

*Ultrastructural Pathology*, which is well illustrated with both light and electron micrographs, will perform a useful function.

JULIE CROW

**Gastro-intestinal Pathology.** BC Morson and IMP Dawson. (Pp xiv + 805; illustrated; £32.50.) Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1979.

As expected, the first edition established itself as a standard work. Seven years later, how does the second edition differ?

The new edition is 130 pages (20%) longer. Chapters are similar, with a restructured chapter on the large bowel adenoma-carcinoma sequence and a new chapter on laboratory techniques. There are 88 (40%) more photographs, and some of the old ones have been improved. The paper is worse and the photographic detail slightly less clear. References have gone up by 450 (80%) and the price by an extra £20.50 (170%).

The text is less changed than the illustrations. Amid so much that is admirable it is possible to comment on only a few small details. It is a surprise to see the use of the term 'intramucosal carcinoma' in colonic adenomas rejected on the grounds that it may cause overtreatment by surgeons; and tubular adenomas are inconsistently referred to as adenomatous polyps. We might have hoped for more about the diffuse endocrine system of the gastro-intestinal tract, but the sectional layout of the book makes this difficult. Over 50 of the photographs and legends are still printed at right angles to the text, often needlessly. The new chapter on technique does not give guidance on the problem of fixation of autolysing diseased intestinal mucosa in the postmortem room where brief fixation and the avoidance of handling and water may give surprisingly good results. There is still no author index.

The authors have not resisted the temptation to reproduce a similar successful product and the new 'Morson and Dawson' is still recognisably the same. Inevitably it is bigger, but it is also better, and in view of the excellence of the first edition this is no mean achievement.

RAB DRURY

**Steroid Receptors and the Management of Cancer.** Vol. 1 Ed EB Thompson and ME Lippman. (Pp 248; illustrated; £44.75.) Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1979.

Undoubtedly, one of the major achievements in the field of hormone-related cancers over the past 20 years has been the recognition of the association of steroid receptors and neoplasia, their management, and clinical application.

The present volume, entitled 'Clinically Oriented Studies', is the first of two volumes, the second concentrating on experimental systems. It consists of 15 chapters detailing studies carried out in human breast cancer (4 chapters), leukaemia, prostate, and endometrium (2 chapters each), and a single chapter on each of hypernephroma, melanoma, and nasopharyngeal tumours. The final chapters consist of an account of the new synthetic steroids from Roussel and a useful chapter outlining some of the pitfalls in methodology.

The book must be recommended on the basis of the diversity of tumour types that the authors encompass. There are few other works that attempt to review the evidence for links with steroids and so many human tumours. Of course, the example for a hormone-sensitive tumour *par excellence* is human breast cancer: we will all look to progress in this field for ways of studying the others. Until the exact interrelationships of steroid hormones, peptide growth factors, stromal tissues, and other mediators of hormone actions are more clearly delineated in breast cancer, advances in these fields with other tumours will be hard to come by.

RC COOMBS

## Notices

### National Viscosity Meeting

A one-day meeting on Viscosity of Blood and Body Fluids will be held on 10 December 1980 at 10 am in the Kennedy Lecture Theatre, Institute of Child Health, London. For information please write to the Joint Secretaries, Dr S Roath and Dr B Warburton, Department of Haematology, Level C, Room 84, South Laboratory and Pathology Block, Southampton General Hospital, Tremona Road, Southampton SO9 4XY.

### Benjamin Castleman Award

For the purpose of promoting those high ideals of teaching, practice, and research in pathology which Dr Benjamin Castleman imbued in his associates, trainees,

and students, the Trustees of The Massachusetts General Hospital announce the first Benjamin Castleman Award for an outstanding paper in the field of human pathology published in English during the calendar year 1980. The subject may represent any topic in pathology but must be based on human material with emphasis on morphological or anatomical approaches. In papers with multiple authorship only one author is eligible. The awardee must be a pathologist or pathologist-in-training who has not yet reached his 40th birthday in 1980. Papers by pathology residents, trainees, and fellows are encouraged. The prize will consist of a cheque for \$1000 and a plaque.

Nominations should consist of 10 reprints (or preprints) of the manuscript and a letter attesting to the nominee's age and dates and places of residency training, and role in the investigation if other than the first author.

Nominations should be submitted before 15 January 1981 to: Sanford I Roth, MD, Secretary, The Award Committee, Benjamin Castleman Award, c/o Department of Pathology, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, 4301 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72205, USA.

### International Association of Oral Pathologists

First General Meeting, Gothenburg, Sweden, 1 to 4 June 1981. To be held in association with the Scandinavian Society of Oral Pathology and Oral Medicine. Further information from Dr Guy Heyden, PO Box 33070, S-400, Gothenburg, Sweden.