colour index even though he notes that it is 'not a useful estimation'.

As the author states in his preface, this book is not intended to replace standard textbooks. It will be of no value to the professional haematologist but should be appreciated by students for whom it will provide a good deal of classified information, although at a superficial level.

S. M. LEWIS

HORMONOLOGIE DE LA GROSSESSE HUMAINE By M. F. Jayle *et al.* collaborateurs. (Pp. 316; illustrated. 30F.) Paris: Gauthier-Villars. 1965.

This is a French work which deals with a series of topics in human pregnancy, both normal and abnormal. The topics are oestrogen, progesterone, pregnanediol, hormones of the adrenal cortex, and chorionic gonadotropins.

Of particular interest is the chapter which deals with the clinical importance of determining the oestrogens and pregnanediol in pathological pregnancy. There is no doubt that the availability of these determinations can be of real help to the clinician. The determinations need a specialized laboratory, organized so that no avoidable delay occurs in reporting the results.

The different chapters are well supplied with references from the British and American journals, but naturally the French literature has not been neglected. Your reviewer felt that more attention might have been given to some of the German literature.

The book represents the viewpoint of a particular school, but makes very interesting reading. It is well produced in soft covers.

ARTHUR JORDAN

HANDBUCH DER HISTOCHEMIE ALLGEMEINE METHODIK VOL. 1, part 2. Edited by W. Graumann and K. Neumann. (Pp. xii + 294; 19 tables; 64 figures. DM 53.) Stuttgart: Gustav Fischer. 1966.

This second edition of the first volume of the Handbook of Histochemistry contains three chapters only. The first two, written in English, are contributed by Professor M. Vialli, on general problems and relationships, and Dr. J. Kruszynski, on microincineration. The third chapter, in German, is by Professor H. Mayersbach, on immunohistological methods.

Each of the three chapters stands by itself and, indeed, the only one which belongs properly to volume 1 of the Handbook is the extensive review by Vialli. In 82 pages he covers the whole field of histochemical technique, in a manner entirely objective and free from bias. Particularly interesting, and valuable, are the sections devoted to integration of cytochemical results and those on quantitative histochemistry.

Kruszynski's chapter on microincineration is the most complete and up-to-date review of this subject presently available. The first 28 pages are devoted to technological aspects and these are well illustrated, where necessary in colour. The remaining 63 pages are devoted to applications to various tissues, and to the extensive bibliography.

Excellent illustrations, with lavish use of colour,

accompany Mayersbach's very critical appraisal of the techniques of immunohistology (fluorescent antibody, immunofluorescence). Electron immunocytology is discussed only briefly.

The quality of production is what we have come to expect from the Gustav Fischer Verlag and the price (DM 94) is reasonable when one has regard to its country of origin. Readers limited to English might consider the price too high, especially if they were uninterested in the technique of microincineration.

A. G. EVERSON PEARSE

MORPHOLOGIE UND HISTOCHEMIE DER GEFÄSSWAND (International Symposium, Fribourg June 1965). By Laszt and Comel. (Pp. viii + 398; 310 figures; 5 tables. DM 70.) Basel: S. Karger AG. 1966.

Not all symposia deserve publications. To serve its true purpose this process must be rapid and this means that the Editor(s) must be completely familiar with the field and ruthlessly selective. The two editors of this volume (M. Comel and L. Laszt) fulfil these criteria and they have produced a volume with a very uniformly high standard in its individual chapters. The first part contains papers by Lang, Fischer, Reale, and Ruska, Faller and Staedeli, and Simon. Contributors to the second part include Buccianti, Limbogh, Ottaviani, and Azzali, Kozma, Gellert, and Poberia, and Lojda. The majority of papers are followed by a verbatim (edited) discussion.

Together, the two parts of this volume constitute an authoritative treatise, probably the best presently available, on the microscopic and electron microscopic anatomy of arteries, veins, and lymphatics, together with their histochemistry. This last subject (Z. Lojda) is the only one presented in English; the other papers are in German or French. This should not deter intending purchasers of the volume.

A. G. E. PEARSE

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY OF THE SERUM ELECTROLYTES Edited by F. W. Sunderman and F. W. Sunderman, Jr. (Pp. xiii + 446; illustrated. \$24.50) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1966.

This work is the edited proceedings of an applied seminar by the Association of Clinical Scientists on the serum electrolytes in clinical medicine.

The field covered includes methodological studies of electrolytes in serum associated with physiological and clinical studies. There is a great deal of interesting information concerning many aspects of these problems. The excellent lists of references at the end of each chapter will be of considerable help to those who wish to have rapid access to literature on any specific point. It is a pity that so much space has been devoted to gravimetric and colorimetric methods in the measurement of sodium and potassium which very few clinical laboratories will still use. Perhaps a shorter reference to these techniques could have been given in the chapter on flame photometric methods, which is in a separate place. The space thus saved in the book could have been utilized to better purpose if the original field of this study had been