de Quervain's thyroiditis—in others, the title might more appropriately have been “recent advances in endocrinology” rather than “receptors”. Overall the majority of contributions are useful reviews with extensive references lists. If you are not a “receptor buff” this is a useful volume to consult; if your work binds you to the receptor—you had better get internalised into this book!

ED WILLIAMS

Arsenic. Environmental Health Criteria 18. (Pp 174; paperback Sw fr 20.) World Health Organisation 1981.

For a reviewer to procrastinate over an opinion on any book referred to him is inexcusable, above all in the eyes of the editor. Critics of readable novels should seldom be daunted. By contrast when it comes to forming an opinion about a toxicological monograph like this one on Arsenic it is well-nigh impossible to sit back and read from page 1 to page 174 and still retain one's alertness and sense of judgement. Instead, appraisal on behalf of others is possible only by keeping the book beside one as a constant source of reference and seeing how it fares in this capacity. On this count the present volume, issued as one among a series of Environmental Health Criteria by the World Health Organisation, is to be strongly recommended. It serves as an invaluable collection of relevant facts within a conveniently small compass. Indeed, if there is any quibble at all, it is to question whether there is any reason for adopting in it the prose style at all. A series of Tables and diagrams might have served the purpose equally well.

At all events, for anyone faced with a problem of poisoning from arsenic, this is the text to which he can always profitably turn in the first instance—as indeed are others in this series for their respective topics.

ROY GOULDING

Fine Structure of Synovial Joints. A text and Atlas of the Ultrastructure of Normal and Pathological Articular Tissues. Feroze N Ghadially. (Pp 333; £45.) Butterworths. 1983.

In this beautifully illustrated atlas, Feroze Ghadially has collected together 226 electron micrographs from his published books and papers, added to them 123 further photographs and a text of 148 pages, and examined present knowledge of normal, and of some aspects of abnormal, synovial joints.

The result is a highly personal account of some of the most important topics of current interest to pathologists and to rheumatologists and orthopaedic surgeons. Torn menisci, intra-articular haemorrhage, villonodular synovitis, lipoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, cartilage injuries and defects, and ganglion are the subjects reviewed and illustrated after three introductory chapters that analyse the nature and significance of the fine structure of synovium and cartilage in considerable detail. Waving his verbal whip with relish, Ghadially flagellates those with whose views he does not happen to agree. In the field of research that seeks to determine the true structure of load-bearing cartilage, I have become one of the objects of this corrective exercise; it has proved an interesting experience and, since criticism is one of the strongest spurs to new investigation, has frequently led to a strengthening of the evidence against which Feroze Ghadially enjoys inveighing.

Although the price of this new volume is high, it is not excessive. All concerned with the diseases of joints and connective tissue should lose no time in gaining access to a copy.

DL GARDNER

Intercellular Communication in Leucocyte Function. Proceedings of the 15th International Leucocyte Culture Conference, California, December 1982. Ed JW Parker and RL O'Brien. (Pp 684; £21.50.) John Wiley & Sons. 1983.

The subject matter of the 15th International Leucocyte Culture Conference embraced a vast field of knowledge including growth factors, the stimulators and suppressors of lymphocyte and macrophage function, and hence the almost infinite diversity of effects which can be recorded in any complex system of interacting units. Useful perhaps to those in the field anxious not to overlook a significant piece of work; others would do better to keep up to date through the regular journals and reviews.

HEM KAY

Hepatocellular Carcinoma. A series of Workshops on the Biology of Human Cancer. Report No 17. UICC Technical Report Series Vol 74. Ed K Ocuda and H Mackay. (Pp 204; Sw fr 44.) UICC Geneva. 1982.

Literary efforts continue to pour out on the subject of liver disease and for good reason: significant advances continue to be made on hepatitis, autoimmunity, and carcinogenesis at a steady rate. This volume is one of an excellent series by the International Union Against Cancer that deals with specific aspects of tumours in man. It covers the epidemiology and pathology of liver cancer as well as experimental work on carcinogenesis, the role of the hepatitis B virus and other putative agents, tumour markers, host-tumour interactions, and ends with a useful set of recommendations for future studies. The report is aimed at those interested in this particular field but it can be recommended to anyone who wishes to update his knowledge on general tumour biology, chemical and viral oncogenesis: what is being learned is applicable to the whole of human cancer studies and is well worth being acquainted with. Moreover, this update is a model of its kind: it is concise, lucidly written, and well referenced.

PP ANTON

Some new titles

The receipt of books is acknowledged, and this listing must be regarded as sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear to be of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits.

Multiple Choice Questions in Pathology with Answers and Explanatory Comments. IL Brown. (Pp 61; paperback £1.95.) Edward Arnold. 1983.

1983 Year Book of Drug Therapy. Ed J Hollister. (Pp 428; £32.) Blackwells. 1983.

Clinical Guide to Laboratory Tests. Ed NW Tietz. (Pp 695; softback £19.25.) WB Saunders Company. 1983.

Protective Agents in Cancer. Ed DH McBrien and TF Slater. (Pp 309; £18.) Academic Press. 1983.