excellent. It would have been desirable, in a volume of this type, to have included a comprehensive index of authors of references. It is somewhat surprising, but pleasing, to find that, in spite of the multiplicity of contributors, the book has not been increased greatly in overall size. The second edition of Biggs and MacFarlane amounted to 476 pages; the present volume totals 697 pages. There is no doubt that this latest book is as outstanding as its predecessors and remarkably good value for money. It is likely to remain as the standard book of reference on coagulation.

A. J. SALSURBY

Inherited Blood Clotting Disorders. Report of a WHO Scientific Group. World Health Organization Technical Report Series No. 504. (Pp. 48; illustrated. 40p.) Geneva, World Health Organization. 1972. Available through H.M. Stationery Office.

A guide for the conscientious administrator—medical or lay—who is responsible for all aspects of the haemophilias. All is included from clinical states through laboratory tests to management, genetic counselling, and special schools. The main criticism of this and other WHO reports must be the lack of references. One page of review or book references would greatly enhance their value.

H. E. M. KAY

Microbiology of the Seventies A Symposium held at Brompton Hospital, London. Edited by F. J. Baker. (Pp. viii + 196; tables; illustrated. £5.00.) London: Butterworth Group. 1972.

This is a report of a two-day symposium at the Brompton Hospital supported by Mast Laboratories held in May 1971, ie, one year and four months before publication. It includes 13 papers on a variety of subjects, each followed by discussion which was tape recorded at the time. There is a final open forum discussion.

Five papers were given by medical microbiologists and eight by non-medical. Among the subjects covered are virus diagnosis by electron microscopy, with very beautiful pictures; computer indenti-

fication of Gram-negative rods; automation in bacteriology; antifungal drugs; rapid techniques, micro-methods, and work flow in bacteriology. Inevitably, as in any symposium, the standard of presentation and content is very variable and much of it has now been published elsewhere. It is doubtful whether many people will wish to spend £5 on a paperback publication containing little which is new although those who took part may well wish to do so to remind them of what was evidently a happy occasion.

If, as the Editor hopes, this symposium is the forerunner of many, a less ambitious account published within a few months much less expensively would be of greater value to those working in this field.

E. J. STOKES

Progress in Allergy. Volume 16 Edited by P. Kallos, B. H. Waksman, and A. de Weck. (Pp. xii + 498; 52 figures; 31 tables; 2 coloured plates. £14.10.) Basel, Munich, Paris, London, New York, and Sydney: S. Karger. 1972.

The review paper is a mixed blessing. On the positive side it is a collection of references relating to a particular topic which can be used as either a starting point for the tyro or to refresh the memory of the more advanced student. More destructively, review papers are rarely subject to critical scrutiny by other than their author(s) and this can lead to massively subjective estimates gaining a credence far beyond their worth. 'Progress in allergy' specializes in review articles. The present volume flits from a survey of 'Recent developments in immunofluorescent method' (Faulk and Hijmans), to 'Cell-cell interactions in antibody production' (Claman and Mosier), to 'Structure and function of immunoglobulin A' (Tomasi and Grey), to 'Antigens of the thymus' (Schlesinger), to 'Cellular hypersensitivity and immunity': 'Inhibition of macrophage migration and the lymphocyte mediators' (David and David), to 'Immunologic mechanisms of platelet damage' (Osler and Siraganian). Few volumes could better illustrate the bewildering variety of approach to contemporary immunological problems. Nevertheless, despite the initial reservations, the authors of this volume show great scholarship in expounding their topics and without doubt this volume

merits a place on the library shelves of all those interested in teaching or research in immunology.

A. J. S. DAVIES

The Scientific Fundamentals of Surgery By J. Gwynne Brockis. (Pp. x + 719; illustrated. £10.00.) London: Butterworths. 1972.

This book is an attempt by a single author to present to surgeons the whole of the laboratory practice on which they depend for many of their decisions. As such it inevitably suffers from being rather superficial, but it could be useful to the trainee surgeon and possibly the senior medical student. This book is not suitable for pathologists at any stage of development, but then it makes no such claim.

B. C. MORSON

Paramedical Pathology By Alvin F. Gardner. (Pp. viii + 200; illustrated. \$12.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1972.

The author considers a fundamental knowledge of general pathology is essential for the members of the paramedical professions. The aim of this book is to provide such knowledge. Unfortunately this is not achieved in this curiously uneven text. The first 10 chapters are devoted to general mechanisms of disease and present a somewhat panoramic view of such processes as inflammation, repair, and neoplasia. This is the most satisfactory section of the book and many of the photomicrographs are of good quality. The subsequent chapters on special pathology are frankly weak and misleading, eg, the section on pulmonary embolism consists of five lines devoted to an inadequate description of amniotic fluid embolism. This book cannot be recommended for the audience for which it is intended, always supposing such an audience exists.

M. S. DUNNILL

Multiple Sclerosis. A Reappraisal 2nd Ed. By Douglas McAlpine, Charles E. Lumsden, and E. D. Acheson. (Pp. x + 653; 74 tables; 44 figures. £6.00.) Edin-

burgh and London: Churchill Livingstone, 1972.

The first edition of this volume was published in 1965 and was widely welcomed as a classic on an important subject. The present edition will be as appreciated as was the earlier one for it enlarges the outlook and brings in much new and recent research.

There are three main sections: a short one of some 80 pages relating to epidemiology by Professor Acheson is a critical appraisal of a large body of research, some of which has illustrated the problem of obtaining accurate data. This section is most admirably presented in a completely unbiased manner.

Then follows an account of the clinical features by the senior author. This consists of some 225 pages of discussion related to the natural history, symptoms, signs, prognosis, diagnosis, and treatment, all of which are appropriately and very well illustrated by short case histories of patients mostly taken from the extensive practice of the writer.

Finally Professor Lumsden in almost half of the volume writes on the clinical pathology of multiple sclerosis in his own characteristic manner. Towards the end of the section he claims that he may be thought as showing bias to the concept that multiple sclerosis is 'an autoimmune disease' but he hopes this is not true. The reviewer was left in no doubt that it was true throughout, and that the selection and discussion of those papers quoted were such as satisfied this aetiological explanation. It is true that he made a very good case for this concept but some doubt remains nevertheless. Much of his discussion is excellent and his reading exceptionally wide, although even so he has managed to omit some relevant papers. It is also unfortunate that his use, as well as his critical approach, of some biochemical aspects demonstrate that he was not trained in that discipline, nor up to date with biochemical nomenclature. However this is an admirable section and contains an abundance of critically reviewed papers together with many references to his own outstanding studies on the subject.

This volume can be recommended for study especially by neurologists and pathologists interested in this relatively common disease.

J. N. CUMINGS

Recent Advances in Studies on Cardiac Structure and Metabolism. Volume 1. **Myocardiology** Edited by E. Bajusz and G. Rona. (Pp. xii + 835; illustrated. \$29.50.) Baltimore, London and Tokyo: University Park Press. 1972.

This impressive volume is the first of three, which, when completed, will review recent studies in myocardiology (covered in this book), the cardiomyopathies, and, in the third volume, myocardial metabolism. Those familiar with works from the pens of the editors—Dr E. Bajusz of Boston and Dr G. Rona of Montreal—will be prepared for a really original approach to the study of heart muscle, and they will not be disappointed. The 75 papers that make up the text all record original work much of which is breaking new ground—not one is a mere re-hash of previous publications—and are all well documented and illustrated. There is something here for all types of pathologist: histopathologists will relish particularly the 10 papers on myocardial infarction and the many ultrastructural and experimental studies. The use of hereditary cardiomyopathy of Syrian hamsters as an experimental model for studies in this puzzling disease group is especially fascinating.

In short this volume is strongly recommended for the libraries of all departments where studies of heart muscle pathology are pursued.

THEO CRAWFORD

Animal Tissue Techniques 3rd ed. by Gretchen L. Humanson (Pp. xiv + 641; illustrated. £5.30.) San Francisco. W. H. Freeman and Co. 1972.

This is a well known handbook for the histology laboratory bench. It provides clear, accurate information on standard fixation, processing, and staining techniques and will prove useful to both technicians and pathologists in a routine surgical pathology laboratory as well as to general biologists. Each method is well described and accompanied by useful comments so that any beginner will be able to carry out the procedure with confidence and have a good idea of what the final result should be. Adequate references are given. It is perhaps disappointing that, although there is a section on histochemistry and another on exfoliative cytology, the book is

almost entirely devoted to classic histological methods. It is to be hoped that any future edition will contain adequate chapters on elementary fluorescent antibody techniques and on the preparation of material for electron microscopy.

M. S. DUNN

Books received

(Review in a later issue is not precluded; notice here of books recently received.)

Hemobilia (Biliary Tract Hemorrhage): History, Pathology, Diagnosis, Treatment By Philip Sandblom. (Pp. xxi + 146; illustrated. £19.75.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1972.

Catalogue of the National Collection of Type Cultures—1972 (Pp. xxiii + 286; £2.50.) London: HMSO for Public Health Laboratory Service Board.

Progress in Histochemistry and Cytochemistry Vol. 4, No. 4 Quantitative Dehydrogenase Histochemistry with Special Reference to the Pentose Shunt Dehydrogenases By F. P. Altman. (Pp. 225-273; illustrated.) Stuttgart, Portland, Oregon: Gustav Fischer Verlag. 1972.

Progress in Histochemistry and Cytochemistry Vol. 4 No. 3 Tissue Fixation with Mercury Compounds By David Hopwood. (Pp. vi + 193-223; illustrated. DM.26.—. Preference-price for subscribers to the series: DM.21.—. Stuttgart, Portland, Oregon: Gustav Fischer Verlag. 1972.

Methods and Achievements in Experimental Pathology, Vol. 6 Nutritional Pathobiology Edited by E. Bajusz and G. Jasmin. (Pp. viii + 245; illustrated. £13.20) Basel, Munich, Paris, London, New York, Sydney: S. Karger. 1972.

First European Congress on Thermography

The first European congress on thermography will be held from 17 to 23 June 1974 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. All information can be obtained from the Secretariat, 1st European Congress on Thermography, Organisation Bureau, Amsterdam N.V., P.O. Box 7205, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.