**Book reviews**

weaving of structure and function in the immunoclinical section is unsurpassed. The only quarrel one has with the editors is the dilemma they pose to bench workers wishing not unnaturally to take the recipe book to the kitchen and who yet have a respect for print and illustrations of this quality. Only vandals would carelessly besmirch these pages with coffee and picric acid. A handout of copying paper and protective binders should be mandatory with each sale.

AM DENMAN


Some scientific topics grow by diffusion to such an extent that only a broad review can give perspective to their complexity. Hexachlorobenzene falls into this class. Starting from a major epidemic of human poisoning in Turkey in the late 1950’s, there have been studies of its biochemical effects in causing porphyria, of its general toxicity, of its ubiquitous environmental dissemination and persistence as a pesticide and as a contaminant, and latterly as the cause of a novel pattern of immunotoxicity.

This book, the report of a comprehensive conference in 1985, contains information to excite the physician, toxicologist, and biochemist interested in porphyria and enzyme induction, to inform those who analyse and model environmental contamination, and to guide immunologists looking at the effects of chemicals on lymphoid tissues.

It is a valuable compendium of clinical and experimental studies of a compound that is both medically interesting and a practical problem.

AD DAYAN


This book is by 19 authors, all working in the United States. The chapters cover the epidemiology, pathogenesis, morphology, immunocytochemistry, and clinical management of testicular tumours and related lesions. Most of the figures are good. The references are copious and up to date, but the final page number of papers has been omitted, which is irritating. The classification used for germ cell neoplasms is the American version, and I am told by my clinical colleagues that the treatments described for testicular tumours are in many aspects different from those used currently in the United Kingdom.

It would be easy to be dismissive, but I think this would be wrong. There are a lot of recent data on incidence, clinical features, and pathogenesis; the morphology of tumours and tumour-like conditions is clearly set out; and there are many newly reported lesions which have been described in detail. Its virtues on the whole outweigh its faults. I think you should look through the book, and then buy it.

D LOWE


This volume discusses an interesting selection of topics on paediatric respiratory and alimentary tract disease. The first chapter is a biography by D Bain on Agnes Rose Macgregor, a former reader in pathology of diseases of infancy and childhood in the University of Edinburgh and relates to how her career spanned neonatal pathology, from its infancy to the established role it has today, and the major influence her work had on many aspects of paediatric pathology.

The respiratory chapters forming the first half of the book start with B Robertson discussing the pathology of neonatal surfactant deficiency, a very topical subject as much recent research is being conducted using synthetic and animal surfactants. Then rarer pulmonary diseases such as idiopathic pulmonary haemosiderosis and the pulmonary changes in thalassaemia major are discussed.

In the gastrointestinal part there is a detailed discussion of oesophageal biopsy in children and the changes seen in gastroesophageal reflux. An unusual approach is taken to the normal anatomy of the myentric plexus by BH Landing, where he uses a maceration-microdissection technique to demonstrate a circuit diagram of the nerve plexus at various levels of the gastrointestinal tract. The final two conditions discussed, Indian childhood cirrhosis and degenerative leiomypathy are interesting rare conditions with a distinctive geographical distribution.

This is an excellent, well illustrated book and can be strongly recommended to both paediatric and general pathologists and those interested in paediatric respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases.

HELENE C REES


This volume consists of in depth reviews of individual enzymes of diagnostic importance considered separately in 11 chapters. Each chapter begins with a series of clinical case studies with interpretation of the laboratory findings. This is followed by a section on the biochemistry and physiology of the enzyme being considered, a comprehensive account of its changes in disease, a critique of methods for its analysis, and a full reference list. The volume closes with a series of multiple choice questions for self-study.

The volume is outstandingly interesting, well prepared, and comprehensive, and is largely free of errors. Drs Lott and Wolf (who prepared most of the material, with additional contributions from Drs Nemesanszky and Sawhney) are to be congratulated on its production. The book is clearly and attractively written and up to date. I would regard it as a “must” for anyone with an interest in clinical enzymology, either physician or clinical biochemist.

SB ROSALKI


This book is indeed a tribute to Hugh Johnson, who died so suddenly last year. For those of us who had the privilege to know and admire him not only as a forensic pathologist above reproach, but as a great friend and colleague, he will be greatly missed. One looks on this text as a living memorial to Hugh and in so doing one should compliment Evan Stone for seeing the text to its completion.

It is designed as a third volume of a major new series on English criminal law, primarily for use by legal practitioners and others
without medical qualifications to understand the principles of forensic pathology and to apply them in criminal cases and personal injury litigation. In spite of the legal section being kept to a minimum and the avoidance of reference to forensic psychiatry and toxicology it is a textbook which will be consulted, if and when required, by members of the legal profession on particular topics with which they are concerned. It is written in clear and comprehensible layman’s language—typical of Hugh Johnson giving evidence.

It is highly and unreservedly recommended not only for students of criminal law but for all medics whether they be undergraduates, or postgraduate students, consultants, police surgeons, or forensic pathologists.

J M CAMERON


This is a review of two of nine slide collections produced by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and edited by a panel of three distinguished soft tissue pathologists. The remaining collections in the series are entitled Fibrous Histiocytic Lesions, Round or Small Cell Sarcomas, Fibroblast Tumours, Adipose Tissue Tumours, Vascular Tumours, Peripheral Nervous System Tumours, and Miscellaneous Soft Tissue Tumours.

Pseudosarcomatous (Proliferative) Fibroblastic Lesions—the entities covered in this collection are nodular fascitis, proliferative myositis, and myositis ossificans. The collection consists of 42 colour slides for projection which include gross and microscopic appearances. A small handbook accompanies the slides. This contains summaries of the classification, clinical features, pathological findings, natural history, and prognosis of these entities. In addition, there are succinct and good descriptions accompanying each slide which are intended to illustrate specific histological features and the range of changes that characterise these lesions. The slides are of good quality and succeed in their aim.

Striated and Smooth Muscle Tumours—the format of this collection is identical with that above. There are 52 slides illustrating the various subtypes of benign and malignant smooth and striated muscle tumours.

This series is intended primarily for surgical pathologists in training. If these two collections are representatives of the series I think trainee pathologists would find these a useful introduction to a complex and often perplexing branch of histopathology. This series would be an expensive luxury for any department and such a sum of money may be more usefully spent in buying a copy or two of the excellent Soft Tissue Tumours by Enzinger and Weiss.

S KHAN

Notices

“Gastritis—what is new?”
Pathology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine
Tuesday 15 March 1988
Topics include: aetiology of gastritis, isolation and mechanisms of pathogenicity of Campylobacter pylori, clinical perspectives and treatment, and epidemiology of gastritis and its relation to gastric cancer.

For further information please contact: Miss Judy Cook, Sections Officer, The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE.

Liver Transplant Meeting
25–26 March 1988
The Clinical School, Addenbrooke’s Hospital, Cambridge
The meeting is intended for anaesthetists, physicians, biochemists, haematologists, immunologists, and nurses, as well as surgeons to discuss problems generated by liver transplantation. It will consist of clinical presentations of various aspects of the care of patients, workshop and poster sessions.

Further details from: Dr J V Farman, Postgraduate Medical Centre, The Clinical School, Addenbrooke’s Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2QQ.

Postgraduate Course in Gynaecological and Obstetric Pathology with Clinical Correlation
April 11–15 1988
This course is designed for pathologists and obstetrician-gynaecologists at houseman and practitioner levels. It will provide an in depth review of gynaecological and obstetric pathology with emphasis on morphological diagnostic features and clinicopathological correlation, including management. Special attention will be paid to recent advances and newly recognised entities. Instruction will be primarily by lecture, but will also include case presentations and discussion periods. Each participant will receive a comprehensive course syllabus.

For further information contact: Department of Continuing Education, Harvard Medical School, 25 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115, USA.

Fifth International Symposium on Morphometry in Morphological Diagnosis
14–17 September 1988
The Fifth International Symposium on Morphometry in Morphological Diagnosis will be held 14–17 September 1988 at the University of Ancona, Italy. The meeting will focus on the following topics: Methods and training in quantitative pathology; quantitative pathology in the classification, grading, and prognosis of tumours; flow and static cytometry—techniques and applications; quantitation in non-tumour pathology; diagnostic cytopathology and cytometry.

The organising committee consists of: JPA Baak (The Netherlands), Y Collan (Finland), GM Mariuzzo (Italy), G Slavin (United Kingdom), P Tosi (Italy), WF Whimster (United Kingdom).

This notice calls for papers (15 minutes) and poster demonstrations. The closing date for the submission of abstracts is 31 March 1988.

Further details of the symposium can be obtained from: Dr R Montironi, Department of Pathology, University of Ancona, General Regional Hospital, 60020 Torrette, Ancona, Italy.
Forensic Medicine

JM Cameron

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