Book reviews

Comprehensive Management of Hemophilia. Edited by Donna C. Boone. (Pp. xvi + 185; illustrated; \$8.00.) Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Company. 1976.

This book is based on 12 years' experience of the management of haemophilia at the Haemophilia Rehabilitation Center, Orthopaedic Hospital, Los Angeles. The book is concerned with the comprehensive management of haemophiliacs, and one can see the scope of the treatment from the qualifications of the contributors. These include a haematologist, a nurse, a physiotherapist, a psychiatric social worker, orthopaedic surgeons, an oral surgeon, a radiologist, an expert in rehabilitation medicine, a financial co-ordinator, and a medical photographer.

The book opens with a chapter on the haematological care of haemophilia. This section is simply and clearly written and provides useful guidelines for replacement therapy for haemophiliacs. There then follow sections on medical care, nursing care, radiological evaluation, and the management of musculoskeletal problems and of dental problems. All these chapters, particularly that dealing with musculoskeletal problems, are of a high standard and are obviously written by workers who have considerable first-hand experience of the care of haemophiliacs. The last four chapters of the book deal with the psychological, social, and financial problems which beset the haemophiliacs.

I think this book provides a very valuable introduction to the management of haemophilia and I strongly recommend it to everyone who is involved in the day-to-day care of haemophiliacs.

C. R. C. RIZZA

Hepatic Support in Acute Liver Failure. Edited by Gustavo G. R. Kuster. (Pp. xiii + 301; illustrated; \$23.50.) Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas. 1976.

This book is not likely to have any great appeal to clinical pathologists. One suspects that there has been a delay in production somewhere in that there are only a few references more recent than 1973. The physiopathology of liver failure is fully and adequately reviewed in the first chapter, and there follows a rather sketchy account of diagnosis and medical management of hepatic encephalopathy. The subsequent chapters

deal with the various support measures which have been tried—exchange transfusion, plasmapheresis, extracorporeal perfusion, cross circulation, auxillary transplants, haemodialysis, and total body washout—but these are rather personalised accounts, which often fail to put their individual value into perspective. The more recent sophisticated approaches with new membranes, exchange columns and so on are, of course, not even touched upon. The book, therefore, is of very limited appeal and can scarcely be regarded as current.

R. N. M. MACSWEEN

Multiple Sclerosis Research. Edited by A. N. Davison, J. H. Humphrey, A. L. Liversedge, W. I. McDonald, and J. S. Porterfield. (Pp. viii + 344; illustrated; £5.00.) London: HMSO. 1976.

Multiple Sclerosis. British Medical Bulletin, Vol. 33, No. 1. Scientific editor; J. S. Porterfield. (Pp. 88; illustrated; £4.50.) British Council, 65 Davies Street, London, W1Y 2AA. 1976.

Given an imponderable disease on which so many hypotheses have already been wrecked, it is valuable to see the directions in which scientific activity still continues. Multiple sclerosis may well be the testing ground in which many present concepts of the mechanisms of chronic infection and host response are proved, or, on past experience, their failure will at least show the way for further work. The first of these books is an excellent account of a conference held in late 1974, and the second is a more up-to-date and equally critical review of selected aspects of multiple sclerosis. To a large extent they complement each other, but there are sufficient differences between the authors and their interests to make it worth reading both works. The coverage is broad and ranges over the basic physiology of nerve conduction in demyelinated fibres, the many hints of virological and immunological mechanisms in the disease, the less definite involvement of fatty acids, and, at a more practical level, improvements in laboratory diagnosis, and the always hopeful attempts at specific treatment. At a time when the specialisation of neurological sciences seems to be taking them away from the rest of medicine, these two books will serve as useful and readable reminders that we can all learn from the brain.

A. D. DAYAN

Exfoliative Cytopathology. 2nd edition. By Zuher M. Naib. (Pp. x + 531; illustrated; \$24.50.) Boston: Little, Brown. 1976.

Professor Naib has again produced a textbook full of concise basic cytological detail, often with precise proportions and percentages of cell changes that may at times offend the erudite but serve a great purpose for the neophyte or laboratory worker. Biology is never so simple as to be presented as straight fractions, especially when no reference is given to the quantitative data presented, though this would probably be found in the ample supplementary reading list given at the end of each chapter.

Nevertheless the work is compendious in such a small volume and presents a very practical aid to the cytodiagnosticsian. Dr Naib has always made the artist-drawings a great feature of his publications and this is no exception, though it is a pity that some of the cell and tissue photographs are not so clear and helpful.

There are new chapters on the breast, the eyes, the skin, and the central nervous system, though the latter deals mainly with cells of the cerebrospinal fluid and not the diagnostic smear technique for neurosurgery.

Fine needle aspiration biopsy and the use of fibrescopes in the gastrointestinal tract are commented upon only briefly, and certain features such as the Nile blue sulphate test for fetal maturity or sexing of the fetus by cytoplasmic and nuclear changes are not mentioned. On the other hand, he has produced a fairly full study of bacterial and parasitical disease, including his favourite subject—viruses.

In spite of the above deficiencies, Zuher M. Naib has improved on his first edition, and many cytologists will find it a valuable addition to their libraries.

O. A. N. HUSAIN

Renal Pathophysiology. By Alexander Leaf and Ramzi Cotran. (Pp. xi + 387; illustrated; £5.00.) London, New York: Oxford University Press. 1976.

Curricular changes in the teaching of medicine to students in recent years have centred on 'topic-teaching' under the organisation of a multidisciplinary team. The latter in many medical schools have prepared 'core-documents' which put

down explicitly what the students are expected to know. This book has developed from the teaching of renal pathophysiology to Harvard medical students. The book covers the normal physiological and biochemical aspects of renal function, pharmacotherapeutics, and the clinical, biochemical, and histological aspects of acute and chronic renal disease. As the authors state in their introduction, the aim of this book is that it should be an introduction to the subject area, and the reader seeking further knowledge is provided with ample references to both original articles and reviews. This is in all respects a most excellent book that undoubtedly should find a place not only in the teaching of medical students but also on the reading lists of those medical graduates preparing for higher degrees who need a solid foundation on which to build.

M. R. MILLS

Microbiological Aspects of Food Hygiene. Report of a WHO Expert Committee with the Participation of FAO. Technical Report Series No. 598. (Pp. 103; £2.52.) Geneva: WHO. 1976.

This report reflects an increasing awareness of microbiological hazards related to the consumption of contaminated food. The first part consists of short sections on the bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites which may give rise to food-borne disease. Each section summarises the epidemiology, pathogenesis, and laboratory investigation of disease caused by these agents. In the second part the way in which food is handled is related to its microbiological hazard. The interplay of processing, storage, food habits, and international travel is described. The place of monitoring, microbiological standards, and the best use of laboratory resources are discussed. In its recommendations the Committee stresses the need for international collaboration and research to produce information on which advice and control measures can be based.

This book is useful because it takes a broad look at the problems of food hygiene and for its references. (There are more than 200 of these, nearly half of them to publications after 1973.) Those who lecture on this topic will find it most valuable.

JOAN R. DAVIES

Phagocytic Engulfment and Cell Adhesiveness as Cellular Surface Phenomena. Edited by Carel J. van Oss, Cetewayo F. Gillman, and A. Wilhelm Neumann. (Pp. 176; illustrated; \$19.50.) New York and Basel: Marcel Dekker. 1975.

It has long been realised that interfacial energies play an important role in the engulfment of bacteria, and Stuart Mudd, to whom this volume is dedicated, first showed that the hydrophobicity of bacteria correlates well with their susceptibility to phagocytosis. The authors critically examine the hypothesis that phagocytosis occurs primarily because of differences in the surface free energies of phagocyte and particle. The interfacial tensions have been measured by adaptation of the contact angle method, first developed by Thomas Young in London in 1855. Using this simple apparatus, the authors have investigated the role in phagocytosis of aspecific plasma factors, antibiotics, viruses, and antibodies. One of many intriguing findings is that the interfacial free energy of the Fc tail of the IgG molecule can be ascertained. Study of thermal energy requirements predicts that complexes of IgG with antigen require at least three immunoglobulin molecules before phagocytosis can occur whereas only one molecule of IgM is necessary. Lipid droplets such as triolein cause a decrease in the contact angle of phagocytes and thus enhance their phagocytic activity. These are but a few examples of the usefulness of the contact angle in interpreting a wide range of bacteriological and immunological phenomena. This book is lucid and original in outlook; it is commended to bacteriologists and immunologists everywhere.

A. E. STUART

Cytogenetic Aspects of Malignant Transformation. By N. B. Atkin, *Experimental Biology and Medicine*. Monographs on Interdisciplinary Topics, Vol. 6. (Pp. viii + 171; illustrated; SFr/DM 74.) Basel: Karger. 1976.

Dr Atkin and his colleagues have made a considerable contribution to our knowledge of the cytogenetics of neoplasia. This neat book is a comprehensive catalogue of information available on the karyotypes, of premalignant and malignant cells, described before the banding techniques that have led to a considerable refinement in chromosomal analysis were introduced. The text is factual rather

than philosophical, but a glimpse of Dr Atkin's view of the importance of chromosomal abnormalities in relation to neoplasia is given in the main conclusions when he writes 'The data at present strongly suggest that damage caused by oncogenic agents at certain localized chromosomal sites is directly related to the acquisition of neoplastic properties; this damage frequently being manifested in the form of the chromosome abnormalities seen in the neoplastic cells.' This would indeed be a good starting point for an evaluation of the cytogenetic aspects of the problem of neoplasia.

SYLVIA D. LAWLEY

Histology, 3rd edition. By C. Rolan Leeson and Thomas S. Leeson. (Pp. ix + 605; illustrated); \$9.75.) Philadelphia, London, Toronto: W. B. Saunders. 1976.

This work is extremely comprehensive and the components of the anatomical systems are dealt with in great detail. The intention of the authors was to combine an atlas of histopathology together with a textbook.

This third edition has been considerably expanded, the latter taking the form of an increase in the number of illustrations rather than in the text which for the most part, is refreshingly clear and succinct. The illustrations are generally of a high standard, and the inclusion also of electron micrographs and a number of scanning electron micrographs adds considerably to the value of the relevant sections. There is a detailed chapter on the micro anatomy of the cell and each chapter has a comprehensive bibliography.

This book will be of value to undergraduate students, although there is much in it which is too advanced for their needs, but it may stimulate those who seek to extend the range of their knowledge. It will also be of great value to teachers of histology and be helpful to the working histopathologist.

G. B. D. SCOTT

Medicolegal Investigation of Gunshot Wounds. By Abdullah Fatteh. (Pp. xv + 272; illustrated; £14.80.) Philadelphia, Toronto: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1976.

The author has attempted to deal with the police and the scientific and pathological investigation of firearm wounds in this relatively short book, which also

used by' excepted. For all the other groups cited, this book is totally inadequate, and it cannot begin to compete with fuller texts of clinical immunology. In one respect only would research workers draw comfort from its perusal—the authors are honest men, and summarising statements such as 'it is extremely probable that lymphocytes have an effector role in the rheumatoid joint' and 'genetic viral and environmental factors might be operating together to produce the disease syndrome' will at least encourage them to believe that there is room for progress in this field.

A. M. DENMAN

Pathology Annual, Volume 11, 1976. Edited by Sheldon C. Sommers. (Pp. x + 465; illustrated; £20.40.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1976.

The current *Pathology Annual* contains 16 articles which are aimed largely at the diagnostic pathologist. As a whole, it is

disappointing and it contains little to excite the imagination. It is hard to justify the inclusion of a review of malignant struma ovarii based on a single case report, or an article concerning necropsy studies of liver cell carcinoma in Barcelona in a volume of this type. Some of the other articles are not up to the standard set in previous years, and the saga of Dr Job Plodd has surely outrun its initial humour. Nevertheless, there are good things in this annual. The review by Whitehead of intestinal ischaemia pulls together much material published in diverse journals and is a valuable summary of present views. Wheeler and Enterline write lucidly on lobular carcinoma of the breast, and Ober provides a good though rather discursive view of the effects of stilboestrol as seen by a histopathologist.

I will be happy to see this annual in the hospital library but it is of low priority among books to be purchased from my own pocket.

G. SLAVIN

Correction

On page 591 of the June issue, in a review of *Multiple Sclerosis: British Medical Bulletin*, vol. 33, no. 1, the year of publication should have been 1977.