and will be a good jumping-off ground for those taking the MCB and the Final Examination. There is a good index but one or two pages show evidence of slips in proof-reading.

M. G. RINSLER

Theory and Practice of Histological Techniques. Edited by John D. Bancroft and Alan Stevens, with a Foreword by I. M. P. Dawson. (Pp. 436; illustrated; £13.00.) Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone. 1977.

This beautifully produced book will be welcomed alike by trainee histopathologists and trainee medical laboratory technicians. It contains quite superb theoretical accounts of light microscopy, fixation, and tissue processing methods and then deals with staining techniques for various tissue constituents; there follow chapters on the more specialised techniques involved in bone and neuropathology, enzyme histochemistry, cytology, electron microscopy, autoradiography, immunofluorescence, and museum specimen preparation. The chapter on exfoliative cytology deserves particular commendation.

Junior technicians in the department thought it would provide a much needed standard text for use in preparation for ONC and HNC examinations; senior technical colleagues were also enthusiastic but considered that, for use at the bench, some greater details were required and that there should be a section on precautions and safety in the laboratory.

The book does not exhaust alternative methods. There are some notable omissions, for example, the orcein method for HBs antigen. Whereas the chapter on amyloid seems a disproportionately lengthy 20 pages, immunofluorescence is dealt with in seven and other immunohistochemical methods which are now becoming routine are not discussed. These criticisms, however, can be met in future editions which the demand for this excellent text will ensure.

R. N. M. MACSWEEN

Education and Training for Clinical Chemistry. Edited by Martin Rubin and Per Lous. (Pp. 196; £6.50) Lancaster: MTP Press Ltd. 1977.

The delivery of a chemical pathology (clinical chemistry) service has become more complex over recent years in terms of both the underlying chemistry and its technology. The clinical, scientific, and

technical skills required to support such a service must be based on a good and comprehensive educational system. In this book the training programmes of 42 countries are examined in some detail against the background of the laboratory organisation in each on behalf of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry. The authors recommend a broadly based educational programme to be supported by national and international bodies.

M. G. RINSLER

Special Tumors of Ovary and Testis. Comparative Pathology and Histological Identification. 2nd edition. By Gunnar Teilum. (Pp. 513; illustrated; D.Kr. 380.00.) Copenhagen; Munksgaard. 1976.

The first (1971) edition of this magnificent work shed untold new light on the complex interrelationship of ovarian and testicular tumours and their extragonadal cousins. This second edition, based on a life-time's study by an acknowledged authority, deals first with theoretical and experimental aspects and then systematically describes the individual tumours, the emphasis being on practical histological identification. One senses the enthusiastic collector presenting his treasures, beautifully illustrated for others to recognise. His frequent references to endodermal sinus (yolk sac) tumour are understandable now that alpha-fetoprotein studies have supported his original concept of its histogenesis. His classification of testicular tumours differs from that of the British Testicular Tumour Panel but the two are easily correlated.

The simple concise text gives the book an almost biblical authority. Any pathologist dealing, even occasionally, with gonadal neoplasms should seek an opportunity of browsing through this book and would thereafter almost certainly covet a copy for his department.

N. J. BROWN

Scanning Electron Microscopy. Proceedings of the 10th Annual SEM Symposium, Chicago, 1977. Edited by Om Johari and R. P. Becker. (Vol. I, pp. 784; \$32.50. Vol. II, pp. 720; \$31. Two-volume set \$53.50.) Chicago: IIT Research Institute.

Volume I includes workshops on materials science, analytical electron microscopy, and biological specimen preparation. Volume II includes workshops on SEM

as an aid in diagnosis, and other biomedical applications.

The 1977 proceedings follow the same general pattern as the preceding parts of this series (*Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 30, 298). Volume I, mainly technical, contains papers on practical topics such as dimensional changes, new dehydration methods, and specimen conductivity. There is a beginner's bibliography of basic techniques, and Humphreys' paper on health and safety hazards should be read in every EM laboratory.

In Volume II there is a workshop on SEM in diagnosis. As Nopanitaya says of liver biopsies, this is 'only a first tentative step' in the direction of a genuine diagnostic role for SEM but glimpses of the potential are clearly seen. Abraham's emphasis on tissue x-ray analysis is a fair statement of the current proven uses of this technique. Buss and Hellweg's review of blood vessels and McKee's review of SEM in medical microbiology will prove of interest to specialists. There are numerous other contributions in different areas of biomedical science.

These well-produced books are an invaluable source of information on current developments in an expanding field with which the well-informed pathologist will want to keep in touch.

P. G. TONER

A Colour Atlas of Cardiac Pathology. By Geoffrey Farrer-Brown. (Pp. 158; 408 colour figures; £13.00) London: Wolfe Medical Publications. 1977.

This atlas consists of some 370 colour illustrations of gross and microscopic cardiac pathology and over 40 radiographs, mainly of cardiac vasculature.

Dr. Farrer-Brown has obviously photographed and chosen his material with care, and the colours of the transparencies have been reproduced faithfully. The result is a collection of realistic representations of necropsy, museum, and surgical material which, with only occasional exceptions, convey their messages clearly at first glance. In general, the technical production is also good although a few pictures are noticeably too small.

The book is aimed at a mixed readership which includes clinical students and junior pathologists, for whom there are ample views of normal anatomy and common abnormalities and an easily understood series on congenital cardiac pathology. Over a quarter of the contents