portance in dealing with radioactive material. The clinical usefulness of the investigations described is discussed in the briefest possible way and the author should perhaps consider collaboration with a haematologist in order to incorporate more details of clinical application in future editions. Despite these minor drawbacks it is an exceptionally readable and useful book.

M BROZOVIĆ

Respiratory Medicine. Eds JG Scadding and G Cumming. (Pp 746; illustrated; £63.) William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1981.

This is not a book for perusal in bed or even in an armchair. It is a large unwieldy volume with double column print demanding a desk and a hard upright chair. These physical characteristics are to some extent reflected in the contents. There are 62 authors, mainly but by no means exclusively from the United Kingdom, and it is a tribute to the three editors that the style and contents are not more uneven and disconnected. For the past three decades chest medicine has been dominated by increasingly sophisticated technical achievements in respiratory physiology which are lineally descended from the days of the smoked drum. To their great credit Scadding and his colleagues have departed from this well worn path. The book is divided into seven sections—epidemiology, structure, normal physiology, biochemistry, infection and host response, pathology and therapy, and disordered function. The treatment is scholarly throughout and there is a pleasing emphasis on the quantitative approach. The book will be used mainly for reference purposes but there are some chapters which can be read with joy and interest for their own sake and fortunately among these are elegant contributions to the pathological section by Bowden, Corrin and Heath. Mention should also be made of "Mapping respiratory diseases" by Cliff and Haggett, which is a beautiful exposition of modern methods in geographical pathology, and Hutchinson's chapters on proteases and protease inhibitors which clarify present day ideas underlying the aetiology of emphysema. The illustrations are clear and the print is easy to read as the paper is of the matt variety.

Perhaps this is not a book for individual pathologists to purchase—£63 provides

an effective disincentive—yet there should be a place for it in every hospital library.

MS DUNNILL

Ackerman's Surgical Pathology. Vols 1 and 2. 6th ed. J Rosai. (Pp 1702 + index and appendix; 1608 figures; £85.) YB Medical Publishers Ltd. 1981.

The enlarged two volume edition of Ackerman's Surgical Pathology has been revised almost single handed by Juan Rosai who has injected new vigour into this well established bench manual. There are 328 extra pages of text, but the 2631 additional references (many very recent) are a better indicator of the extent of the revision since the previous edition seven years ago. (The appendix of 97 pages containing guidelines on the handling of surgical specimens is largely superfluous as this important topic is well covered throughout the text.)

The chapter in the previous edition on ultrastructure has been dropped and the material assimilated with profit elsewhere in the text. There are useful new chapters on the pathology of the heart and also the bone marrow, the latter by RD Brunning. New material supplied by HW Sumner and RK Sibley has much improved the chapters on the liver and kidney respectively. Inevitably there is some unevenness in cover, though this does not detract from the overall high standard. The chapter on soft tissues is excellent and, for many, this alone will justify purchase. Diseases of lymph nodes and lymphoma are well covered without adding further to the confusion and uncertainty which weighs heavily on many histopathologists. Tables setting out criteria for differential diagnosis in many problem areas have, with profit, been increased in number.

No single book could meet all the needs of a histopathologist. This excellent new edition of Ackerman achieves a great deal and those who use it are assured of an improvement in the quality and clinical relevance of their reporting and teaching. The photomicrographs are of a high standard as is the printing and binding, though this is marred by the irritatingly numerous, minor misprints which occasionally give rise to uncertainty.

J BURSTON

Apheresis: Development, Applications, and Collection Procedures. Progress in Clinical and Biological Research. Vol 65. Ed CH Mielke. (Pp 168; illustrated; £12.30.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1981.

When reading a volume of conference proceedings it is wise to see who sponsored the conference. Not that the contents will be inaccurate but the whole truth may not be represented. In this instance a symposium on blood separation techniques assisted by a grant from IBM Ltd contains some helpful information mostly on granulocyte transfusions and mostly available elsewhere. What is not found here but which has occupied some space in the journals is any estimate of the cost-benefit analyses of such procedures, nor yet of one of the main hazards, CMV infection. Students of apheresis, which means taking away, should know what is missing.

HEM KAY

Cholestasis in Infancy. Its Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment. Eds M Kasai and K Shiraki. (Pp 439; illustrated; £33.50.) MTP Press Limited. 1980.

The proceedings of an International Symposium held in 1978 in Japan are contained in this volume. It is of particular interest to specialist hepatologists and paediatricians, together with research workers in the individual aspects covered. It is of less value as a guide for those not already conversant with the syndrome. Reviews and original papers are presented on the aetiological aspects including epidemiological studies, bile acid abnormalities, and viral associations. The section on diagnosis lacks a comprehensive review of the diagnostic approach to cholestasis in infancy, which is subsequently mentioned in Dr Mowat's excellent summary. The treatment section predominantly describes the technique, results, and long term follow up of hepatic portoenterostomy for biliary atresia, in which the Japanese have particular experience. Many recognised international experts contribute, and this book is a valuable record for those interested in this fascinating condition.

BARBARA H BILLING

Electron Microscopy in Human Medicine. Vols 5 & 10. Ed JV Johannessen. Vol. 5: Cardiovascular system, lymphoreticular and hematopoietic system. (Pp 501; illustrated; £48.50.); Vol 10: Endocrine Organs. (Pp 215; illustrated; £29.50.) McGraw-Hill Book Company (UK) Limited. 1981.

These two volumes are the latest in an ambitious series which aims to review

the interface between ultrastructure, pathology, and clinical medicine. Volume 5 includes chapters on the heart, blood, and lymphatic vessels, the thymus, the blood, the bone marrow, lymph nodes, and spleen. Volume 10 covers the pituitary, thyroid, parathyroid and adrenal glands, and the endocrine pancreas. As before, the quality of the production of these volumes is sumptuous with paper and printing of the highest quality. At times, in Volume 5, the layout results in an unusual amount of blank paper, amounting to over 10% of the print area. The quality of the electron micrographs is in general very high, although some of the illustrations seem to have been reproduced rather too large for comfort.

As often in edited multiauthor volumes, the scope and quality of the individual contributions varies quite widely. In Volume 5 the sections by Ferrans on the heart, Levine and Bearman on the thymus, and Brunning and Maldonado on blood and bone marrow are particularly well done. On the other hand, Leak's scholarly review of vascular ultrastructure, largely based on material from laboratory animals, lacks detailed comment on how far these results can be extrapolated to man. Even more disappointing, in a book centred on "Human Medicine", is the absence of any description of vascular pathology. The important group of neoplasms of the vascular endothelium and pericytes are not mentioned.

In Volume 10 the thyroid and parathyroids are comprehensively reviewed by Gould, Johannessen and Sobrinho-Simoes, and by Altenähr while some other sections, such as the pituitary and the endocrine pancreas are disappointingly brief.

In a series as ambitious as this it is almost impossible to maintain uniformity of standards and approach in the different sections. Perhaps these volumes could have benefited from more aggressive editing. Nevertheless there is much of value in these books and in the series as a whole. The professional electron microscopist will certainly want to add them to his reference shelf.

PG TONER

Rapid Laboratory Techniques for the Diagnosis of Viral Infections. WHO Technical Report Series No. 661. (Pp 60; 4 sw fr (paperback).) World Health Organization. 1981.

The various methods which can be used

for making a rapid diagnosis of an acute viral infection are described in this WHO technical report. These are immunofluorescence, electronmicroscopy, enzyme labelled and radio-labelled immunosorbent assays (ELISA & RIA), reverse passive haemagglutination, and the detection of specific IgM. The basis of each is briefly outlined and an evaluation is made of the advantages and disadvantages of each technique in terms of expense of equipment, shelf-life of reagents, ease of operation, and sensitivity. A second section indicates which of the methods are appropriate for use in different disease systems such as respiratory tract infections, gastroenteritis, hepatitis, sexually transmitted, CNS, skin, eyes, and arbovirus infections.

This booklet will be found useful by virologists in the clinical field who wish to know which methods will be most appropriate for their needs.

MS PEREIRA

Neuromuscular Diseases. A Practical Approach to Diagnosis and Management. M Swash and MS Schwartz. (Pp 316; illustrated; £25.) Springer-Verlag. 1981.

The authors are a clinical neurologist with experience in muscle biopsy pathology and a clinical neurophysiologist. Between them they have produced a broad, up-to-date account of neuromuscular disease which is not only a practical guide to diagnosis and treatment but also a good reference text with an extensive bibliography. The first section of the book deals with the structure and physiology of normal nerves and muscles. This is followed by a section on the basic principles of electromyography and neuromuscular pathology. By far the largest section of the book is a well written and clear account of the clinical aspects, neurophysiology, and pathology of the wide range of nerve and muscle disorders. Almost unique in its concept and approach, this book will be of considerable value to pathologists and clinicians involved in the diagnosis and treatment of neuromuscular disorders.

RO WELLER

entitled "Adaptation—pathophysiology of intestinal response to disease," organised by the Royal Postgraduate Medical School in collaboration with the Medical Department of Glaxo Group Research, will be held in London on 23 March 1982. The organisers are JM Polak, SR Bloom, NA Wright, MJ Daly. For information, please write to: Dr MJ Daly, Glaxo Group Research, Ware, Herts SG12 0DN.

10th International Symposium on Clinical Enzymology and the 5 Congress Nazionale della Società Italiana Enzimologia Clinica

This Symposium, sponsored by the International Society for Clinical Enzymology will be held in Padua, Italy, 21-24 April 1982. Contributions are invited in the following subjects: pathophysiology, diagnostics, methods. For information, please write to: Professor Angelo Burlina, Centro di Enzimologia Clinica, Laboratorio di Biochimica, Istituti Ospitalieri, Piazzale Stefani, I-37126 Verona, Italy.

Notices

Symposia in Basic Gastroenterology

The Third Symposium in this series