diagrams and critically selected references, and by current standards it is a bargain at £5.00. It deserves to be a great success.

J. H. L. PLAYFAIR

Gastrointestinal and Hepatic Pathology Decennial 1966-1975. Edited by Sheldon C. Sommers. (Pp. x + 425; illustrated; £14.75) Hemel Hempstead: Prentice Hall International. 1975.

This represents one of seven volumes of *Pathology Annual 1975*, in which selected articles from the previous nine single annual volumes have been published by organ system. In addition, authors were invited to prepare addenda updating their contribution to late 1974. The publishers justify this on the basis that several volumes were out of print.

It is difficult to show much enthusiasm for this approach. Some of the original articles were first published so recently as not to require updating. In effect some 25 pages of "updating" (including illustrations) are included, together with 171 new references. The "update" on extra-nodal malignant lymphomas and pseudo-lymphomas is already being rapidly superseded by the changes in classification of lymphoid neoplasms; the update of Schistosomiasis, covering the period from 1966 onwards, scarcely does justice to the very large volume of literature which has been published in this time. There is a good and updated account of primary upper small intestinal lymphoma, and the same authors' (Haghighi and Nasr) review of tropical sprue is authoritative. The juxtaposition of articles by McGovern and Morson on large bowel inflammatory disease provide an excellent review of this topic and provide most helpful guidelines for the interpretation of biopsy material. The articles on gastric carcinoma (Mulligan) and biliary cirrhosis (MacMahon) represent highly personal viewpoints on the part of the authors, to which many would not subscribe.

Republication in this way probably represents a considerable financial saving as far as the publishers are concerned. The volume might be of value to specialists in the field, in that it brings together a selection of reviews distributed in the other nine volumes. In view of the very little additional information provided generally, individual buyers should not rush to purchase; and even libraries, who may have all of the previous volumes, might consider carefully whether they

wish to spend £14.75 for an additional 25 pages of addenda!

R. N. M. MACSWEEN

Oncogenesis and Herpesviruses II. Part 1. Edited by G. de The, M. A. Epstein, and H. zur Hausen. (Pp. 511; Sw fr. 100.) IARC Scientific Publications. 1975.

Oncogenesis and Herpesviruses II. Part 2. Edited by G. de The, M. A. Epstein, and H. zur Hausen. (Pp. 403; Sw. fr. 80.) IARC Scientific Publications. 1975.

Nine hundred crammed pages reflect the enormous interest in this field. Part 1 deals with molecular biology and biochemistry and relates more to herpesviruses as a group than to their oncogenicity. Each section represents a session of a meeting in Nuremberg in October 1974, and the review papers introducing each section are excellent, as one would expect from authors such as zur Hausen, Klein, Hampar, Pope, and Schaffer. The detailed papers deal with structure, biochemistry, integration, expression of virus message, virus antigens, and *in vitro* transformation, and for those not expert in molecular biology this part may be heavy going. However, Part 2, which deals with epidemiology, transformation *in vivo*, host responses, and vaccination, is for those with clinical interests an excellent overview. Consideration of the well-documented Marek's disease, alongside the ill-understood association between herpesviruses and human neoplasia, is illuminating. The authors include many of those making major contributions in this field, and both parts are warmly recommended.

D. G. HARNDEN

Blood Groups in Man, 6th edition. By R. R. Race and Ruth Sanger. (Pp. xix + 659; illustrated; £15.00) Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1975.

In the foreword to the first edition in 1950, Fisher wrote that there was need 'for an exact and comprehensive text book' on the human blood groups. Garnished with humour, this has now been available for 25 years. In the preface to the sixth edition the writers declare that this is the last, because 'the subject has grown to need more than our two pencils'. Many of the seeds from which the knowledge has grown have been sown by the authors. Readers are invited not to ignore, or

commit to memory, the finer details of the antigenic niceties, but to look up the details as required—good advice, as the serological complexities of some of the systems are daunting for the uninitiated even when presented in such a lucid style. It is unfortunate that the chapter on the Rh groups disappoints a little; the section on LW, the true rhesus antigen, lacks the characteristic clarity. Also one could have wished for a powerful final sally from the authors about their own views of the fundamental aspects of the system. To criticize is to cavil—this book will become a classic.

S. D. LAWRENCE