Book reviews

weaving of structure and function in the immunochemical section is unsurpassed. The only quarrel one has with the editors is the dilemma they pose to bench workers wishing not unnaturally to take the recipe book to the kitchen and who yet have a respect for print and illustrations of this quality. Only vandals would carelessly besmirk these pages with coffee and picric acid. A handout of copying paper and protective binders should be mandatory with each sale.

AM DENMAN

Hexachlorobenzene Proceedings of an International Symposium. (IARC Scientific Publications No 77) Ed CR Morris and JRP Cabral. (Pp 691; £50.) Oxford University Press. 1987. ISBN 92-832-1177-4.

Some scientific topics grow by diffusion to such an extent that only a broad review can give perspective to their complexity. Hexachlorobenzene falls into this class. Starting from a major epidemic of human poisoning in Turkey in the late 1950's, there have been studies of its biochemical effects in causing porphyria, of its general toxicity, of its ubiquitous environmental dissemination and persistence as a pesticide and as a contaminant, and latterly as the cause of a novel pattern of immunotoxicity.

This book, the report of a comprehensive conference in 1985, contains information to excite the physician, toxicologist, and biochemist interested in porphyria and enzyme induction, to inform those who analyse and model environmental contamination, and to guide immunologists looking at the effects of chemicals on lymphoid tissues.

It is a valuable compendium of clinical and experimental studies of a compound that is both medically interesting and a practical problem.

AD DAYAN

Pathology of the Testis and its Adnexa. Ed A Talerman, LW Roth. (Pp 256; £43.) Churchill Livingstone. 1986. ISBN 0-443-08351-7.

This book is by 19 authors, all working in the United States. The chapters cover the epidemiology, pathogenesis, morphology, immunocytochemistry, and clinical management of testicular tumours and related lesions. Most of the figures are good. The

references are copious and up to date, but the final page number of papers has been omitted, which is irritating. The classification used for germ cell neoplasms is the American version, and I am told by my clinical colleagues that the treatments described for testicular tumours are in many aspects different from those used currently in the United Kingdom.

It would be easy to be dismissive, but I think this would be wrong. There are a lot of recent data on incidence, clinical features, and pathogenesis; the morphology of tumours and tumour-like conditions is clearly set out; and there are many newly reported lesions which have been described in detail. Its virtues on the whole outweigh its faults. I think you should look through the book, and then buy it.

D LOWE

Respiratory and Alimentary Tract Diseases. Perspectives in Pediatric Pathology. Vol 11. Ed HS Rosenberg, J Bernstein. (Pp 218; 110 figs; \$100.) Karger. 1987. ISBN 3-8055-4435-9.

This volume discusses an interesting selection of topics on paediatric respiratory and alimentary tract disease. The first chapter is a biography by D Bain on Agnes Rose Macgregor, a former reader in pathology of diseases of infancy and childhood in the University of Edinburgh and relates to how her career spanned neonatal pathology, from its infancy to the established role it has today, and the major influence her work had on many aspects of paediatric pathology.

The respiratory chapters forming the first half of the book start with B Robertson discussing the pathology of neonatal surfactant deficiency, a very topical subject as much recent research is being conducted using synthetic and animal surfactants. Then rarer pulmonary diseases such as idiopathic pulmonary haemosiderosis and the pulmonary changes in thalassaemia major are discussed.

In the gastrointestinal part there is a detailed discussion of oesophageal biopsy in children and the changes seen in gastroesophageal reflux. An unusual approach is taken to the normal anatomy of the myenteric plexus by BH Landing, where he uses a maceration-microdissection technique to demonstrate a circuit diagram of the nerve plexus at various levels of the gastrointestinal tract. The final two conditions discussed, Indian childhood cirrhosis and degenerative leiomyopathy are interesting

rare conditions with a distinctive geographical distribution.

This is an excellent, well illustrated book and can be strongly recommended to both paediatric and general pathologists and those interested in paediatric respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases.

HELENE C REES

Clinical Enzymology. A Case-Oriented Approach. JA Lott, PL Wolf (Pp 285; soft cover £30.50.) Wolfe Medical Publications Ltd. 1986. ISBN 0-931729-09-2.

This volume consists of in depth reviews of individual enzymes of diagnostic importance considered separately in 11 chapters. Each chapter begins with a series of clinical case studies with interpretation of the laboratory findings. This is followed by a section on the biochemistry and physiology of the enzyme being considered, a comprehensive account of its changes in disease, a critique of methods for its analysis, and a full reference list. The volume closes with a series of multiple choice questions for self-study.

The volume is outstandingly interesting, well prepared, and comprehensive, and is largely free of errors. Drs Lott and Wolf (who prepared most of the material, with additional contributions from Drs Nemesanszky and Sawhney) are to be congratulated on its production. The book is clearly and attractively written and up to date. I would regard it as a "must" for anyone with an interest in clinical enzymology, either physician or clinical biochemist.

SB ROSALKI

Forensic Medicine. The Criminal Law. Library No 3. E Stone and H Johnson. Pp 216; 12 colour plates; £30.) Waterlow Publishers. 1987. ISBN 0 08 039219 9.

This book is indeed a tribute to Hugh Johnson, who died so suddenly last year. For those of us who had the privilege to know and admire him not only as a forensic pathologist above reproach, but as a great friend and colleague, he will be greatly missed. One looks on this text as a living memorial to Hugh and in so doing one should compliment Evan Stone for seeing the text to its completion.

It is designed as a third volume of a major new series on English criminal law, primarily for use by legal practitioners and others