

recommending it to my undergraduate students. I think that it will, however, be of limited value to postgraduates.

CH BUCKLEY

**Muir's Textbook of Pathology.** 13th edn. Ed RNM MacSween, K Whaley. (Pp 1245; £32.95.) Edward Arnold. 1992. ISBN 0-340-55145-3

The new 13th edition of Muir's Pathology retains the familiar, successful division into a general pathology section and a large systematic pathology section, but has been revised and expanded (especially in general pathology). Many of the illustrations will be recognised from previous editions, but a large number of clear new diagrams and line drawings have been added. These work very well, giving cohesion to the volume and illustrating important points in an easy-to-follow manner—for example, showing the main features of the different types of Reed-Sternberg cells. A further elaboration which will make the volume of more use to postgraduates, including those studying for the college exam, is the use of tables which expand on the information in the systematic chapters, for instance, detailing the main features of the bulbous diseases.

There is much more information here than most medical students will ever need, but the text is set out clearly and in such a way that the sensible student should not feel overloaded. As an aid to planning tutorials the edition will also make life easier for pathology lecturers. This book would certainly not be out of place on the bookshelves of the district general hospital pathologist, especially as a quick reference on disease aetiology and the newer scientific aspects of the subject (very much the sort of thing to have a quick leaf through before presenting a case at a CPC). The main target will, however, remain the undergraduate and for many this will be the first and last textbook of pathology ever purchased. As such, it places our subject in a very good light and is a pleasure just to handle and browse through. At £32.00 in hardback, this is exceptional value for money and certainly not an unlucky 13th.

GM KONDRATOWICZ

**Case Studies in Transfusion Medicine.** LK Hoffstadter, PJ DeChristopher, JT Perkins, LM Berte. (Pp 264; soft cover \$34.00.) Raven Press. 1992. ISBN 0-89189-311-3.

This is a marvellous addition to the few clinically orientated texts available for the teaching of transfusion medicine. The book consists of over 50 case studies in a question-and-answer format, organised in eight sections to cover donor evaluation, blood grouping discrepancies and antibody identification, transfusion therapy and its adverse effects, haemolytic disease of the newborn, therapeutic apheresis and paternity testing. There is thus a good mixture of serology and clinical management, and the answers are beautifully detailed with key up-to-date references. This is a thoroughly practical text, all the way down to the suggestion that samples for cryoglobulin estimation may best be transported tucked into the axilla. There are valuable insights into current US transfusion practice, with considerable emphasis on guideline documents, avoidance of donor blood products, and the legal

responsibilities of providers and prescribers of blood ("what could the physician have done prospectively for protection in the event of a lawsuit?").

The inevitable differences from current UK practices must be borne in mind—the widespread use of antenatal prophylaxis with anti-D, and lifelong deferral of blood donors with documented hepatitis A (here we pursue them for immunoglobulin). There perhaps should be greater mention of transfusion support problems in transplant recipients. There are one or two errors of interpretation/transcription but it would be churlish to detract from an otherwise excellent book.

Who should buy this book? The price is eminently reasonable, perhaps due to the paperback ring-bound format. Some of the chapters are aimed at clinicians, but there is enough serology to make this a good buy for hospital blood banks and transfusion centres. All MRCPath candidates (and examiners) please read!

L WILLIAMSON

**A Colour Atlas of Haematological Cytology.** 3rd edn. FGJ Hayhoe, RJ Flemons. (Pp 384; £75.) Wolfe Publishing Ltd. 1992. ISBN 0-7234-1586-2.

The third edition of this haematological atlas has increased its clinical appeal with the inclusion of histological sections. The updated and expanded introduction to each of the five sections is comprehensive. Combined with the photomicrograph captions this succinct text deserves recognition with standard haematological text books. The photomicrographs, which are of excellent quality reproduction, offer crisp, well illuminated detail and make this book invaluable.

Although originally written for haematologists, the new edition is an essential for any haematopathologist or cytopathologist. Placing the marrow aspirate alongside the corresponding bone trephine histology with the inclusion of lymph node imprints is of particular interest. Sections cover erythrocytes, granulocytes, monocytes, megakaryocytes, lymphocytes, together with cells of the reticulo-endothelial system and foreign cells. After a brief introductory section each of the subsequent sections discusses first the normal physiology and then the associated pathological processes.

The FAB classification system for acute leukaemias and myelodysplastic syndromes has been used but is limitations are discussed. Using the Kiel system for non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, reference is also made to the Working Formulation. Few well selected examples of immunocytochemical reactions with monoclonal antibodies have been included but there is full reference to cell immunophenotypes using CD numbers in the corresponding text.

One of the only limitations of the atlas is the total absence of photomicrograph labelling. Although the captions give a detailed description, the use of variable sized arrows, etc, would have added substantially especially for the newcomer to haematopathology.

This is a very useful atlas and at its present recommended price is good value considering the store of information together with the number of quality photomicrographs included.

JK MURPHY

## Notices

### 4th International Congress on Trace Elements and Biology

Trace elements and free radicals in oxidative diseases

Chamonix (France) April 5-9, 1993

This Fourth International Congress will be the continuation of a series of meetings focusing on the role of trace elements in humans and animals medicine and physiology (zinc in 1986, selenium in 1988, chromium and trace elements in endocrinology in 1991).

The programme will include plenary lectures, free communications and poster sessions. During the congress several manufacturers will present instrumentation or products related with the topics of the congress.

Contact: A Alcaraz, Labo de Biochimie C-CHU-BP 217 38043 Grenoble Cédex 09-France. Tel: (33) 76 76 54 84. Fax: (33) 76 42 66 64.

### Royal College of Pathologists

#### Histopathology Update

a two-day symposium to be held at the Scientific Societies Lecture Theatre on Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18 March 1993.

#### Quality Assurance in Pathology

a one-day symposium to be held at Kings College on Wednesday 21 April 1993.

#### Medical Microbiology Update

a one-day symposium to be held at the Scientific Societies Lecture Theatre on Wednesday 19 May 1993.

#### Viral Immunology

a one-day symposium to be held at the Royal Society of Medicine on Tuesday 8 June 1993.

#### Molecular Biology of the HLA System

a one-day symposium to be held at Kings College on Tuesday 6 July 1993.

Further details: Maureen Russell, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AF. Tel: 071-930 5861; Fax: 071-321 0523.

### Association of Clinical Pathologists Junior Membership

Junior membership of the Association is available to medical practitioners who have been engaged in the practice of pathology for a period of less than four years. Junior members are able to remain in this category for a maximum of six years or on the attainment of consultant status. The annual subscription is £34 for those resident in the United Kingdom and £65 for those overseas. The annual subscription may be claimed against tax.

Junior members receive the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* each month. Other benefits are reduced registration fees to attend ACP scientific meetings, all the documents regularly sent to full members of the Association including *ACP News*, which has a regular column for juniors, and the twice yearly summary of pathology courses included in the ACP programme of postgraduate education. Junior members have their own representative body, the Junior Members' Group, which has a direct input to Council.

For Junior Membership apply to: The Honorary Secretary, Association of Clinical Pathologists, 221 Preston Road, Brighton BN1 6SA. (0273) 561188.