

by Mahley and Grundy on metabolism of apolipoproteins E and B respectively. Although the standard is uneven, as is usual with conference reports, this book is a helpful introduction for the young scientist entering research in atherosclerosis and contains significant new data for the specialised research worker.

C CORTESE

**Biology and Pathology of the Vessel Wall.** A Modern Appraisal. Ed Neville Woolf. (Pp 351; £17.50.) Praeger, 1983.

The proceedings of a two-day symposium organized by the Royal College of Pathologists are contained in this book. The contributions fall under the five main headings of the physiology of the vessel wall, blood-vessel wall interactions, the vessel wall in disease, the epidemiology of atheroma, and the pathology of atheroma. There are 48 authors, nearly all of whom have world reputations in their subjects. In these circumstances, it is rather invidious to single out particular contributions. Nevertheless, Professor Gresham's chapter on "The Transplanted Vessel" deals with a new but increasingly important topic on which not much has so far been written. Another example of the wide-ranging coverage is the inclusion of a chapter on blood vessels and blood pressure. It is surprising how often blood pressure and its effects are either overlooked or regarded as a side issue in terms of vessel wall pathology.

The field is one that is changing all the time—in many respects, very rapidly. Even so, this book is well worth consulting either for reference purposes or for authoritative accounts of particular topics.

TW MEADE

**Immuno Enzyme Techniques in Cytochemistry.** Wolf D Kuhlmann. (Pp 170; DM 128.) Verlag Chemie. 1984.

There is a great deal of information in this compact volume. In it the author reviews the basic concepts of immunocytochemistry and describes the associated technology in great depth. In the early chapters he describes the techniques employed in the preparation and checking of immunological reagents. Subsequently he describes their use in immunolocalisation techniques.

In the description of techniques the author uses his own field of research as a framework for discussion. While in this way he gives an accurate account of his own practical experience which, judging by his

photographs and descriptions have clearly given some elegant results, he leaves some other aspects of the subject insufficiently covered. For example one is left without an awareness of the wide variety of situations where the use of proteolytic enzymes can be of great value in recovering antigen expression in fixed tissues. Another important omission is the absence of any discussion of enzymes such as bovine intestinal alkaline phosphatase or *E coli* beta galactosidase as alternatives to horseradish peroxidase as antibody labels. The techniques are clearly explained and easy to follow. One of the best aspects of this book is the excellent reference lists at the end of each chapter.

This book does not replace pre-existing handbooks on the subject but would be useful used in conjunction with the more comprehensive manuals in that it looks at some aspect of the subject in greater depth.

LYNDA G BOBROW

**Pathophysiology of Blood.** Ed AA MacKinney. (Pp 363; paperback £22.70.) John Wiley. 1984.

Haematology is frequently taught badly in medical schools, so this lively undergraduate text from the University of Wisconsin comes as a breath of fresh air.

Each of the 17 chapters is a didactic review of an aspect of haematology where normal physiology is followed by diseases associated with its derangement and "case development problems" which are written exercises to assess the reader's understanding. In content there is an admitted bias to the red cell "because it is so well understood" but other subjects are adequately covered. A mixed blessing is an attached (or rather unattached) microfiche of colour photomicrographs illustrating cell morphology. This needs special viewing facilities and one can imagine it would get lost as it is a loose appendage.

While aimed at undergraduates this book would be equally well suited to postgraduates in view of the detail it contains. This is just as well as they are more likely to be able to afford it.

JS LILLETYMAN

## Notices

### Histochemical Society (North America)

The 36th annual meeting of the Histochemical Society will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Crystal City, VA (Washington, DC area) on 3–5 May 1985.

Symposia will include: Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Generating Polarity in Epithelial and Neuronal Cells; In Situ Hybridisation with Nucleotide Probes—a Histochemical Tool; Advances in New Technology (Presidential Symposium) and Basement Membrane Function and Morphogenesis. Two workshops will be offered: Quantitative Electron Microscopy and Clinical Quantitative Hematology Cytochemistry. With the exception of selected papers related to symposia, all submitted papers will be presented in a poster session. Abstract forms are published in the November issue of the *Journal of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry* Abstract deadline: January 15 1985. The Washington Area Electron Microscopy Society is sponsoring a symposium on Ultrastructural Enzyme Histochemistry, and combined participation in the two meetings is encouraged. For information contact: Dr Ronald R Cowden, Program Chairman, Department of Biophysics, Quillen-Dishner College of Medicine, Box 15130A, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee 37614, USA or Dr Constance Oliver, Secretary, Laboratory of Oral Biology/Physiology, Building 30, Room 21, National Institute of Dental Research, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland 20205.

### Clinical Hematology and Oncology: 1985

The Scripps Clinical and Research Foundation are sponsoring a meeting on "Clinical Hematology and Oncology" in February 1985 in San Diego, California. Further information may be obtained from: Dianne Tisue, Department of Academic Affairs, Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation, 10666 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, California 92037.

## 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.

**Tutorials in Surgery 5.** Surgical Pathology II. FG Smiddy and PN Cowen. (Pp 273; soft cover £14.50.) Pitman Publishing Ltd. 1984.

**Nutritional Assessment.** Ed RA Wright and S Heymsfield. (Pp 290; £29.50.) Blackwells. 1984.