Therapeutic Strategies in Primary and Metastatic Liver Cancer. Recent Results in Cancer Research. Vol 100. Eds Ch Herfarth, P Schlag, P Hohenberger. (Pp 327; DM 178.) Springer. 1986. ISBN 3-540-16011-6.

This volume is the hundredth in the series *Recent Results in Cancer Research* which was initiated by the Swiss Cancer League in 1965. Successive publications have highlighted a large variety of topics in clinical oncology and the basic sciences relevant to it. This book is concerned with the treatment of primary and metastatic liver cancer which had long been regarded as beyond hope of cure. The major headings are tumour biology, diagnosis and staging, systemic and regional chemotherapy, surgical aspects, and radiotherapy. It is difficult to single out any particular contribution for special praise but the modern view of surgical live anatomy is particularly well described and serves as just one example of how much has changed even in our traditional concepts of gross morphology. This volume offers a comprehensive summary of advances made in this difficult field and it indicates likely avenues to follow. It is recommended to all who are interested in cancer and the liver whether they be surgeons, oncologists, or pathologists. The editors of the series must also be congratulated for their achievements over the past two decades.

PP ANTHONY

Automated Blood Counts and Differentials. A Practical Guide. JD Bessman. (Pp 150; hardcover £27.50; paperback £13.75.) The John Hopkins University Press. 1986. ISBN 0-8018-3171-7 (hardback); 0-8018-3173-3 (paperback).

This slim book brings together information previously available in journals and training manuals for the instruments concerned with automated haematology. The principles of operation of these machines are described briefly followed by detailed descriptions of the normal and common abnormalities of red cells, platelets, and white cells. These are well illustrated in black and white, microphotographs, and by line drawings of histograms. Most illustrations were obtained from a Coulter Counter S-Plus IV which make up the bulk of the text. There are several tables, but the one on morphophysiological classification of red cell disorders is too simplistic and relies on the

RDW, a parameter whose reliability varies from one instrument to another. At the end of the book there are appendices of self test cases, brief descriptions of six current instruments, a useful glossary of terms, and around two hundred references. For those who are unfamiliar with the new parameters and histograms, and especially users of Coulter Counter S-Plus IV this is an essential bench book.

NK SHINTON

Monoclonal Antibodies in Haematopathology. Serono Symposia Publication from Raven Press. Vol 26. Ed F Grignani. (Pp 320; \$61.50.) Raven Press. 1986. ISBN 0-88167-095-2.

This is a collection of short papers presented in a meeting two years ago. It contains interesting material on the application of monoclonal antibodies to the study of normal and malignant haemopoietic cells. Advances are fast in this field but most of the reports are still relevant today.

There are three main parts in this volume. The first part deals with monoclonal antibodies against myeloid antigens and their application to the diagnosis of acute leukaemias (ALL and AML) and of a number of haemopoietic cell lines (perhaps too many of these). It also includes elegant ultrastructural immuno-cytochemical studies by Breton-Gorius and her group on early megakaryocytic precursors. The section of B cell malignancies is well updated by an overview by Anderson *et al.* The second part has the initial series of papers on T cell depletion of bone marrow for transplantation and prevention of graft versus host disease. Such studies have advanced very rapidly in the past two years. The last part covers a number of reports on monoclonal antibodies used to characterise normal and pathological lymphoid cells in suspensions and in tissue sections. One report by Velardi and Grossi attracted my attention. These authors described a normal CD4(T4) positive lymphocyte subset which expresses NK markers (Leu7 or OKM1) and has morphology of large granular lymphocytes. Of interest is that rare lymphoid leukaemias with the same morphology and phenotype as those rare normal subsets have now been found. Several papers on the immunohistology of B and T cell lymphomas and leukaemias are probably the best value of this book.

A comprehensive subject index and a list of monoclonal antibodies referred to in the

text, with indication of their source, complete a good compact volume which may still have useful value for practising haematopathologists for a few more years.

D CATOVSKY

Pathology for the Primary FRCS. D Gardner, DEF Tweedle. (Pp 216; soft cover £11.95.) Edward Arnold. 1986. ISBN 0-7131-4497-1.

Any new textbook of pathology for surgeons studying for the Primary FRCS examination has to compete with the excellent standard works in current use. This paperback is a winner because it complements them. It has a clear and attractive style, and is laid out alphabetically as a glossary of terms and diseases; the inevitable separation of related conditions is cope with by cross referencing. Some of the entries are briefer than a pathologist might like, but this is nit picking.

Candidates for the primary examination should buy this book. I am sure that some of their examiners will.

D LOWE

Kidney Transplant Rejection. Diagnosis and Treatment. Eds G Melville Williams, J Burdick, K Solez. (Pp 536; \$95.50.) Marcel Dekker Inc. 1986. ISBN 0-8247-7496-5.

Cyclosporin nephrotoxicity or rejection. This question is a constant problem in the clinical management of renal transplant recipients. Help can undoubtedly be obtained from renal core biopsy, although the interpretation of changes purported to be due to the effects of toxicity has been controversial. A new volume devoted to renal transplant rejection is therefore timely. The editors have included a useful initial section on the "biology of the allograft response". The three chapters on "interleukins", "enhancement", and "the anti-idiotypic response" are particularly valuable in providing an update on effector mechanisms, cell cell interactions and the complex processes involved in activation and down regulation of the immune system.

Monoclonal antibodies have added a new dimension to the interpretation of biopsy