ferent immunoglobulin classes in which anti-nuclear antibodies can be found. Nonetheless, this is a relatively valuable book for laboratories who are on the point of starting a more detailed screening procedure for the various types of anti-nuclear antibodies or for clinicans who are puzzled by the complexity of much of the current research literature.

DL SCOTT

**Medical Microbiology.** Vol 3. Role of the Envelope in the Survival of Bacteria in Infection. Ed CSF Easmon, J Jeljaszewicz, MRW Brown, PA Lambert. (Pp 264; £29·50.) Academic Press. 1983.

The editors have invited a number of scientists to contribute reviews summarising the proceedings of a meeting sponsored by the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy at Aston University. The book contains nine well written chapters which are concise yet comprehensive in their scope. There are numerous references in the text and a helpful list of references at the end of each chapter; the book is also well indexed. The chapter titles reflect the growing interest in the way environmental conditions influence the expression of bacterial envelope antigens. Particular attention is paid to recent studies on the effect of antibiotics on adhesion, phagocytosis, and resistance to humoral defence mechanisms. The book also emphasises how an understanding of the envelope antigens expressed during various stages of the pathogenic process can influence the development of new antimicrobial agents and vaccines.

Both medical and science students studying bacterial pathogenicity at undergraduate and postgraduate levels will find this collection of up to date reviews valuable. The extensive reference lists at the end of each chapter are particularly useful as guides for further reading.

The cost precludes the possiblity of the average student owning a personal copy of the book. However, the book should join volumes 1 and 2 of the same series in the library of every medical microbiology department.

JH REID

**Lung Cancer.** Recent Results in Cancer Research. Vol 92. (Pp 132; DM 98; US $38·50.) Springer. 1984.

This book records the proceedings of a multidisciplinary symposium on lung cancer held at the Royal College of Radiologists in February 1983. It comprises 11 chapters and that by D Lamb will interest pathologists. The other 10 chapters deal with clinical diagnosis and staging, radiology, treatment (7 chapters) and future prospects. Lamb's chapter is entitled Pathology and Classification. It considers the various ways by which material may be obtained for the pathologist, as well as histopathological classification. The parts of the 1967 and 1981 WHO classifications dealing with epithelial tumours of the lung get major consideration but there are comparisons with the VALG and WPL classifications used in parts of the United States. The emphasis is on the problems met by the pathologists in applying the various classifications to the tumours he meets, and the practising pathologist will find either help or comfort in these pages. (The comfort comes from an appreciation that an expert experiences similar problems to oneself). Any pathologist dealing in tumour diagnosis will find Lamb's chapter well worth reading and the other chapters of interest, particularly that on future trends, typographical errors not withstanding.

B CORRIN

**Malignant Lymphomas.** A Pathology Annual Monograph. Ed SC Sommers and PP Rosen. (Pp 333; £42·30.) Prentice-Hall International. 1983.

Malignant lymphomas are in the news. It was the submission of several articles on the subject to the Pathology Annual that led to the publication of this monograph—the first of its kind since the Pathology Annual began in 1966. The six articles here assembled are therefore quite independent of one another and while there is a certain degree of overlap, it is not to be expected that a book of this kind will be a systematic guide to malignant lymphomas, many aspects of which are not touched upon at all.

An introduction to the volume has been written by that wise and experienced haematopathologist, Dr Philip Lieberman, with pertinent critical comments on each of the six papers from the viewpoint of a "working surgical pathologist who sees a large number of haematopoietic cases per year and not as a champion of a specific classification or laboratory technique". It is Dr Lieberman's detachment that makes his comments particularly valuable, for unfortunately so many others in the field have an axe to grind. This is clearly demonstrated in the first of the six articles which is "an appraisal of the 'Working Formulation' of non-Hodgkin's lymphomas for clinical usage" by BN Nathwani and CD Winberg. This paper contains a detailed analysis of the study sponsored by the National Cancer Institute in the USA—the reasons for the study, its objectives and its results, which led to the consensus classification termed the "Working Formulation", since each of the six pathological classifications which were compared in the study proved clinically useful and none was found to be superior to the others in predicting prognosis. After a factual account of the NCI study, the authors embark on a vigorous defence of the working formulation which came out of it, illustrating the ten categories in the "formulation" with case material of their own. The imperfections of the formulation and indeed of the study itself are glossed over while valid criticisms voiced by several distinguished pathologists in this field are summarily dismissed or side-stepped. Your reviewer, after reading this article, shared the misgivings expressed by Dr Lieberman in his introduction.

The second article is an interesting essay on proliferative disorders of histiocytes by three Japanese authors—S Watanabe, Y Shimosato, and T Nakajima. Their main thesis is that histiocytic proliferations may involve one or other of two distinct populations of cells—either those of the monocyte-macrophage system of the T-zone histiocytes which include Langerhans' cells as well as interdigitating reticulum cells. In any given instance the origin of the proliferating cells may be determined by a series of discriminating enzyme histochemical and immunohistochemical tests. "Using these markers it was shown that solitary multifocal eosinophilic granuloma, Letterer-Siwe disease, systemic eruptive histiocytoma and most histiocytic medullary reticulosis (HMR) were proliferative disorders of T-zone histiocytes. On the other hand, the intestinal type of malignant histiocytosis was a proliferative disorder of the monocyte-macrophage system, as well as were many xanthomatous lesions of the skin, such as xanthoma disseminatum, solitary reticulo-histiocytoma, multicentric reticulohistiocytosis and xanthoma tuberosum". The only result likely to occa-

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