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.

Another well-written chapter is by W. D. and J. E. Edwards on pulmonary vasculature, particularly the description of plexogenic pulmonary arteriopathy. L. Reid has brought us up to date with research on mucus secretion in the lung.

The monograph should interest anyone concerned with teaching pulmonary pathology or wanting to learn about it.

BRIAN E. HEARD

Clinical Gastrointestinal Immunology. By H. C. Thomas and D. P. Jewell. (Pp. viii + 264; illustrated; £12.00.) Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1979.

In the past 10-15 years both basic and applied immunology have produced an 'explosion' (as the authors state) not only in gastroenterology but in most of the clinical specialties; with the probable exception of nephrology, however, gastroenterology represents the specialty in which both basic and applied immunology have contributed most to our understanding. This is borne out by the number of texts which have now appeared and continue to appear dealing with various aspects of the immunology of the gastrointestinal tract and liver. The need for a further monograph such as the present one is in no doubt; it provides a most lucid and concise 'up-date' of current knowledge and with a judicious and careful critical approach in those areas where the evidence as yet remains equivocal.

The first three chapters provide a basic immunological background against which the subsequent chapters are set. One wonders whether the authors have not been a little patronising in assuming that their colleague gastroenterologists have not as yet become sufficiently familiar with the language and concepts of immunology; if they have not, then it is surely an indictment of our undergraduate and postgraduate medical education. If there is need to include a glossary in which, for example, gluten and reticuloendothelial system appears, are they justified in assuming a sufficient virological knowledge among their readers to be able to understand nucleocapsid, DNA polymerase, and others? Having said this, however, these three chapters represent an excellent precis of current knowledge, and for any gastroenterologist who has missed out on his immunology the book is worth purchase for this alone. The subsequent chapters deal with particular diseases, including intestinal and hepatic infections

(perhaps the least satisfying in its rather sketchy and brief handling of the topic), coeliac disease, chronic inflammatory bowel diseases, acute and chronic hepatitis, and others. There are some minor inconsistencies here and there, for example, in a balanced review of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis immune responsiveness in the former becomes immunological competence in the latter. The chapter on acute and chronic viral hepatitis is a masterpiece, in which the complexities of the host/viral interrelationships are clearly and skilfully outlined. The authors are to be congratulated on this excellent text, and it is a pleasure to commend it.

R. N. M. MACSWEEN

Post Mortem Procedures. (An Illustrated Textbook). By G. A. Gresham and A. F. Turner. (Pp. 160; illustrated; £8.00.) London: Wolfe Medical Publications Ltd. 1979.

Sex and violence pervade the media and intrude into this book. The first page advises us that sexual intercourse is a cause of sudden death, and the later chapters are full of high-quality gruesome photographs of the mutilated victims of violence. This type of presentation, with a tabloid-type format of numerous photographs (thankfully in monochrome) and a concise text in short, easily read sentences, may attract a mortuary technician with limited literary horizons.

To a hospital pathologist trying to raise the standards of his postmortem room the 60 pages on the technique of the postmortem examination are outstanding. The step-by-step illustrations of how to remove the organs are excellent, and most of them speak for themselves. Specialised techniques and mortuary administration are also described, and pathologists in training will benefit from a quick perusal of this book. It is well-printed on good paper, does not take long to read, and is not expensive. Recommended for the mortuary staff to read and to imitate. The pathologist who works with technicians who can reproduce these procedures is fortunate.

R. A. B. DRURY

Corrections

A new technique for Gram staining paraffin-embedded tissue by K. ENGBAEK, K. S. JOHANSEN, and M. E. JENSEN (*Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 1979, **32**, 187-190.)

On page 188, column 1, paragraph 2, line 7, under solution (C) should be added: 'Working Solution: stock solution 10 ml, distilled water 50 ml.'

Winter vomiting disease caused by calicivirus by W. D. CUBITT, D. A. MCSWIGGAN, and W. MOORE (*Journal of Clinical Pathology*, 1979, **32**, 786-793).

Results:

Buoyant density in CsCl

Feline calicivirus 1.36-1.42 g/cm⁻³

'Human' calicivirus 1.36-1.38 g/cm⁻³