The papers deal with the pathogenesis, clinical aspects, and treatment of pyelonephritis, analgesic nephropathy, urinary reflux, and the formation of renal scars, tubulo-interstitial kidney disease and special types of interstitial nephropathies such as those related to gout, cadmium, and Balkan (endemic) nephropathy. Each paper presents a summary and review of recent advances in a subject that has been the cause of much confusion for many years. References at the end of each paper are plentiful and commendably up to date. It is difficult to pick out papers of special merit from such a good selection but those by Asscher (Renal damage due to urinary tract infection), Priscilla Kincaid-Smith (Analgesic nephropathy in Australia), Heptinstall *et al.*, Moffat and Laurence (Reflux nephropathy), and Austwich *et al.* (Balkan nephropathy) are particularly valuable and stimulating.

This small book is one that can be recommended to all with an interest in renal disease. It should be compulsory reading for morbid anatomists who for years have diagnosed every coarsely scarred kidney as 'chronic pyelonephritis', but unfortunately the price (over £20 for a soft cover book of this size) will be a deterrent to many. It should certainly be in every hospital library.

J. R. TIGHE

International Histological Classification of Tumours, No. 20: Histological Typing of Tumours of the Liver, Biliary Tract and Pancreas. By J. B. Gibson. (Pp. 40 + 98 colour transparencies; Sw. Fr. 185; book only Sw. Fr. 60.) Geneva: WHO. 1978.

The familiar blue books, now 20 in number, of the international histological classification of tumours have a limited purpose: 'to promote the adoption of a uniform terminology of tumours that will facilitate and improve communication among cancer workers'. I suspect this has been more easily achieved in this, the most recent volume, than in some others. It is nevertheless helpful to see a further nail hammered into the coffin of that much-used term 'hepatoma'. There is little that is truly controversial here, although there are still 'grey areas', particularly in the tumour-like lesions of the liver. Tumours of the exocrine pancreas are included in this volume, but islet cell lesions are reserved for a later issue on endocrine tumours.

As usual, the text is succinct and the illustrations are usefully representative;

the latter may be obtained, at a price, as a set of colour transparencies.

H. M. CAMERON

Guide to Poliovirus Isolation and Serological Techniques for Poliomyelitis Surveillance. By I. Dömök and D. I. Magrath. (Pp. 26; illustrated; Sw. Fr. 4.) Geneva: World Health Organization. 1979.

This book is written dogmatically but by two laboratory workers with great experience of working with poliovirus. After stating briefly how virus isolation and typing and also serum neutralisation tests are needed to plan and monitor poliomyelitis vaccination programmes, the book gives in considerable detail sound and simple techniques for collecting specimens and testing them. It assumes the existence of a basic virological laboratory with media, some disposable equipment, and access to liquid nitrogen storage. It could be useful to those setting up such a laboratory and in the teaching of scientific or technical staff, and could serve to some extent as a bench book. It is well produced and free of careless errors though Annex 2, which ostensibly tells us how to make a virus stock, describes exactly how to inoculate the cells but not how to incubate or harvest them.

D. TYRRELL

Aplastic Anaemia. First Edition. Edited by C. G. Geary. (Pp. ix + 249; 39 figs, 32 tables, 2 colour plates; £12.50.) London: Baillière Tindall.

This well-produced book represents a synthesis of the experience of nine experimental and clinical haematologists who have a particular interest in aplastic anaemia in both adult and paediatric practice.

The chapters are well arranged and have a uniformity of presentation which facilitates reading. Chapters on the pathophysiology, drug mechanism, clinical features, laboratory aspects, and dyserythropoiesis in aplastic anaemia follow in logical sequence and provide a wealth of basic information. This is followed by chapters on treatment of aplastic anaemia, aplastic anaemia in childhood, red cell aplasia, and the aplasia-leukaemia syndrome. The chapters on the treatment of aplastic anaemia are clear and concise and will be of undoubted value to practising haematologists.

The contributors have adequately ful-

filled their aim to provide an up-to-date and comprehensive account of aplastic anaemia. This book will be of considerable value to haematologists and is highly recommended as an overall view of aplastic anaemia.

G. A. McDONALD

The Lung. Structure, Function and Disease. International Academy of Pathology Monograph. Edited by A. M. Thurlbeck and M. R. Abell. 23 authors. (Pp. xii + 322; illustrated; \$37.50). Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Company. 1978.

This monograph is based on a teaching course on pulmonary pathology arranged in Atlanta, Georgia in 1977 by the International Academy of Pathology. It is modelled on the Academy's original version of 'The Lung' published in 1968 and edited by A. A. Liebow and D. E. Smith.

The electron microscope has led to many important advances in knowledge in all branches of anatomical pathology in recent years, and pulmonary pathology is no exception to this. In the present monograph C. Kuhn III writes on some ultrastructural features of the 'distal' lung and speculates on their possible functional significance. J. L. Abraham includes scanning electron microscopy photographs to advantage in illustrating his chapter on pneumoconiosis (should one really define pneumoconiosis as 'dust in the lung'?) and so do D. E. Niewoehner and M. G. Cosio in their chapter on chronic obstructive lung disease. H. L. Joachim includes electron microscopy in a chapter on present trends in lung cancer (although one suspects inaccuracies in the captions to his figs 5 and 6). G. G. Pietra describes ultrastructure of the lungs in pulmonary oedema. The latter author rightly draws attention to the difficulties arising in extrapolating dynamic processes from static pictures; some uses of freeze-fracture replicas are described and clearly illustrated.

Back to the light microscope, a well-written chapter is that by C. B. Carrington and E. A. Gaensler on 'diffuse infiltrative lung disease' (a term derived from the radiologists), with a very practical approach for pathologists presented with open lung biopsies for diagnosis. It is noted, however, that the authors hold the opinion that transthoracic needle biopsy of the lung carries a higher mortality than open lung biopsy, but this has not been our experience.