Color Atlas of Liver Biopsies: A clinical pathological guide. PJ Grases and S Becker. (Pp 134; illustrated; £41.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1981.

The clinical features, biochemical, radiological and scan data are correlated in this atlas with alternating pages of histopathological colour plates. The sections are arranged in the fashionable problem-solving format. The colour pictures are of good quality, but neither they nor the references, which are up to date and mostly English language, are referred to in the text. Although originally published in Spanish, the quality of the English is excellent.

The foreword by Fenton Schaffner suggests that the book is aimed primarily at pathologists for whom it should provide very necessary clinicopathological correlations. However, although it might achieve this to some extent, the actual histopathology is so superficial that I doubt whether many pathologists would find it useful. In particular there is virtually no discussion whatever of morphological features in differential diagnosis. Its main appeal is likely to be to postgraduates studying for higher examinations in medicine and surgery, for whom, however, it might prove rather expensive.

DGD WIGHT

Immunobiology of the Erythrocyte. Progress in Clinical and Biological Research. Vol. 43. Eds SG Sandler, J Nusbacher, and MS Schanfield. (Pp 360; illustrated; \$40.00.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1980.

This is an expert book bringing into one volume a series of well-illustrated papers on advances and reviews of the recent knowledge and ideas in immunohaematology and blood group serology. It reports the proceedings of the 11th Annual Scientific Symposium of the American Red Cross and will be especially useful to the postgraduate and scientific and technical student.

The reader is taken carefully through the complexities of red cell membrane chemistry to the interactions of antigens and antibodies to explain new genetic information and disease association.

Apart from some minor printing errors the texts are refreshing with numerous key references. The reader is left with a sense of wonder and admiration at such a fine achievement.

RUTHUEN MITCHELL

The Biology of Cholesterol and Related Steroids. NB Myant. (Pp 910; illustrated; £45.) William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1981.

Multiple authorship books on lipid metabolism abound; the continuity of style in Myant's monograph—and its lucidity—are attractive features and recall the unity of the previous generation of books on cholesterol by Cook and by Kritchevsky. *The Biology of Cholesterol* is not for the general reader; it is a minutely argued record of research in the field covering most key papers in the literature up to about one year ago. Perhaps the most rewarding sections are those dealing with sterol metabolism in isolated cells and the metabolic bases of patients with familial hypercholesterolaemia. But this is a well balanced book, a classic of its kind, and an important event in the literature of lipid metabolism.

This volume, which contains the understanding and the personal research of a major part of the author's career, needs an unreserved welcome rather than a review.

B LEWIS

Perinatal Diseases. International Academy of Pathology Monograph by 14 authors. Eds RL Naeye, JM Kissane and N Kaufman. (Pp 425; illustrated; \$52.75.) Williams and Wilkins Company. 1981.

This volume is based on a course on perinatal diseases given at a meeting of the United States-Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology in 1980. It contains a dozen chapters by contributors from the United States, well known in the field of perinatal pathology, writing in most cases on subjects in which they have a particular interest, for example Benirschke on abortions and moles, Blanc on placental infection, Dehner on neoplasms of the fetus and the neonate, and Witzleben on neonatal liver disease. Other sound reviews are presented of fetal and neonatal viral infections and iatrogenic disease. There are thoughtful and mildly provocative chapters on environmental influences on the fetus (maternal nutrition, cigarette smoking and coitus during pregnancy) and on mechanisms of reproductive failure. The most practical contribution is Altshuler's short chapter on the examination of the placenta. There is a disappointing imbalance between the "chapter" on prenatal

diagnosis which consists of a two page summary and the weighty review of maternal diabetes mellitus which runs to 67 pages with 438 references.

This is a useful review of the present state of knowledge of several different topics in perinatal pathology and merits a place in the departmental library of those who work in this field.

A GIBSON

Notices

Benjamin Castleman Award

For the purpose of promoting those high ideals of teaching, practice and research in pathology with Dr Benjamin Castleman imbued in his associates, trainees, and students, the Trustees of Massachusetts General Hospital and Dr Castleman's former students and colleagues announce the second Benjamin Castleman Award for an outstanding paper in the field of human pathology published in English during the calendar year 1981. The subject may represent any topic in pathology but must be based on human material with emphasis on morphological or anatomical approaches. On 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 1981. Papers by pathology residents, trainees and fellows are encouraged. The prize will consist of a check for US\$1000 and a certificate (travel will not be paid) . . . The Award will be announced and presented at the 71st annual meeting of the United States-Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology, 1-5 March, 1982, Boston, Massachusetts.

Nominations should consist of 12 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 not later than 15 January 1982 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.