poor almost to the point of uselessness. This latter small criticism in no way detracts from the value of this book as a readable, accurate, and well balanced account of morphological neuropathology which deserves to become a standard volume on the shelves of most morbid anatomists as well as of the people for whom it was primarily intended. It is very good value for money.

B. E. TOMLINSON

Principles of Pathology for Dental Students, 2nd ed. By J. B. Walter, M. C. Hamilton, and M. S. Israel. (Pp. v + 463; 158 figures, £3.75.) London: J. and A. Churchill. 1971.

In this book the authors of the well known textbook on general pathology have been joined by a dental surgeon, and the intention is that the present volume should provide a dental student with a sound basis in the principles of general pathology and in the pathology of some of the special systems. The first edition was published four years ago and was well received: this new edition contains significant modifications and additions.

The list of the principal changes forms an interesting reminder of areas in which there have been important advances. The sections of immunology and cell damage have been extensively revised, and subjects introduced for the first time include Australia antigen in infective hepatitis, EB virus in infectious mononucleosis, and cyclic AMP in relation to the action of hormones.

It is inevitable that one can find points with which to disagree. Some of these arise from the brevity of the text, and the consequent inclusion of statements that are liable to be misinterpreted. For example, it would be easy for the student to misunderstand a statement that '... the bone is softened due to osteoclastic resorption ...'.

In some of the more particularly dental aspects, also, certain of the brief comments may conflict with the more detailed instruction the student will receive later in his course. Is cherubism really a 'form of fibrous dysplasia... similar to the monostotic form', is a myxoma of the jaws due to a myxomatous change in a fibroma, and should the term 'trismus' be applied to a limitation in the movement of the jaw due to rheumatoid arthritis affecting the temporomandibular joints?

However, these are small criticisms of an excellent text. It is clearly written, well illustrated and well suited to its purpose.

I. R. H. KRAMER

The Pathology of Deafness: An Introduction By Mary Ingle Wright. (Pp. vi + 178; illustrated. £2.64.) Manchester: Manchester University Press. 1971.

The 'Pathology of deafness' by Mary Ingle Wright is, perhaps, the first book on deafness in this country written by a pathologist. It contains a great deal of valuable information on the classification and aetiology of deafness. It draws attention to the great advances made in recent years in our better understanding of the problems involved. There are useful chapters on the development, blood supply, and metabolism of the inner ear, on congenital malformations, on deafness associated with maternal disease during pregnancy, and with familial disease. The chapter on hereditary disorders of connective tissue, on syphilis and on toxoplasmosis, based on the special interest of the author of these topics, will be of particular interest. There can be little doubt that with the increase of often unrecognized treponemal disease the incidence of congenital syphilis will increase with its complications, including sensorineural deafness.

The pathologist will be stimulated by this book to greater activity in the somewhat neglected field of temporal bone pathology but will, perhaps, miss the illustrations and a more detailed description of the histopathological findings. The book is particularly recommended to postgraduate students preparing for the Diploma or the Fellowship in otolaryngology as a comprehensive synopsis. It will serve as a valuable reference book in the library of any otology department. There is a short index and some interesting biographical notes on Leonardo da Vinci, Corti, Retzius, and the great English otologist, Toynbee. The handy size and good production make this book well worth the price of £2.64.

I. FRIEDMANN

Pathology of Conducting Tissue of the Heart By M. J. Davies. (Pp. vii + 199; 94 figures. £4.20.) London: Butterworth and Co. Ltd. 1971.

This work is based on the author's personal studies. After a short historical introduction (12 pp) and an account of the

normal morphology (16 pp) there is an account of the technique of study, modified from Hudson. There is a useful account (10 pp) of the author's findings in a series of 50 carefully picked controls. There is a chapter (14 pp) on the findings in 53 cases of acute complete heart block. The biggest and most valuable chapter (58 pp) is based on 100 cases of permanent complete heart block which most often proved to be bilateral bundle branch block. The remaining chapters are on congenital, surgical, and traumatic heart block, on bundle branch block, Wolff-Parkinson-White syndrome, and other arrhythmias.

The illustrations are mostly low-power photomicrographs and are clear and have useful arrows. There are over 500 references.

Unfortunately, typographical errors are rather numerous.

There is much in this book that will be new and useful to any pathologist or to the cardiologist, and for a pathologist faced with the problem of finding the pathological basis for a case of heart block it is likely to be of great value.

C. V. HARRISON

Atlas of the Ultrastructure of Human Skin By A. S. Breathnach. (Pp. viii + 398; illustrated. £15.00.) London: J. and A. Churchill Ltd. 1971.

In assessing the histological changes seen in diseased tissue it is necessary to have a detailed knowledge of what constitutes normality. This is particularly so in electron microscopy where lack of knowledge of the normal ultrastructure can lead to significant errors of interpretation. Professor Breathnach has rectified this as far as the skin is concerned by the production of this superb atlas of the ultrastructure of foetal and adult skin and its appendages. He has managed to present an enormous amount of information in 390 pages accompanied by 304 electron micrographs of the highest quality.

The text is written in a clear, concise manner and a feature of great value is that the electron micrographs are on the page opposite the appropriate text and, as the title states, are all taken from human skin. There is a useful and comprehensive index. While this volume will of necessity have a limited market, there can be no doubt that it will become the standard reference work on the ultrastructure of the normal skin for many years to come.