

would be an excellent introduction for cell biologists interested in membranes.

M. S. C. BIRBECK

Cancer Chemotherapy—Fundamental Concepts and Recent Advances. (Pp. xiii + 577; illustrated; £17.30.) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers. 1975.

This book contains a collection of 32 papers presented at the 19th Annual Clinical Conference on Cancer (1974) of the University of Texas, MD Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute. Twenty-two of the papers were contributed by members of the local hospital staff. The conference was intended to emphasize the expanding role of cancer chemotherapy in the management of cancer patients, and 16 papers are concerned directly with the chemotherapy of different human tumours. There are also papers on cell kinetic principles, animal models as predictive systems, immunological aspects of chemotherapy, and prospectives for immunotherapy for human sarcomas. The book contains the Heath Memorial Award Lecture of 1974 given by Dr. Gordon Zubrod on the 'Contributions of Chemotherapy to the Control of Cancer'. While several of the papers contain information not published elsewhere, the majority are review articles based on information available in the summer of 1974. The article by Carbone on the 'Role of Chemotherapy in Treatment for Breast Cancer' lists six breast cancer adjuvant studies, two of which have since reported significant decreases in tumour recurrence rates. Several articles refer to recent advances in the management of mesenchymal tumours and testicular cancer with chemotherapy. The book, which is well produced, is dedicated to the memory of Myron Karon, who died shortly after the meeting. Although the quality of the individual contribution is high, the fact that little new information is presented and the price will deter many from buying this book.

M. H. N. TATTERSALL

Histochemical Techniques. 2nd edition. By J. D. Bancroft. (Pp. ix + 348; illustrated; £9.50.) London and Boston: Butterworths. 1975.

This technical manual stands somewhere between the general books on histological technique and the more specialized ones devoted to histochemistry. It includes

standard methods for carbohydrates, lipids, pigments, minerals, and nucleic acids as well as those for enzymes. Thus it serves the admirable purpose of linking histological techniques in general use with the specialized techniques of enzyme histochemistry and anything which breaks down the artificial barrier that has been built up around histochemistry, suggesting that this is something special, different, and difficult, is to be encouraged. The text would be improved by more use of chemical formulae and equations in the explanation of the mechanism of histochemical methods. Chemical techniques need chemical language.

Because of the inclusive definition of histochemistry this small book may appear incomplete to the technologist at the bench as it does not provide techniques for fibrillar proteins such as reticulin but it does give detailed methods for the demonstration of reactive groups within the protein molecule; there are still many laboratories more likely to demand the demonstration of the former than the latter. For this reason, while this is unlikely to replace the established reference and general texts that are already in histopathology laboratories, it should continue as a useful addition.

R. A. B. DRURY

IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Man. Volume 8: Some Aromatic Azo Compounds. (Pp. 357; Sw. Fr. 26.) Lyon: International Agency for Research on Cancer. 1975. Distributed for IARC by the World Health Organization.

The latest volume in this series summarizes laboratory and clinical data on 32 aromatic azo compounds, many of which are widely used as artificial colourants. The format is similar to that followed in the previous seven monographs except that comments on mutagenicity are now included. None of the compounds considered here has been shown to be carcinogenic for man though at least one of them—*para*-dimethylaminoazobenzene—has long been recognized as a potent hepatocarcinogen in rats. Although providing a useful summary of a scattered literature, this particular volume in the Lyon series is less likely to be of direct interest to the hospital pathologist than its predecessors; but it will have performed a useful service if it stimulates the histopathologist (in particular) to look

more closely at some of the chemicals that are regularly used in his laboratory.

R. L. CARTER

Diseases of Muscle: a Study in Pathology, 3rd edition. By Raymond D. Adams. (Pp. xvi + 588; illustrated; \$35.00.) New York and London: Harper and Rowe. 1975.

The previous editions of this standard work were published under joint authorship but Professors D. Denny-Brown and Carl Pearson have retired, and Raymond Adams has produced an entirely new volume. It can be highly commended. Much new material has been added, notably in the fields of ultrastructure and chemistry. Functional and experimental as well as purely morphological aspects of muscle in both health and disease are covered. It is a measure of the author's ability to handle a large quantity of data in a concise and lucid manner that the present edition is only 32 pages longer than the original work published in 1953. Although this is essentially a book for the specialist, it is also a work of reference for the general histopathologist and is worthy of a place in the laboratory. The illustrations are excellent. By the standards of today it is reasonably priced. The only serious fault in the book is in the index; an example is Zenker's degeneration associated with thryotoxicosis which the index claims is dealt with on page 595. A remarkable piece of information considering the book contains only 588 pages!

M. S. DUNNILL

Opportunistic Fungal Infections. Edited by Ernest W. Chick, Albert Balows, and Michael L. Furcolow. (Pp. x + 359; illustrated; \$22.50.) Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1975.

This book consists of a collection of papers given at the Second International Conference on Opportunistic Fungal Infections held in 1972. The papers are grouped under six headings: Scope of opportunistic fungal infections; Serological and immunological aspects; Clinical aspects; Specific diseases; Veterinary aspects; Therapeutic aspects.

Individual chapters vary greatly as to their interest and value, and not all (as admitted by the authors themselves) justify inclusion under the title of the book. Immunological procedures, fluorescent antibody techniques, immunodiffu-



Cancer Chemotherapy— Fundamental Concepts and Recent Advances

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