

of bone tumours and should encourage us to add cytology to the histological, radiological, and clinical assessment.

MARY E CATTO

The Endometrium. WB Robertson. (Pp 201; illustrated; £25.) Butterworths. 1981.

I enjoyed reading and reviewing this book and would have done it more quickly if it had not disappeared with great rapidity into the registrars' room from where it has been difficult to extract. It is an ideal book for the beginner in pathology—straight forward morphological descriptions, coupled with a clinical and functional approach. It is also good for the experienced histopathologist to remind him that interpreting curettings is not merely a chore but is still an intellectual exercise. Twenty-five pounds seems a lot for less than 200 pages but I think it well worth the price—buy it as a bench book.

G SLAVIN

Antibiotics and Chemotherapy. Vol 29. Kaposi's Sarcoma. Vol Eds CLM Olweny, MSR Hutt and R Owor. (Pp 104; illustrated; No price given.) S Karger. 1981.

Kaposi's sarcoma is a tumour with a remarkably high frequency in Africans and accounts for about 9% of malignant tumours in Equatorial Africa. This excellent report of the Second Kaposi's Sarcoma symposium held in Kampala in 1980 describes progress in the understanding of the epidemiology, pathology, and particularly the therapy of the disease. It is unlikely that this book will find its way into the personal library of British pathologists unless they have a particular interest in tropical pathology but they should certainly persuade the hospital librarian to buy it.

G SLAVIN

Biopsy Pathology of the Liver. RS Patrick and JO'D McGee. (Pp 335; illustrated; \$37.50.) JB Lippincott Company. 1980.

A title such as this indicates a deliberately limited approach to the subject: a focus on morphology rather than on the fascinating byways of aetiology and pathogenesis.

The distinction is not always observed in this book. It is intended as a guide to 'liver biopsy interpretation', but although profusely illustrated the diagnostic guidelines tend to be obscured by a rather discursive text. The photomicrographs are uneven in quality and some have suffered in reproduction and the authors have been poorly served by the publishers who have the eccentric habit of placing many legends on the page preceding or following the photographs they describe.

The terminology of liver disease is a source of much confusion. To counter this a preliminary chapter is devoted to semantics; this should be useful to beginners. To help the pathologist through the problems of diagnosis, sections specifically on differential diagnosis are included in some chapters. These are helpful, but as the authors would recognise—can only be a partial help, since most problems of differential diagnosis in liver disease require an appraisal of all the evidence: clinical, biochemical, radiological, etc. as well as histological.

The concept of a series of books on 'Biopsy Pathology' is attractive. This book will be of value in the reporting room but I would suggest its value would be enhanced by a more concise and focused presentation.

HM CAMERON

Chromosomal Variation in Man. 3rd ed. Digamber S Borgaonkar. (Pp 714; illustrated; \$58.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1981.

Most standard textbooks on human chromosomal disorders describe defined syndromes rather than the vast, and for the clinician bewildering, array of reported chromosomal anomalies. Ready systematic access to this ever increasing literature is essential to the cytogeneticist for purposes of both karyotype and phenotype comparisons between patients he investigates and those previously reported.

Borgaonkar's benchbook fulfils this need and his new edition updates the references to the period between 1970 and 1979. It is compiled using a computerised system of retrieval of published papers that can be rapidly published and hence be almost up to date at the time of publication.

The main section consists of papers on

structural chromosome variations such as deletions, inversions, and translocations arranged in order of chromosome, arm, region, and finally band number. Further sections cover numerical chromosomal anomalies and chromosomal breakage syndromes. The book is also an aid to chromosome mapping and marker chromosome linkage studies. Doubtless future editions will refine phenotype-karyotype correlations further as high resolution banding techniques come into wider use.

M D'A CRAWFORD

Lymphokines. Vol. 2. Ed E Pick. (Pp 313; illustrated; \$35.00.) Academic Press Inc. 1981.

Among the many new words introduced by Immunologists, few equal "lymphokine" in encapsulating a totally new concept of the biological functions of cells. Lymphokines are substances synthesised by stimulated lymphocytes which influence the actions of other cells in their micro-environments. This volume of articles by some of the many groups of workers in this field covers the whole spectrum of activities attributable to lymphokines. It underlines the complexities of these substances and their effects, as well as the more general biological relevance of this method of cellular interaction, since similar substances are secreted by other types of cells such as monocytes, fibroblasts, etc., giving rise to mono-kines, cyto-kines, etc.

The chapters are of two types, some being presentations of original work in support of new activities while others are reviews of the existing literature on the subject. Almost all the chapters are interesting and worth reading. Of particular interest is the chapter which deals with the effect of these substances on fibroblast regulation, providing insight perhaps into factors affecting fibrosis; and there are two thought provoking chapters on substances secreted by tumour cells.

This is a book recommended for those pathologists interested in keeping abreast of this growing field of cell biology which will undoubtedly continue to make an impact on our understanding of pathological mechanisms.

RA THOMPSON