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.

The publishers are also to be congratulated on the high quality of the printing, binding, and photographic reproduction, and even at the price of £15.00 it represents extremely good value for money, even at today's inflated prices.

J. A. MILNE

Pathology Annual Volume 5, 1970 Edited by Sheldon C. Sommers. (Pp. x + 436; illustrated. £7.00. \$16.50.) New York: Meredith Corporation. London: The Butterworth Group. 1970.

This fifth volume of the *Pathology Annual* maintains its high standard of selection of material and presentation. Naturally enough electronmicroscopic studies are prominent and include the ultrastructure of the normal and neoplastic prostate, primary carcinoma of the liver, adrenal medullary tumours, and acute inflammation. Microdissections of the nephron in a number of diseases are beautifully demonstrated, including some of Darmady's work in this country. More classical histopathological study of diagnostic problems involving nodal lymphomata, although not novel, does indicate commonly encountered pitfalls. There is also an excellent chapter on lupus nephritis in which the EM studies are shown to confirm the present view of the changes in the nephron. The EM dense deposits correspond to the areas which by immunofluorescent examination are found to contain immune globules.

Further studies on the pathogenicity of antigen-antibody complexes by fluorescent and EM techniques demonstrate the presence of such complexes in many parts of the body, but the author suggests that the factors predisposing certain parts of certain organs to injury by the complexes is apparently a non-immunological process.

The final chapter is a very practical demonstration of the use of polarized light in pathology.

A. G. SIGNY

Human Tumors, Histology, Diagnosis, and Technique. 2nd ed Edited by Pierre Masson. (Pp. 1359; illustrated. \$45.00.) Detroit: Wayne State University Press. 1971.

The second (French language) edition of Professor Pierre Masson's book 'Tumeurs humaines' was published only a few years before the author's death in 1959. The majority of Masson's numerous scientific

articles, written between 1908 and 1957, were published in French language journals. The appearance of this English translation of Professor Masson's treatise on the pathology of human tumours is therefore to be welcomed, and Dr Sidney Kobernick should be thanked and congratulated on the production of a volume which will commemorate for us the life and work of a great pathologist. The short biography of Pierre Masson by Professor L. C. Simard is also a warm personal tribute.

In scope the book aims at a survey of the whole range of human neoplasms arising from all organs and tissues of the body, and there is a final section dealing with histological techniques, including various special staining procedures. No translation can ever capture all the flavour and nuances of the original text, and some of the phraseology may appear quaint and unfamiliar to English readers. If anything, this adds to the charm of the book and makes it stimulating reading. A large proportion of the illustrations of microscopic appearances are drawings; too large a proportion by modern standards, Dr Kobernick's skilful advocacy for their use notwithstanding. The photomicrographs vary considerably in quality, some being frankly poor.

There is no doubt that Dr Kobernick's translation will be read with great interest and profit by many professional pathologists, and especially by those whose particular concern is the histopathology of human neoplasms. However, in view of the excellent modern treatises and numerous monographs already available, it is unlikely to become a widely used reference work amongst English-speaking pathologists.

N. F. C. GOWING

Correction

We regret that in the legend for Fig. 2 in the paper by L. P. Garrod and Pamela M. Waterworth (*J. clin. Path.*, **24**, 779-789), a line of explanation is missing. It should read as follows:

Fig. 2 *Effect of medium on clarity of zone edges. All plates are inoculated with E. coli and discs contain (upper left) ampicillin 25 µg, (upper right) gentamicin 10 µg, (lower left) streptomycin 25 µg, (lower right) tetracycline 25 µg. The plates contain: a WST, b DST, and c MH.*

This correction applies also to the cover where there is a printing error in this legend.

Notices

Study of Ovarian Tumours

A panel of pathologists for the study of ovarian tumours has been formed under the auspices of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists with the support of the Cancer Research Campaign. The members of the panel are Professor A. R. Currie, Dr A. D. T. Govan (convener), Dr Magnus Haines, Dr F. A. Langley, Dr A. M. Neville, Dr C. W. Taylor, and Dr A. S. Woodcock.

At present the panel members are interested in gonadal tumours in females and apparent females under the age of 25 years. Dysgerminomas and gonadoblastomas are particular examples. They are also interested in related gonadal abnormalities in this age group such as streak gonads.

Material in any form would be welcome—sections stained or preferably unstained—paraffin blocks or fixed material. If fresh unfixed material for electron microscopy, tissue culture, and endocrine studies were available, arrangements could be made for its collection by phoning the convener of the panel.

All communications should be addressed to: Dr A. D. T. Govan at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, C44. Telephone numbers: 041-552-4511, 041-552-1942.

XX Annual Colloquium on Protides of the Biological Fluids

The XXth Annual Colloquium on 'Protides of the biological fluids' will be held from 3 to 7 May 1972, at Bruges, Belgium.

All information can be obtained from the Simon Stevin Instituut, Jerusalem Straat 34, B-8000 Bruges, Belgium.