different coagulation effects and with insensitive reagents there may be dangerous overdosage. With the Thrombotest technique a homeopathic therapeutic range of 10 to 30% is recommended whereas this should be between 5 and 10%.

This small book makes interesting additional reading but hardly commends itself as an authoritative text. In addition the price is outrageous.

L. POLLER

Energy Metabolism in Trauma Ciba Foundation Symposium. Edited by Ruth Porter and Julie Knight. (Pp. x + 202; illustrated. £2.50). London: J. & A. Churchill. 1970.

This is the proceedings of a small symposium held in London in February 1970 under the chairmanship of Sir Hans Krebs and the auspices of the CIBA Foundation. It took place a few days before the 'Symposium on the Pathology of Trauma' organized by the Royal College of Pathologists, the Proceedings of which were also published in 1970 as Supplement 4 to the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. The present volume is complementary to the broader content of the College symposium which also includes papers on the metabolic effects of injury. The opening papers by H. B. Stoner (Carshalton) and F. T. Caldwell (Arkansas) on changes in heat production during the early and later phases after injury pose a number of problems. Stoner argues that the early depression seen in the injured rat is mediated by an interference with the hypothalamic thermoregulating mechanism. Whether the early 'ebb phase' seen in small animals actually occurs in injured man is still unresolved, and the connexions between early and later biochemical events are also unclear. Important aspects of protein catabolism and plasma protein changes are dealt with by W. J. Tilstone and Sir David Cuthbertson (Glasgow), and J. W. L. Davies (Birmingham), and it is clear that environmental temperature is of great importance in promoting or reducing both excessive protein breakdown and hypermetabolism though it has more than one mode of action. A valiant and interesting attempt is made by J. M. Kinney (New York) to draw a composite picture from the complexities in carbohydrate, nitrogen, and fat metabolism: the fatty acid origin of the excess post-traumatic calories is emphasized and the increased N excretion is postulated as dependent on increased

gluconeogenesis from amino acids, related to the demand for carbohydrate intermediates for the Krebs cycle. Other papers by C. J. Threlfall (Carshalton) on intermediate carbohydrate metabolism, by R. N. Barton (Carshalton) on ketone metabolism, and by L. A. Carlston (Sweden) on the mobilization and utilization of lipids after injury are also of interest. The various discussions indicate not only the complexities and importance of the whole subject, not surprisingly since this is the fabric of life, but also some lines of advance. This volume should be on the bookshelf of all those with scientific interests in injury and burning and has something to offer many biochemists, physiologists, and pathologists.

S. SEVITT

Pathology in Gynecology and Obstetrics By C. Gompel and S. G. Silverberg. (Pp. vii + 550; 531 figures; some in colour. £17.50). Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1969.

'Pathology in Gynecology and Obstetrics' is the English translation by Dr. G. Silverberg, who also collaborated with Dr. C. Gompel in the revision of the original French edition. Two thirds of the book are devoted to gynaecological pathology. The remaining third, in almost equal parts, deals with placental and breast pathology. The book is well produced and profusely illustrated. Only the electron photomicrographs, of which there are a number, are given a magnification. The colour photographs are rather disappointing both in respect of colour reproduction and of subject depicted. The other illustrations are good, clear and helpful, though some suffer from lack of contrast.

The gynaecological section is difficult to read, the style is involved and the meaning often obscure. One expects a little more on the histogenesis of malignant melanoma than 'it originates in the dermal melanoblasts or in a benign naevus' and 'is most frequently found at the level of the labia majora'. Metastatic tumours of the vagina are classically to be found on the anterior and not, as stated, on the posterior vaginal wall. While serous cystadenomas occasionally present diagnostic problems one would be loath to believe that in a significant number 'estimation of malignancy microscopically is little more than guess work'. Stromal endometriosis once again is described immediately after adenomyosis although we are told that its 'evolution is that of a

low grade sarcoma'. Descriptions of this lesion and of endometrial sarcoma are inadequate and would not help a student to distinguish between the two. The statement that 'torsion of the otherwise normal tube is not rare', does not accord with one's own experience.

Pathology of the breast is well illustrated and there is a useful clinical section. Breast cancers are described in such a way that the microscopic and macroscopic appearance of any particular tumour may be separated by several pages of text and illustrations. This arrangement makes it difficult to use for reference and may confuse the student.

The section on placental pathology is most readable and informative. The author, Dr. P. Wilkin, describes methods of examination and interpretation of findings with clarity and authority. Although probably necessarily oversimplified in places, it is a very useful contribution to a rather neglected area of pathology.

Throughout the whole volume references are plentiful and well chosen from the best of the American, British, and continental literature. The price of the book, even in this inflationary era, seems rather high.

H. P. FERRER