

to policy they have been amply justified by experience. Yet, in these times of economic stringency, the policy-makers may wish to know whether, for example, the provision of a particular vitamin concentrate to pregnant women can safely be discontinued. Survey data will not provide an answer except in terms of current intake levels and standards. A more precise answer must await the acquisition of more detailed physiological knowledge, or must be obtained *ad hoc* by means of a carefully controlled feeding experiment—an undertaking even more difficult than a field survey.

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Placental transmission and foetal nutrition

By E. C. AMOROSO, *Royal Veterinary College and Hospital, London*

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