adian system in the South Western region in the mid-1970s and on many more recent results obtained by different independent workers and management consultants in various other laboratories. We would draw Mr Brownhill's attention to the cautionary statement further down page 20, "Laboratory directors finding that they consistently achieve very high productivity should question their results". Numbers approaching (and even exceeding) 60 units

per paid hour simply must be incorrect, as they would imply that no member of staff ever takes annual or sick leaves, enjoys day release, or has a teabreak; and furthermore, that every one of them is engaged on producing tests results all the time! We are certainly all a long way from achieving accuracy in costing, but some seem to be a good deal farther off than others.

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Reference

- 1 Stenton P, Hyde K, Hootor D. Pathology costing—CATER versus Körner. *IMLS Gazette* 1987;31:281-4.

Book reviews

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.

Radiologic Management of Musculoskeletal Tumors. H Pettersson, DS Springfield, WF Enneking. (Pp 153; 112 figs; £62.) Springer, 1986. ISBN 0-387-16756-0.

Recent Advances in Arterial Diseases: Atherosclerosis, Hypertension, and Vasospasm. Progress in Clinical and Biological Research. Vol 219. Ed TN Tulenko, RH Cox. (Pp 404; £50.) Alan R Liss Inc, 1986. ISBN 0-8451-5069-3.

Geriatric Nephrology. Developments in Nephrology, Ed DG Oreopoulos. (Pp 293; £54.95.) Martinus Nijhoff, 1986. ISBN 0-89838-781-7.

Biology of Copper Complexes. Ed JRJ Sorenson. (Pp 600; £89.50.) The Humana Press, 1987. ISBN 0-89603-123-3.

TNM Classification of Malignant Tumours. 4th fully revised ed. Ed P Hermanek, LH Sobin. (Pp 197; soft cover DM 22.) Springer. (Originally published by UICC) ISBN 3-540-17366-8.

Aspects of Hypoxia. Proceedings of a Symposium held at the University of Liverpool 9-11 April 1986. Ed D Heath. (Pp 288; £28.) Liverpool University Press. 1986. ISBN 0-85323-295-4.

This book is a collection of the papers presented at a symposium on "Aspects of Hypoxia" held in Liverpool in 1986, and it is to Professor Heath's and the publishers' credit that the book was produced only eight months later. The subject matter is weighted in favour of the carotid body, its anatomy, function, and pathology, but includes chapters on epidemiological and pulmonary changes in hypoxia. Most of the chapters discuss the experimental work of the authors. Apart from one or two murky figures, the production is good.

Each chapter is followed by a short discussion taken from questions asked after the papers were presented. It is a little disorientating to be referred to illustrations shown in the presentations which do not appear in the book, and the discussions contain apparent non-sequiturs which I am sure would not have been so in context, but they bring up some fascinating points. What, for instance, could carotid body cells be doing in the prostate?

This book is entertaining, stimulating, and provides as many questions as answers in this developing field. At £28, it is also relatively cheap. It can be recommended to anyone interested in this field, though they will probably already have a copy by now.

D LOWE

Pathology of Neoplasia in Children and Adolescents. Major Problems in Pathology. Vol 18. James L Bennington (Pp 481; £60.) WB Saunders Company. 1986. ISBN 0-7216-1337-3.

This is number 18 in the series of *Major*

Problems in Pathology. The series in general has an excellent reputation for high standards and this book is no exception.

The volume is multiauthor and comprises seventeen chapters. The early chapters make excellent general reading providing an updated review of the hereditary, cytogenetic, and immune deficiency mechanisms important in the pathogenesis of paediatric cancers and including a discussion on oncogenes. The following chapters cover all the major childhood malignancies, highlighting the various difficulties encountered with each group, their differential diagnosis, and recent advances in diagnostic methods.

This monogram will be particularly useful to the general surgical pathologist and the specialist paediatric pathologist as a working guide to the diagnosis and classification of paediatric neoplasms and also to provide more extensive information if required. Other specialists such as paediatricians, surgeons, oncologists, radiologists, and anyone with an interest in childhood malignancies would also find this book very useful.

HELENE C REES

Atlas of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy. FE Silverstein, GNJ Tytgat, KJ Isselbacher. (£79.95.) Churchill Livingstone. 1987. ISBN 0443-03862-7.

The excitement of modern gastrointestinal endoscopy has produced a rash of atlases as taking pictures seems so easy. None compares with this superb new atlas. The quality, sharpness, detail, and colour reproduction in this book are quite exceptional. Clearly the authors have rigorously excluded all but technically excellent pictures. Dr Tytgat is a master of the technique of endoscopic photography. It is also detailed and extensive in covering normal