serum was determined according to the method of Kramer and Tisdal (1921) as modified by Jacobs and Hoffman (1931).

Gross histology of glands. — The glands were fixed in 10 per cent neutral formalin. Serial paraffin sections of the glands were stained with Ehrlich's haematoxylin followed by alcoholic eosin.

Sudanophilia. — The adrenals were fixed in 10 per cent neutral formalin. Sudanophilia was studied in frozen sections stained with sudan IV.