

## Book reviews

in their own particular areas of interest, and provide up-to-date and readable accounts of the different facets of the problem.

Dr Borriello himself has contributed four excellent chapters on microbiological aspects; *Cl difficile* toxins are expertly reviewed by Drs Lyerly and Wilkins (Virginia Polytechnic Institute, USA) and Drs Thelestam and Florin (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm); while Dr Fekety (Ann Arbor, Michigan) provides an excellent account of experimental animal models. Authoritative contributions by Dr Tedesco (Medical College of Georgia, USA), Drs George and Mulligan (Wadsworth Medical Center, LA, USA) and Dr Burdon (Birmingham, UK) provide a splendid balance of clinical information, covering the spectrum of the disease, epidemiological considerations, aetiology, diagnosis, and management. An informative chapter by Dr Price (Northwick Park Hospital, UK) describes the pathology of the disease. The whole text is supported by some 350 well-chosen end references.

The publication is prepared from camera-ready copy and its physical presentation lacks any sort of uniformity. The chapters by Drs George and Mulligan were clearly prepared on a word processor; the other chapters illustrate the diversity of type faces available on departmental type writers! An element of gay abandon creeps into the editing in some places, where "Tipp-Ex" corrections are prominent, and even the left hand margin does not always justify. There is no uniformity of chapter lay-out or heading values, and there is no index. I would have expected a "fair copy" for the asking price of £24.25.

But don't be put off by the very amateur presentation of the text, skilfully concealed as it is in a handsomely bound volume. For those who are concerned with antibiotic associated diarrhoea and colitis this is essential reading.

AT WILLIS

**Recent Advances in Histopathology.** No 12. Ed PP Anthony and RNM MacSween. (Pp 293; £18.) Churchill Livingstone. 1984.

This is a very worthy addition to the series of Recent Advances in Histopathology. The contents of this volume more than adequately satisfy the expectations of those of us who have long-awaited its publication

with heightened anticipation. The concise yet lucid style with which the book has been compiled conceals an enormous wealth of detailed information, while combining expertise with interest.

There are two features of particular note concerning this volume: the first is the very wide range of subjects examined—such that the generalist and specialist alike should each find items of relevance and interest. The included subjects range from the use of monoclonal antibodies through aspects of liver and gastrointestinal disease, to the pathology of brain damage and muscle disease. The second, and probably most significant feature, is the continuing trend away from static descriptive morphology and towards a functional and dynamic approach to pathological processes. Although present throughout the volume, this altered attitude is exemplified by the chapters concerning apoptosis and cell proliferation in health and disease.

This book is essential reading for all those who seriously intend to maintain a high level of understanding and to keep abreast of current trends in histopathology. It is excellent value at the current price.

CS FOSTER

**Myocarditis Cardiomyopathy.** Selected Problems of Pathogenesis and Clinic. Ed H Just and HP Schuster. (Pp 316; Soft cover DM 140; US \$54.40.) Springer. 1983.

This book is derived from a symposium of the same title, held in Mainz, and covers a wide range of topics including, unexpectedly, congenital right ventricular dysplasia.

Most of the authors are from German centres but their contributions have (presumably) been very well translated and are clear and easy to read. Illustrations are perfectly adequate too, even at ultrastructure magnifications.

Most readers of this journal will not be interested in the electrophysiology and therapeutics which form a substantial part of the volume, but there are also stimulating reviews and studies on correlations between infections and subsequent cardiomyopathy and in the possible role of auto-immunity and genetic predisposition.

While few pathologists will consider this book worth buying, those interested in heart disease should find it worth borrowing.

ARIELA POMERANCE

**Lung Biopsy Interpretation.** Eugene J Mark. (Pp 284; £37.) Williams & Wilkins. 1984.

Eugene Mark is well known for his excellent contributions to the CPC's in the New England Journal of Medicine and papers on pulmonary pathology. It is pleasing that his experience is distilled into this monograph.

The volume gives many tricks of the trade for trainees, such as the best place to find tubercle bacilli and how to distinguish *P carinii* from red blood corpuscles. Differential diagnosis on a light microscope level is to the fore and it is obvious that the author has suffered the loneliness of the microscope and worried about diagnostic problems. He discusses and gives diagnostic tables on how to differentiate many pulmonary problems. Relatively little use is made of immunoperoxidase techniques. There are no electron micrographs, which is unusual, since this technique can assist in diagnosis. Little attempt is made, as implicit in the title, to consider the aetiology or clinical features of the disease considered.

The reviewer found some of the illustrations and the referencing annoying. Some black and white pictures were out of focus, a few were at too low a magnification, and one had constantly to refer to the back for the colour pictures. The references at the end of each chapter were not repeated. Thus, important articles on lung disease in the immunosuppressed patient were found at the end of the chapter on Technical Considerations—not the first place one would normally look. However despite these relatively minor drawbacks, the book has a very useful place by the pathologist's microscope.

PS HASLETON

**Edema.** Ed Norman C Staub and Aubrey E Taylor. (Pp 786; \$180.00.) Raven Press. 1984.

This book must represent the definitive work on oedema with 30 chapters by multidisciplinary authors. The editors have adopted a uniform nomenclature which makes for easier reading. Their claim that this will be useful to "advanced physiology students, beginning investigators seeking new directions for their investigations, and the physicians and scientists involved in research on oedema and its clinical management" would seem to be justified.

The book begins with a superb chapter by Courtice on the development of concepts of fluid balance. This alone will be invaluable for anyone writing a historical background in a thesis on oedema. There then follows a series of chapters concerned with the biophysics of fluid exchange. These lead the reader on to the ultrastructural aspects of the microcirculation and the lymphatics. One then progresses through into the pharmacological control mechanisms, inflammation, and cellular response to injury. The last 10 chapters are concerned with the pathophysiology of defined clinical conditions; lymphoedema, congestive heart failure, shock and resuscitation, burns, G-I and liver oedema, drowning, pleural effusion, and pulmonary oedema. The last chapter is outstanding on pulmonary oedema by Norman Straub, one of the editors. However, with such a mass of talent making contributions to this enormous book, it would be invidious to single out single chapters.

This will make a very useful reference book in most libraries who can afford it within their budget, for exactly the audience described by the editors. It is definitely postgraduate material.

It is a pity that in the present economic climate that the publishers cannot break down a book of this size into a series of slimmer and cheaper volumes, to bring it within the reach of individuals and departmental libraries. Notwithstanding, it is highly recommended.

DA WILLOUGHBY

## Some new titles

The receipt of books is acknowledged, and this listing must be regarded as sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear to be of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits.

**Advances and Prospects in Clinical, Epidemiological and Laboratory Oncology.** Tumour Promotion and Human Cancer Vol 2. No 4, 1983. Ed TJ Slaga and R Montesano. (Pp 105; £12.) Oxford University Press. 1983.

**Cryopreservation of Tissues and Solid Organs for Transplantation.** Ed AB Glassman and J Umlas. (Pp 112; \$21.00.) American Association of Blood Banks. 1983.

**Tutorials in Surgery 4.** Surgical Pathology I. FG Smiddy and PN Cowen. (Pp 238; soft cover £14.50.) Pitman Publishing Ltd. 1984.

**1984 Year Book of Drug Therapy.** Ed LE Hollister. (Pp 440; £37.) Blackwells. 1984.

**Advances in Cellular Neurobiology.** Vol 5. Ed S Fedoroff. (Pp 375; £62.50.) Academic Press. 1984.

**Short Cases in Clinical Biochemistry.** GV Gill, MF Laker, KGMM Alberti. (Pp 100; paper back £4.95.) Churchill Livingstone. 1984.

## Notices

### Annual Meeting of the United States-Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology

The annual meeting of the United States-Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology will be held at the Sheraton Centre in Toronto, Ontario, from Monday morning, 11 March, to Friday evening, 15 March 1985.

Scientific papers, poster sessions, 13 specialty conferences, and 45 short courses are scheduled. Two special courses will be offered on "Advances in the Application of Immunocytochemistry to Diagnostic Surgical Pathology" with Dr Cecilia Fenoglio as course director and "Diagnostic Cellular and Molecular Pathology" with Dr Benjamin Trump as course director. The long course will be on "The Pathogenesis of Liver Diseases" with Dr Emmanuel Farber and Dr MJ Phillips as course directors.

The Maude Abbott lecture will be delivered by Dr Kenneth M Brinkhous on Tuesday 12 March.

Timely topics in pathology will feature a session on the "Pathogenesis and Lesions of Acid Rain" presented by Dr Robert Leader.

Further information about the meeting and courses may be obtained from Dr Nathan Kaufman, Secretary-Treasurer, United States-Canadian Division of the International Academy of Pathology, 1003 Chafee Ave, Augusta, Georgia, 30904. Telephone (404) 724-2973.

### VIIIth meeting of the International Society of Haematology European and African Division

This symposium is organised by the Polish Society of Haematology and Blood Transfusion and will be held in Warsaw, Poland, on 8-13 September 1985. The official language is English.

The topics of the symposium cover the major fields in haematology, and there will be a series of invited plenary and educational lectures from world leading authorities, poster sessions, and workshops.

For further information please contact Organizing Committee, Institute of Haematology; 5, Chocimska Street, 00-957 Warsaw, Poland.

### Association of Clinical Pathologists Research Award—Amended Rules

- 1 Council of the Association has decided to award an annual prize of £250 for the best paper presented by a member under the age of 35 years at the Autumn General meeting of the Association.
- 2 The prize will be awarded by Council on the recommendation of a panel of adjudicators from the Education Committee at their January meeting following presentations. Criteria for assessing the merit of entries will include originality, scientific importance and lucidity of presentation. The award will be made at the next Spring general meeting of the Association.
- 3 Papers must be presented by members or junior members normally under the age of 35 years on the last date for receipt of entries (rule 5). A paper must not have been presented before, except to an ACP branch meeting.
- 4 Work that had been carried out by more than one person must be accompanied by a statement of the extent of the contribution to the work made by the members presenting the paper. Joint work is acceptable provided that the substantial part of the work was carried out by the candidate for the prize. Others involved in the project e.g. a supervisor, must indicate their approval in writing.
- 5 In order to give the papers of candidates for the prize a degree of priority on the programmes of meetings, a member presenting a paper for consideration for the Prize must give written notice to that effect to the Meetings Secretary. The last date for receipt of this notice will be 1st May preceding the Autumn meeting. An abstract (about 250 words in length) of the paper must be sent with the notice.