
Reading "de Gruchy" for the first time in nearly 20 years produces a cozy nostalgic feeling. While there have been many changes, everything looks familiar, and the uncluttered lucidity is as attractive as ever. A point of which one is reminded, though, is that since the first edition in 1956 clinical haematology in the United Kingdom has become almost entirely the province of the pathologist-cum-physician rather than the "pure" physician for whom the text was originally written, so it is important in 1990 to be clear exactly who the target reader is.

MRCPath candidates and other postgraduate trainees in haematology will find they need a more specialised study book, but MRCPath candidates will find the easily read contents a delight, especially for those who intend to go on later to train in laboratory haematology. For the rest, any non-haematologist wanting a no-fuss didactic text about blood diseases will be hard pressed to find a better one, even if some of the half-tones are not up to Blackwell's usual standards.

J D SLEIGH


This volume—a snip at the price—is packed with information of value to all histopathologists. It is compulsory reading for examinners (and examiners!) and for seniors who need to keep up. Chapters on DNA technology, cancer viruses, breast screening, and SIDS are outstanding. There is a bias towards hepatopathy, and sadly the chapter on the cervix does not address the difficulties of categorising minor cervical dysplasia following the colposcopic explosion. A number of illustrations are of questionable quality and value. The aim of gathering current specialised information from a wide range of topics into lucid review form, however, is generally achieved and, save for an occasional unremarkable straight "text-book" chapter and intimidating catalogue-like description of rarities, the usual high standard of the series is maintained. Let us hope number 15 is under way. Unfortunately the white cover is identical with number 13. Haematoyxin and eosin stripes or immunoperoxidase brown would be more appropriate!

L W L HORTON


Professor Mason is a prolific writer and editor of medical texts. He is also a Doctor of Laws (by examination) and a stickler for good English. This latest work maintains his high standards. Too many multiauthor works are good in parts. Others, aimed at the United States market, sink in mid-Atlantic. Thirty seven contributors of international repute have subjected themselves willingly to "an unusual degree of editorial fancy". The result is a wide-ranging text, of consistent high quality, which will be of inestimable value not only to pathologists, but to obstetricians, paediatricians, and many others who have to deal with injured, neglected, and abused children.

Everything is here: practical advice on clinical examination and necropsy techniques, genetics, perioperative death, and the impact of HIV infection. Law and ethics receive masterful (and international) coverage in 200 pages. This is required reading for pathologists, clinicians, and lawyers alike. Well published, well illustrated—and a bargain at £75.00.

M A GREEN

NOTICES

The Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition
11–14 September 1990
Both participants and exhibitors should apply for further particulars to:

Mrs Hiliary L Helme,
Department of Continued Professional Education,
The University,
Leeds LS2 9JT.
Telephone: (0532) 333233.

XVth Conference on Hormones and Cell Regulation
Mont St Odile, Alsace, France
24–27 September 1990

Main topics:
Growth factors, transcriptional effects of steroid hormones, novel actions of calcium.

Further information from:

Mrs. M. C. Barker,
Hormones & Cell Regulation Conference,
Imperial Cancer Research Fund,
PO Box 123,
Lincoln's Inn Fields,
London WC2A 3PX.

Association of Clinical Pathologists
Junior Membership

Junior membership of the Association is available to medical practitioners who have been engaged in the practice of pathology for a period of less than four years. Junior members are able to remain in this category for a maximum of six years or on the attainment of consultant status. The annual subscription is £24 for those resident in the United Kingdom and £55 for those overseas. The annual subscription may be claimed against tax.

Junior members receive the Journal of Clinical Pathology each month. Other benefits include reduced registration fees to attend ACP scientific meetings, all the documents regularly sent to full members of the Association including ACP News, which has a regular column for juniors, and the twice yearly summary of pathology courses included in the ACP programme of postgraduate education. Junior members have their own representative body, the Junior Members' Group, which has a direct input to Council.

For Junior Membership apply to: The Honorary Secretary, Association of Clinical Pathologists, School of Biological Sciences, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QG. (0273) 678435.