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Reports and Bulletins prepared by the Association of Clinical Biochemists

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spent two years as a morbid anatomist. I have always retained the warmest affection for those who profess this 'cottage industry' of pathology as one illustrious exponent called it. But now sprouting everywhere are the electron microscopes with all the elaborate procedures required to prepare human tissue for their inspection and one is tempted to ask is 'is bigger better'. But I would immediately withdraw my words for here at last there seems a chance that the geography of macromolecular chemistry may be discerned. With suitable labelling we may identify

the site within and on the surface of the cell of antigen antibody reactions, specific enzyme sites, and so much more. Many years ago Gowland Hopkins said of biochemistry that 'its essential and ultimate aim is an adequate and acceptable description of the molecular dynamics in living cells and tissues'. With all the recent advances in science, we pathologists of every species should be struggling to understand the disruptions of those 'dynamics' which are the root of disease.

The October 1973 Issue

THE OCTOBER 1973 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

SI units in pathology: the next stage D. N. BARON

An outbreak of infantile gastroenteritis due to *E. coli* 0142 D. H. KENNEDY, G. H. WALKER, R. J. FALLON, J. F. BOYD, R. J. GROSS, AND B. ROWE

Incidence and isolation of *Bacteroides* species from clinical material and their sensitivity to antibiotics A. A. B. MITCHELL

Intravenous infusions of heparin and penicillins J. JACOBS, DINA KLETTER, E. SUPERSTINE, K. R. HILL, B. LYNN, AND R. A. WEBB

Flavobacterium meningosepticum from cases of meningitis in Botswana and England S. P. LAPAGE AND R. J. OWEN

Clinical, light, and electron microscopy findings in idiopathic haematuria F. ALEXANDER, R. LANNIGAN, AND R. BULL

Detection of fibrinogen antigens with two latex techniques applied to urine concentrates MARIA BENEDETTA DONATI, N. SEMERARO, AND J. VERMYLEN

A batch method for estimating thrombin clottable fibrinogen G. W. FARRELL AND P. WOLF

Serum ferritin concentration and iron stores in normal subjects G. O. WALTERS, F. M. MILLER, AND M. WORWOOD

Blood zinc in the spinal patient R. G. BURR

Relationship between hepatic morphology and clinical and biochemical findings in morbidly obese patients J. L. MANES, H. B. TAYLOR, AND G. B. STARKLOFF

Prognostic typing in breast cancer B. O. MAEHLE AND F. HARTVEIT

'Sclerosing haemangioma' of the lung: an alternative view of its development A. KENNEDY

Technical methods

A simple and rapid one-tube method for the determination of urinary delta-aminolaevulinic acid N. SATGUNASINGAM, J. E. BUTTERY, AND G. F. DE WITT

A simple method for the estimation of plasma ammonia using an ion specific electrode N. J. PARK AND J. C. B. FENTON

Capillary-action replicator D. W. R. MACKENZIE

Letters to the Editor

Book reviews

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER, BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON, WC1H, 9JR, price £1.05

There are several printing errors, most of them unimportant, but in connexion with an ovarian tumour (p. 205), 'hyperglycaemia' appears instead of 'hypoglycaemia' and the wrong reference is given to this case. However, in general the lists of references are full, accurate, and as up to date as possible in a book of this type.

This is a very readable text which contains much valuable information for the pathologist and gynaecologist whether in training or in practice. It is not a 'bench book' though it may often prove helpful in considering a differential diagnosis. One hopes that its emphasis on clinico-pathological correlation may help to produce a generation of pathologists and clinicians who appreciate each other's interests and limitations.

A. SHIRLEY HILL

Books received

Morphology in Lung Transplantation. Proceedings of the Symposium held at the 7th Congress of the European Society for Experimental Surgery, Amsterdam, 1972. Edited by Ch. R. H. Wildevuur; co-editors: Ch. R. Jerusalem, J. M. Lauweryns, and C. Wildevuur-van Hamersveld. (Pp. viii + 246; illustrated. £10.80.) Basel, München, Paris, London, New York, Sydney: S. Karger. 1973.

Progress in Experimental Tumor Research Vol. 18 Oncogenic Adenoviruses. Series Editor: F. Homburger; Volume editors: L. P. Merkow and M. Slifkin. (Pp. xii + 312; illustrated. £10.80.) Basel, München, Paris, London, New York, Sydney: S. Karger. 1972.

Notices

Standard Techniques for the Measurement of Red Cell and Plasma Volume

The expert panel on the Diagnostic Applications of Radioisotopes in Haematology which was established by the International Committee for Standardization in Haematology has prepared a document which deals with the technical and analytical aspects of red cell and plasma volume measurements. After an introduction which deals with general principles and draws attention to the areas of particular difficulty in these methods, the document contains the following sections: (1) techniques for the estimation of red cell volume; (2) techniques for the estimation of plasma volume; (3) the measurement of packed cell volume; (4) the assessment of automated blood volume equipment; (5) sequential blood volume estimations; (6) estimation of total blood volume as the sum of red cell plasma volumes; (7) presentation and analysis of results; (8) the radiation dose which the patient receives during these investigations.

The purpose of the document is to enable measurements obtained in different centres to be reliably compared with each other. The document has been published in the *British Journal of Haematology* (25, 797, 1973) and will also be published in a number of national journals.

L. SZUR (*Chairman*)
and H. I. GLASS (*Secretary*)
ICSH Panel on Radioisotopes in Haematology

International Symposium on Wound Healing

From 8 to 12 April 1974 the International Symposium on Wound Healing will be held at the premises of the Medical Faculty of the Erasmus University in Rotterdam. The sponsor of the symposium is the Dutch Gerrit Jan Mulder Foundation, founded in 1972 for the promotion of scientific contacts and exchange of information between research scientists in medicine.

The primary purpose of this symposium is to create a forum for surgeons and other medical specialists to exchange ideas on wound healing. Cellular and extra-cellular, physiological, and mechanical aspects of wound healing, clinical aspects

of bone, nerve, tendon, and visceral healing, pathological aspects of skin and bone healing, and the pharmacology of healing are some of the subjects to be discussed.

The Chairman of the symposium, which is expected to be attended by approximately 500 medical specialists from all parts of the world, is the Rotterdam general surgeon Professor H. Muller. Chairman of the Scientific Programme Committee is Dr J. C. van der Meulen, MD, lecturer in plastic surgery at the Rotterdam Erasmus University.

Attached to the Symposium are scientific, technical and book exhibitions.

Postgraduate Course on Clinical Cytopathology

The fifteenth postgraduate course in clinical cytopathology will be held at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, from 22 April to 3 May 1974. The two-week programme is designed exclusively for pathologists who are certified either by the American Board of Pathology or by their international equivalents. Application should be sent before 15 March 1974. For further details write to Dr John K. Frost, MD, 610 Pathology Building, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, USA.