tenance of glucose homeostasis.

The overall standard of the contributions, as might be expected, is high, providing fascinating reading for both clinician and medical scientist at an acceptable price.

P. D. GRIFFITHS

Salmonella—The Food Poisoner. A Report by a Study Group of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. (Pp. 51; illustrated; £1.00.) London: British Association for the Advancement of Science. 1978

This is a well-produced booklet, written in language the layman could understand. It describes the problems associated with salmonellas in livestock, in the food chain, and in man. The measures to be taken to reduce salmonella food poisoning are discussed. These include the reduction in the recycling of salmonellas in farm animals by good animal husbandry, the use of safe feedstuffs, and the disposal of slurry.

Attention is paid to the conditions in abattoirs and poultry processing plants. Finally, safe handling of food in the kitchen—by housewives or professional caterers—is designed to ensure that living salmonellas do not reach the plates of the consumers. Those who teach domestic science or catering would find this booklet useful.

JOAN R. DAVIES

The New Police Surgeon: a Practical Guide to Clinical Forensic Medicine. Edited by S. H. Burges. (Pp. 560; illustrated; £18.00.) London: Hutchinson Benham. 1978.

This fat discursive book is written by 22 authors, most of whom are practising police surgeons. If a pathologist wishes to take up part-time police surgeoning he will undoubtedly do a good practical job if he reads right through it. However, it is not a book to consult upon difficult matters of interpretation, even for example on the toxicology of alcohol, which is dealt with very shortly, despite the fact that alcohol is involved in the majority of cases seen by police surgeons. Most forensic pathologists will be taken aback by the advice given on how to make a report. The specimen statement on the visit to a scene of death is verbose to the extent of actually using the phrase 'I proceeded to' and gives opinions as to the cause of the injuries that should be given by the forensic pathologist. It even usurps

the duties of the judge and jury and says that the injuries to the victim indicate that the assailant 'had lost complete control of himself, resulting in a brutal savage and maniacal attack on a defenceless elderly woman'. However, although there are things like these to criticise, this book is a very sensible and practical work.

A. C. HUNT

Recent Advances in Clinical Immunology. No. 1. Edited by R. A. Thompson. (Pp. 299; illustrated; £10.00.) Edinburgh, London, New York: Churchill Livingstone. 1977.

In these days of rapid advances in the application of immunology to clinical practice it is hard to keep abreast of all areas of development in this large field. The arrival of a review series in this area is consequently particularly welcome. Dr Thompson has chosen his first batch of reviews well. There are chapters on: protein calorie malnutrition; amyloidosis; ageing and immune function; the immunopathology of schistosomiasis; immune complexes; human T and B lymphocytes in blood; abnormalities in circulating phagocyte function; anti-lymphocyte globulin; replacement therapy in immunodeficiency; immunotherapy of human leukaemia; and, finally, the treatment of allergic disease. This is a lot to cover in just under 300 pages, but the editor, in restricting the length of articles, has made the authors emphasise the important.

Although there is some variation in the quality of chapters I found them all to contain useful information, and there is a generally high level of clarity. The printing and illustrations are clear. There are plenty of references (happily with titles) for those who wish to go further with any point. This volume is not just for immunologists, and I can warmly recommend it to clinical pathologists who wish to learn more of the immunological aspects of disease.

I. C. M. MACLENNAN

A Dictionary of Immunology. Second edition. Edited by W. J. Herbert and P. C. Wilkinson. (Pp. 194; illustrated; £3.50.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1977.

As with any other specialist subject, immunology has its own jargon, which is incomprehensible to the outsider. This

is the more so as much of this jargon has been coined in the last few years. This dictionary attempts to help those who, as yet, have a poor understanding of the immunological language. In many aspects it succeeds. In general, it seems to be pitched at a fairly low level, and the definitions appear rather basic and occasionally simplistic. Consequently, the professional immunologist, who wishes to look up the odd unfamiliar word, is likely to be frustrated, and many entries could not be taken as the final authority as to the precise definition of a particular term. For example, myeloma appears to be taken as a synonym for plasmacytoma, and the definition of K cell does not even mention antibody-dependent lymphocyte-mediated cytotoxicity. In these days of rapid expansion of immunogenetics it is perhaps surprising to find no entry under haplotype or polymorphism.

On the other hand, the dictionary is particularly good in relation to the microbiological aspects of immunity.

In summary, I would recommend this book to the beginner in immunology and to the outsider. It is probably not a particularly good reference source for the experienced immunologist.

I. C. M. MACLENNAN

The Treatment of Haemophilia A and B and von Willebrand's Disease. Edited by Rosemary Biggs. (Pp. xii + 242; illustrated; £12.) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1977.

Dr Biggs and her colleagues from Oxford deal with the coagulation system, the diagnosis of the haemophilias, their treatment and its complications, home treatment, the provision of clotting factor concentrates, and, finally, some of the metaphysical problems posed by these diseases. Her book is not designed to be a practical guide for day-to-day management. For instance, the treatment of haematuria is dismissed in only six lines, but the kinetics of interaction of factor VIII with antibody is discussed in six pages. Today's core problem is joint disease, but its treatment merits only a couple of pages and only from the haematological point of view. There is little guidance about school or work, and the book must have gone to print too late to include the new data about chronic liver disease and liver biopsy.

The editor has made amends for the sparse description of clinical treatment by

fully covering the academic topics which interest her, such as the nature of factor VIII and antibody, and its assay. There are stimulating discussions of the organisation of haemophilia treatment, and a condemnation of the present NHS attitude to patient care. Anyone already competent at managing haemophilic patients will derive pleasure and profit from reading this book.

D. I. K. EVANS

Problem Solving in Immuno-Hematology. Case Reports for Pathologists and Medical Technologists. By Arthur Simmons. (Pp. ix + 204; £11.50.) Chicago and London: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1977.

This is an interesting and novel approach to blood group serology, in which the author takes the reader through a limited number of problems step by step. Case reports are followed by preliminary investigations and comments. The trainee is then set a few questions covering further investigations before turning the page to see how the master has proceeded.

There are six sections dealing with special areas of serology, such as blood typing problems, the direct antiglobulin test, etc, plus an appendix with flow diagrams for laboratory procedures.

Although the binding is of a 'lay flat' design and the preface suggests that this is a bench manual, it is certainly not comprehensive enough for reference purposes. Some examination candidates will enjoy the style and, hopefully, use the book as an adjunct to and not as a substitute for bench experience; its greatest attribute is to encourage a logical approach.

The reviewer was completely confounded by the first case of an ABO anomaly, which turned out to be due to the presence of acriflavine antibody in the patient. This seemed a little unfair when the preface states that the idea is to 'give a realistic feel for everyday problems in blood banking'. Maybe this is an everyday problem in New Jersey where they like to put acriflavine dye in their anti-B.

V. J. JENKINS

Notices

1st South East Asian and Pacific Congress of Clinical Biochemistry

This congress will be held at the Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore from 14 to 19 October 1979 inclusive. It is the first major international meeting of clinical biochemists in South East Asia and is being sponsored by the IFCC and jointly organised by the Singapore and the Australian Associations of Clinical Biochemists (SACB and AACB).

Enquiries for further information may be obtained from the Congress Chairman, Dr Tan It-Koon, C/- Singapore Professional Centre, 129B Block 23, Outram Park, Singapore 3, Republic of Singapore.

AFIP Continuing Medical Education Courses

Research Methods for Cytologists, 23-27 April 1979.

Basic Cytopathology for Aspiring and Practising Pathologists, 30 April-4 May 1979.

Further information may be obtained from the Director, AFIP (ED2), Washington, DC 20306, USA.

Books received

IARC Monographs:

Volume 15:

The Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Man. Some Fumigants, the Herbicides 2,4-D, and 2,4,5-T. Chlorinated Dibenzodioxins and Miscellaneous Industrial Chemicals. (Sw.fr. 50; US\$ 20.)

Volume 16:

The Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Man. Some Aromatic Amines and Related Nitro Compounds—Hair Dyes, Colouring Agents and Miscellaneous Industrial Chemicals. (Sw.fr. 50; US\$ 20.)

Volume 17:

The Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Humans. Some N-Nitroso Compounds. (Sw.fr. 50; US\$ 25.)

IARC Scientific Publications:

No. 18:

Environmental Carcinogens—Selected Methods of Analysis. Volume 1—Analysis of Volatile Nitrosamines in Food. Edited by R. Preussmann, M. Castegnaro, E. A. Walker, and A. E. Wassermann. (Sw.fr. 90; US\$ 45.)

No. 19:

Environmental Aspects of N-Nitroso Compounds. Edited by E. A. Walker, M. Castegnaro, L. Gričute and R. E. Lynch. (Sw.fr. 100; US\$ 50.) (Proceedings of a Working Conference held at the New England Center for Continuing Education, New Hampshire, USA, 22-24 August 1977.)

Distributed for IARC by the World Health Organization. Copies available from HM Stationery Office.