Book Reviews

Immunology in Clinical Medicine By J. L. Turk. (Pp. xi + 226. 40s.) London: William Heinemann Ltd. 1969.

The subjects learnt by medical students tend to be fragmented and each specialist is apt to consider his own field without relation to clinical disease. This is true even in immunology, although this subject throws light on diseases as diverse as systemic lupus erythematosus and malignant melanoma.

It is, however, difficult to write a good textbook of immunology for medical students. This is in part because those not immersed in the field lack the knowledge to write it, while those with detailed knowledge of immunology often lack a feeling for the needs of the medical student and the motivation to write a didactic text. Moreover, the temptation is to write a book which is too detailed and is directed towards the fundamental rather than the clinical aspects of the subject. Dr Turk has succeeded in writing a clear and fairly dogmatic account of immunology which covers most of the field and is not confined to his own special interests. The scope of the book is well described in the preface. He states that a textbook of immunology 'should discuss the immunological concepts underlying disease processes rather than the principles behind laboratory tests' and correctly emphasizes that books of multiple authorship often present either a 'confusion of opinions' or omit important topics. The bibliography is a valuable feature of the book and should serve to entice research-minded students into laboratory work.

The outline of fundamental immunology deals somewhat cursorily with the involvement of both thymus- and bone marrow-derived cells in immune responses, and the existence of high and low tolerance might have been emphasized because of its relevance to the possibility of deliberately inducing tolerance with transplantation antigens in humans. The value of the book would be increased if the principles and significance of common immunological tests were gathered together in the appendix. A glossary of immunology terms would also help. There are a few minor errors of interpretation which presumably will be altered in the second edition.

This book can be wholeheartedly

recommended to medical students and it is pleasing to see a good text book written this side of the Atlantic.

G. L. ASHERSON

Recent Advances in Immunopathology and Blood Transfusion Special issue of *Vox Sanguinis*, Vol. 16, nos. 4-5. (Pp. 208; 40 figures and 20 tables. 50s.) Basel and New York: S. Karger AG. 1969.

In May 1968 the Netherlands Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of its Central Laboratory in Amsterdam. All who have been privileged to visit this centre during those years have always returned home transfused and enthused by the high standard of research being undertaken. This special number of *Vox Sanguinis* contains 23 papers read by distinguished immunohaematologists from western Europe and north America at the 25th Anniversary Conference, and is not only a valuable survey of immunopathology and blood transfusion as they are being currently developed but also a fitting tribute to the outstanding contribution made by Professor J. J. van Loghem, director of the Central Laboratory, and his staff to progress in this field.

The papers fall into three sections: recent advances in immunopathology and blood transfusion; autoimmunity in mice and man; the optimal use of human blood. Included also are the post-lecture discussions and a report of a glutathione workshop held during the Conference.

G. F. TOVEY

Tumors of The Breast By R. W. McDivitt, F. M. Stewart, and J. W. Berg. Atlas of Tumour Pathology, Second series, Fascicle 2. (Pp. 156; 120 figures. No price.) Washington: The Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

The 'Atlas of tumor pathology', comprising multiple fascicles and published by the US Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, has become widely known and appreciated throughout the world during the past 20 years. The decision to proceed with the publication of a second series should be widely welcomed. 'Tumors of the breast' is the second fascicle of this new series.

This fascicle is particularly valuable in that the presentation represents the authors' own experience of the abundant pathological material and clinico-pathological data accumulated at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. The text is clear and succinct, and the bibliography has been well selected. The fascicle is profusely illustrated by photomicrographs of a uniformly high quality. When dealing with intra-

ductal lesions, particular attention has been paid to the use of adjacent photomicrographs in order to stress those microscopic features which are helpful in differentiating benign and malignant lesions. Although most of the fascicle is concerned, necessarily, with carcinoma of the breast, sarcomas, benign tumours and non-neoplastic conditions which may be confused with tumours (such as sclerosing adenosis) are also discussed.

This is an excellent publication which can be recommended to all practising histopathologists and to their surgical colleagues.

N. F. C. GOWING

Histological Typing of Soft Tissue Tumours By F. M. Enzinger in collaboration with R. Latees and H. Torloni. International Histological Classification of Tumours No. 3. (Pp. 119; illustrated with 152 accompanying colour transparencies. £15.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1969.

This is the third issue in the World Health Organization's series devoted to the 'Histological typing of tumours' those relating to lung tumours and breast tumours were published in 1967 and 1968 respectively. The present publication comprises 152 photomicrographic colour transparencies (35 mm) and an accompanying booklet. The booklet contains 150 colour plates illustrating the histological appearances of many varieties of soft tissue neoplasia, together with a short text in which the tumours are defined, classified (where possible) according to histogenesis and behaviour, and their microscopic structure is briefly described. A number of non-neoplastic, tumour-like, proliferative lesions (such as myositis ossificans and proliferative myositis) are also defined and illustrated. No attempt is made to give detailed histological descriptions, and there is no bibliography. The collection of slides should prove to be of considerable value for postgraduate instruction, especially in relatively small centres where it would take many years to accumulate such a comprehensive set of photomicrographs. The fact that 16 pathologists in 14 countries collaborated in the production of the proposed classification of soft tissue tumours is indicative of the advances now being made towards international agreement in the complex field of tumour nomenclature. All such collaborative efforts should be supported, and further publications in this WHO series will be welcome.

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Canadian Cancer Conference Edited by J. F. Morgan. (Pp. 442; illustrated. £8.) Oxford: Pergamon Press Ltd. 1969.