The Fallopian Tube: Structure, Function, Pathology and Management By J. D. Woodruff and C. J. Pauerstein. (Pp. vii + 361; illustrated. £6 15s.) Baltimore and Edinburgh: The Williams and Wilkins Co. E. and S. Livingstone. 1969.

This is a comprehensive treatise on the Fallopian tube. The 13 chapters review the history of the tube, its embryology, anatomy, histology, sperm transport and fertilization, ovum transport, granulomatous and non-granulomatous salpingitis, tubal pregnancy, benign and malignant tumours, infertility, and tubal ligation. Even where the text is not directly relevant to the pathologist, much of it can be read with interest. The chapter on sperm transport and fertilization left me surprised that conception occurred more than rarely. The book is easy to read and contains some memorable phrases such as, 'The demographers notwithstanding, each year couples seek this surgical solution (tubal ligation) of their private "population explosion"'. The bibliography is extensive and includes an adequate proportion of British and European references. The photomicrographs, although adequate, are not superb, and the electron photomicrograph on page 49 needs replacing.

The sections in the book devoted to pathology could be studied with profit by almost all pathologists. The discussion of salpingitis isthmica nodosa is very good. The accounts of the pathogenesis of non-granulomatous salpingitis and tuberculous salpingitis are along traditional lines and lack the bite of critical evaluation but, maybe, in a book such as this it is an advantage since bias is thereby avoided. The correlation made between the sites of tubal pregnancies and the physiology of ovum transport is interesting. The account of the tumours of the tube is valuable but not all-embracing and the reviewer would like to take issue with the authors on a number of points. Despite any criticisms, the book is valuable to pathologists as well as clinicians and should be available to anyone who sees pathological Fallopian tubes.

F. A. LANGLEY

Endocrine Pathology Edited by J. M. B. Bloodworth. (Pp. 750; illustrated. £15.) Baltimore: The Williams and Wilkins Co and Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone Ltd. 1968.

A textbook of endocrine pathology has been needed for years and Dr Bloodworth has done pathologists a service in producing one with the help of 20 contributors. It deals with the pathology of endocrine diseases such as diabetes mellitus as well as with the pathology

of diseases of endocrine organs such as non-secretory tumours of the thyroid gland. There are 18 chapters. In addition to orthodox anatomical titles of organs—'The adenohypophysis', 'The parathyroid glands', 'The adrenal cortex' etc.—there are individual chapters on 'Mechanisms of hormone action', 'The ovaries in endocrine disorders', 'The placenta', 'Abnormalities of sex development', 'The argentaffin cell system', 'The juxtaglomerular complex as an endocrine gland', and 'Endocrine activities of nonendocrine tissue tumours'.

There is no regimented approach to each subject. The authors have been given a free hand. Thus, Sheehan starts his chapter on the neurohypophysis and hypothalamus with an account of pathological techniques that include necropsy artifacts and histological processing. Nichols begins the chapter on the adrenal cortex with an account of the functional histology of the foetal zone. The result is a collection of essays by experts that will appeal to clinicians and physiologists as well as to pathologists. Though there is a certain amount of essential biochemistry, the theme is mainly pathology in the morbid anatomical sense. Morbid anatomists will find answers to many problems in histopathology. More detail on practical points of histological differentiation between benign and malignant tumours of endocrine glands would have been welcome.

There are numerous good photomicrographs and electron micrographs and a series of copious bibliographies. The text is on the whole very good. Different chapters will please different readers. Recent advances and newly established endocrine functions have special appeal and are ably presented by Ashmore on mechanisms of hormone action, abnormalities of sex development by Inhorn and Opitz, and the juxtaglomerular apparatus by Phyllis Hartroft. Thyrocalcitonin is mentioned but its secretion by parafollicular cells of the thyroid and medullary carcinoma was established too recently for inclusion in the text. There are fine reviews of the argentaffin cell system by Campbell and the chromaffin system by Sherwin and a charmingly written essay by Wurtman on the pineal gland. On looking up any point anywhere in the book one is tempted to read most of the relevant chapter and to dip elsewhere in the text. Dr Bloodworth has himself contributed 100 pages on diabetes mellitus, the major portion devoted to minute analysis of the cardiovascular changes. The book is weak on heredity in endocrine diseases, on the multiple endocrine tumour syndrome, and on autoimmunity in endocrine organs. Findings in experimental animals are summarized in the allocation of function to cells or cell groups in the hypothalamus, adeno-

hypophysis (Agnes Russfield), and pineal. Otherwise the text is almost entirely devoted to human pathology. Special staining methods are given, but with a few exceptions, histochemistry is neglected.

Pathologists tend to be diffident in dealing with endocrine problems. The subject is complex, specialized, is undergoing numerous advances, and much of the material is comparatively rare. This book does not make the subject easier. For example, nomenclature of the anterior pituitary cells is still chaotic. But possession of 'Endocrine pathology' might well modify diffidence by interest. It is highly recommended and should be made available in every pathology laboratory.

I. DONIAC

Infectious Mononucleosis Edited by R. L. Carter and H. G. Penman. (xi + 258 illustrated. 70s.) Oxford and Edinburgh: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1969.

This is an excellent little book which brings one up to date with the modern views on infectious mononucleosis. Clear distinction is made between glandular fever and infectious mononucleosis, although perhaps this is not really necessary now. Infectious mononucleosis produces a clear clinical picture in young adults. Glandular fever affects mainly young children. The diagnostic value of blood films, the relative uselessness of bone marrow and the importance of the Paul Bunnell-Davidson test, together with rapid slide techniques, are all discussed. The histopathology is well documented but for most readers the exciting part of the book will no doubt be the new work on the cellular biology of the immunocytes seen in infectious mononucleosis. The authors persuaded the late Dr Dameshek to summarize, which he did very well, the present position of infectious mononucleosis and its relationship to a leukaemic process. This, together with the importance of Epstein Barr virus and the immunological studies makes the book different from all the others with a forward look which may well tie up our knowledge of infectious mononucleosis, even though no therapeutic hope is offered. The cost is not excessive.

A. G. SIGNET