Maternity Hospital, Goldhawk Road, London W6 0XG. Telephone: 01-748 4666 extension 229/338 by 15th September 1982, from whom general information on the style and content of the Course is available.

Addendum

With reference to his letter in the August issue, ¹ Professor Corrin cites three additional cases: "Benjamin and Ahmed² report two more cases of silicone lymph adenopathy one with concomitant lymphoma, and draw attention to a third."

References

- ¹ Corrin B. Letter—silicone lymph adenopathy. *J. Clin Pathol* 1982;35:901-2.
- ² Benjamin E, Ahmed A. Silicone lymph adenopathy: a report of two cases, one with concomitant malignant lymphoma. *Diagn Histopathol* 1982;5:133.

Some new titles

Procedure Manual for Clinical Bacteriology: Annotated Dorothy Branson. (Pp 358; \$39.75 spiral bound.) Charles C Thomas. 1982.

The Biology of Tumour Malignancy. GV Sherbet. (Pp 255; illustrated; £19.20.) Academic Press Inc (London) Ltd. 1982.

Clinical Decisions and Laboratory Use. Ed DP Connelly, ES Benson, MD Burke and D Fenderson. (Pp 355; illustrated; \$29.50.) University of Minnesota Press. 1982.

The Lymphokines: Biochemistry and Biological Activity. Eds JW Hadden and WE Stewart II. (Pp 437; illustrated; \$69.50.) The Humana Press Inc. 1981.

For over a decade well-meaning immunologists concerned with mononuclear cell interactions have been prisoners of bioassay techniques increasingly eschewed by scientists in other disciplines. Ironically this situation was just starting to change as the contributors to this volume were assembling their final reference lists. The chapters have been carefully and painstakingly

written and the editor has obtained balanced contributions on every important aspect of mononuclear cell interactions. Indeed this rather voluminous text faithfully reflects the complexities inescapable with such cumbersome methodology. Certainly it is a book for immunological research workers and not a laboratory handbook. The better the available techniques the more incisive the contribution is one's principal impression. Thus the chapter on prostaglandins will outlive that devoted to "transfer factor". However the sophisticated analysis of the interleukins threatens the survival of many of these contributions. One looks forward to a second edition less diffuse in form, more defined in scope, and with an incubation period to match the speed of methodological transition.

AM DENMAN

Diagnostic Special Stains for Surgical Pathology. Erwin Haas. (Pp 189; illustrated; £24.50.) JB Lippincott Co. 1981.

Here we have a controversial book. If you believe there are fifty "diagnostic" special staining techniques, it may be of value. But to histopathologists who use special stains to build up observed information that leads to a considered judgement it will not be attractive. Leaving aside these basic differences in attitudes and work style, and the price, it must be said that the methods are almost all in other books that we have in the laboratory. The photomicrographs are not always adequate, the legends are misleadingly incomplete, and the alphabetical arrangement of the techniques has scattered related methods that should be grouped together.

RAB DRURY

The Cellular Basis of the Immune Response. 2nd ed. ES Golub. (Pp 330; illustrated; £8.40.) Addison-Wesley Publishers Limited. 1981.

Given the rapid accumulation of data on immunological subjects, most students of immunology need an Everyman's guide which will lead them sure-footedly through the mass of new discoveries and changing concepts. Moreover many of these discoveries are really here to stay and are not transient observations of ill-understood phenomena. Dr Golub has evolved the right formula for such a guide. His selection of material is incisive and purposive so

that the reader feels part of a relaxed scientific enquiry rather than the hapless recipient of dry, unassorted facts. Experimental data have been selected to illustrate important themes, not just to impress with surplus erudition.

This is a splendid course book for undergraduate students of immunology or postgraduate students needing a more general background to their specialised field of study. It will be less attractive to pathologists or clinicians immediately concerned with the clinical applications of immunology but will appeal to those doctors who prefer to think for themselves about immunology.

AM DENMAN

Methods in Haematology. Quality Control Ed I Cavill. (Pp 191; illustrated; £14.) Churchill Livingstone. 1982.

Essentially this is a bench book which covers not only the principles and practice of standardisation in blood counting, serology, and coagulation tests, but covers the principles of standardisation of laboratory performance both inside single laboratories and in groups of laboratories. There are a number of bonuses such as the chapter on the interpretation and significance of laboratory results and the excellent economical foreword and appendix on statistical techniques. These are both exceptionally well presented with maximum economy. Candidates both for the IML special examination and the MRC Path in Haematology should consider this volume required reading and each haematology laboratory should possess its reference copy.

S ROAIL
JL FRANCIS

Electron Microscopy in Human Medicine. Vol 4. Soft Tissues, Bones and Joints. Ed Jan Vincents Johannessen. (Pp 325; illustrated; £49.95.) McGraw-Hill Book Company (UK) Limited. 1982.

Produced in the same lavish layout as the rest of this series volume 4 plumbs the somewhat murky depths of soft tissue and bone and joint pathology. Tumours arising from these tissues may frequently cause diagnostic difficulties and therefore it is useful to have a reference book outlining the findings of others on the ultrastructure of such lesions. The features described are rarely specific or diagnostic for individual

tumours at present, but do serve to extend the corpus of pathological knowledge to the ultrastructural level and hopefully may be used to improve the classifications of the future.

One feature of the presentation which is a considerable irritation when looking up any particular lesion is that the text and the illustrations have been allowed to become increasingly asynchronous so that relevant photographs are rarely on the same page as the description and often are many pages away.

The chapter on inflammatory and degenerative joint conditions includes a considerable background of normal appearances and reactive changes produced in experimental animals and only a relatively short section on the changes of rheumatoid and osteoarthritis.

The section on non-neoplastic disorders of skeletal muscle may prove to be particularly useful. It describes the ultrastructure of normal muscle and the pathological changes which can be seen in the various organelles before going onto the characteristic features of the different myopathies.

On the whole this is a useful coverage of rather specialist areas for the general histopathologist/electron microscopist.

JULIE CROW

Genital Infection by Chlamydia trachomatis. Current Topics in Infection Series no. 2. JD Oriel and GL Ridgway. (Pp 144; illustrated; £13.50.) Edward Arnold Ltd. 1982.

A review of clinical and microbiological aspects of chlamydial genital infections is presented in this book and, in particular, provides good coverage of those conditions in which *C. trachomatis* has recently been implicated—for example, infant pneumonia and salpingitis. It also contains an interesting and comprehensive chapter on the treatment of chlamydial infections.

The overriding interest of the authors in *in vitro* antibiotic testing is obviously reflected in the large amount of space given to this topic; an entire chapter is, likewise, devoted to various aspects of LGV, whilst the more common problem of relapsing NGU is mentioned only in passing.

It is difficult to decide at which group this book is aimed: it may be useful to clinicians as an introduction to, and a review of current chlamydial research. However, the technical descriptions throughout the text are inadequate and often inaccurate—for

example, the microimmunofluorescence test. The appendix of laboratory procedures is of little practical use and the book would seem of limited value to those actively engaged in chlamydial research.

BJ THOMAS

Ultrastructural Pathology of the Cell and Matrix. 3rd ed. FN Ghadially. (Pp 971; illustrated; £90.) Butterworths. 1982.

This book sets out to catalogue the entire range of recorded subcellular pathology: an impossible task, by the author's own admission. It is, however, probably the closest approach to that unreachable goal that any book, let alone a single-author volume, has yet achieved. Although sometimes opinionated, the text is a remarkable achievement as a survey of the broad field of cellular pathology. Half of the pages consist of electron micrographs and there are 3500 references to the literature, some to the light-microscopic background, and others to papers from all phases in the evolution of biological electron microscopy. Most of the illustrations are excellent, and the quality of the paper and printing is outstanding in every way. This may explain the remarkable price, which must surely set some new record. Nevertheless, despite the price, this book is one which any laboratory dealing with ultrastructural morphology and pathology will find invaluable as a source of reference to the many morphological peculiarities which accompany cellular dysfunction and disease.

PG TONER

Alcohol and Disease. Ed Sheila Sherlock. (Pp 114; illustrated; paperback £9.50.) Churchill Livingstone. 1982.

Alcohol has surely displaced syphilis as the great mimic of disease. Its ravages have for too long been looked upon as falling only within the provinces of psychiatry and hepatology amongst medical practitioners. This authoritative, though relatively short volume, does much to dispel this idea. With 20 chapters by acknowledged experts in their respective fields drawn entirely from British practitioners and scientists, this volume deals with such varied topics as Alcohol and Nutrition, Histocompatibility Antigens, Alcohol and the Endocrine System, the Effect of Alcohol upon the Developing Foetus and its Role in the Pathogenesis of Muscular Disease, and Disease of the Heart and Blood Forming

Tissues. The information is bang-up-to-date and presented in the concise style we have come to associate with the *British Medical Bulletin* of which this volume is a single offprint. Although the area of most interest to clinical pathologists—namely the use of laboratory methods to detect and diagnose excessive alcohol use, is not dealt with expressly in this volume, it will nonetheless be of great interest to all practitioners of clinical laboratory medicine. It can confidently be recommended as an important sourcebook of contemporary knowledge of the somatic manifestations of alcohol-induced disease, and is well worth its modest price.

V MARKS

MCQ Tutor for Students of Pathology. 2nd series. Bernard Lennox. (Pp 156; paperback £5.75.) William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd. 1982.

There can be few, if any, pathologists who have a greater experience of the treacherous field of the multiple choice question than Professor Bernard Lennox. Many would regard the presence of his name on the title page of an MCQ Tutor in Pathology as a virtual guarantee of high quality, and they will not be disappointed.

The questions are searching without being unduly recondite and the inclusion of clear and pithy answers on the reverse side of each page of questions is particularly helpful. This book, like its predecessor, should be a source not only of help but of enjoyment to students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels who are preparing for examinations in pathology.

N WOOLF

The Causes of Cancer. Richard Doll and Richard Peto. (Pp 112; illustrated; paperback £4.95.) Oxford University Press. 1982.

This article, running to 112 pages, was first published in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* in June 1981. The review is now produced as a paperback book and it is emphasised that it is also addressed to the non-specialist. The authors critically examine the premise that many forms of cancer are attributable to occupational hazards and may therefore be preventable. In their report, which is epitomised by clarity of presentation, a masterly command of language, and an incisive critical approach, the authors conclude that, with the excep-