

students, those reading for higher examinations, and general physicians. Nor can it be faulted on pragmatic grounds for the haematologist, since its references are recent and the guides to therapy are up-to-date and succinct.

Its attraction lies in its pocket size, and a jaundiced eye must be cast on the inevitable increase in bulk, but the publishers have kept this to a minimum. The colour plate, of megaloblasts, contributes little to learning and is, perhaps, merely a tribute to the printer's versatility that could be dispensed with.

The only serious criticism of a book which is thoroughly to be recommended is the curious lack of comment on the role of the lymphocyte in immunology: the B lymphocyte is mentioned in passing in the discussion of chronic lymphatic leukaemia but more, surely, could have been made of the brief paragraph on lymphocyte function. A book that could be a good buy for not a few pathologists whose modesty forbids them to claim haematology as their special concern.

J. L. STAFFORD

**The Liver: Normal and Abnormal Functions** (in two parts) Part B. Edited by Frederick F. Becker. (Pages xvi + 575-1018; illustrated; \$37.50.) New York: Marcel Dekker. 1975.

This is volume 5 of a series of monographs entitled 'The Biochemistry of Disease: A Molecular Approach to Cell Pathology'. The prospective buyer should not be misled by this description. The book contains a series of review articles, mainly on growing points in hepatology, and its subject matter ranges from molecular biology, as in the chapter on carcinogenesis by the series editor Dr. Farber and his colleagues, to practical clinical considerations, as in the chapter on liver transplantation by Drs. Groth and Starzl. The book thus resembles *Progress in Liver Diseases* in its approach.

Material not easily found in other books includes a chapter on Protracted Obstructive Jaundice in Infancy by Dr. Landing and one on Worms by Dr. Warren. The first includes a complete discussion of the difficult problems and concepts of intrahepatic biliary atresia, and the second gives a lucid summary of human parasitic liver disease. Other chapters are on viral hepatitis, hepatitis B antigen, alcoholic injury, liver failure, alpha-fetoprotein, and childhood cirrhosis. Some, such as the chapter on cirrho-

sis, fail to give more than a superficial account.

Taken as a whole, the book is likely to be a useful addition to the library of hepatologists and of research workers entering the field. It is well produced, easy to read, and brief. Illustrations are few, references abundant. Part A, not reviewed here, deals with hepatic physiology, bilirubin, drug-induced liver disease, regeneration, antiproteases, and haemochromatosis.

P. J. SCHEUER

**International Symposium on Gonorrhoea.** (Pp. 141; illustrated; no price given.) Ottawa: Health and Protection Branch, Health and Welfare Canada. 1975.

This booklet gives all but two of the papers read at a conference on gonorrhoea held in Ottawa in 1973 but not the discussions which followed them. Those on laboratory subjects include reviews of the use of serological tests in diagnosis, and on the possibility of developing preventive vaccines. Others present original work on the antigenic structure of surface membranes of gonococci, the application of tissue culture to studies on immunity, the genetic mechanisms underlying resistance to antibiotics, and the role of pili in the attachment of gonococci to tissue cells.

The worldwide resurgence of gonorrhoea has led to an intensification of work on the gonococcus. These papers by some leading workers provide a useful conspectus of some of the growing points of research in the field.

A. E. WILKINSON

**Colour Atlas of Oral Histopathology.** By E. A. Marsland and R. M. Browne. (Pp. 96; £15.00.) Aylesbury: HM + M Publishers. 1975.

As colour atlases go, this is a good one. There are 440, 8 × 5 cm colour prints, ranging from ground sections of tooth to sections of oral mucosa with pemphigus. There is about half an inch of text per photograph, and the text is largely descriptive. The standard of reproduction is good, being better than many and roughly equivalent in standard to the WHO *International Classification of Tumours*.

The book is said to be intended as a guide to dental students and as a reference collection for laboratory diagnostic practice. To the experienced histopathologist,

good quality black-and-white pictures, such as in the AFIP atlases of tumour pathology, are probably more informative than this type of colour atlas but, for the student, colour photographs may be more valuable.

It is always difficult to satisfy both students and postgraduates in one book, but this volume succeeds very well and will be useful to both general histopathologists, faced with the occasional dental and oral problem, and to candidates for the MRC Path examination.

A. C. HUNT

**Advanced Medicine. Topics in Therapeutics. 1.** Edited by A. M. Breckenridge. (Pp. x + 258; illustrated; £6.50.) Tunbridge Wells: Pitman Medical Books. 1975.

The proceedings of a symposium held in November 1974. The subjects discussed are those concerned with the drug 'explosion', drug overdosage, and changing patterns of therapeutic practice. A useful guide to the clinical pathologist who should keep up to date with the changing scene in therapeutics.

H. E. M. KAY

**Gynaecological Pathology, 2nd edition.** By Magnus Haines and Claude W. Taylor. (Pp. 552; 533 illustrations; £12.50.) Edinburgh, London and New York: Churchill Livingstone. 1975.

The second edition of this excellent book follows the same general pattern as the first with chapters devoted to each region of the female genital tract and to more general topics such as infections. Much of the text is identical with that of the first edition, but many references to recent work have been added. New material has been added in the sections on vulva-dystrophies, cervical metaplasia and carcinosarcoma *in situ*, uterine sacromata, and the rarer ovarian tumours, and the diagnosis and management of trophoblastic disease. The effects of oral contraceptives on the endometrium and cervix are described. Throughout the book stress is laid on difficulties in diagnosis, with particular emphasis on benign conditions which may be wrongly diagnosed as malignant tumours.

Most of the photographs are retained from the previous edition but there are a few additions and replacements. All maintain a high standard and the fields are well chosen so that the condition can