

**Recent Advances in Hemophilia Care.** Progress in Clinical and Biological Research. Vol 324. Ed CK Kasper. (Pp 358; \$69.50.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1989. ISBN 0-471-56678-0.

These are the proceedings of a symposium on recent advances in haemophilia care held in Los Angeles on April 13-15 1989. Such a symposium was perhaps overdue, given the many new developments in haemophilia care in recent years. The book is divided into sections on genetic diagnosis, inhibitors, concentrates, side effects of treatment, HIV, orthopaedics, and von Willebrand's disease, and ought to provide an up to date review of all aspects of haemophilia care. In practice, as with other published proceedings, the manuscripts do not always do justice to the size and complexity of their subject, reflecting the constraints of a 10-20 minute oral presentation. Individual chapters are thus short and do not attempt to be comprehensive, instead highlighting areas of current interest. It is unfortunate that the discussion following each presentation is not recorded as this is often enlightening. Although insufficiently comprehensive to be used usefully for reference, this volume does provide an interesting and generally very readable overview of the various problems encountered in haemophilia management. It should be of interest to clinicians involved in haemophilia care, although not to a more general readership.

CRM HAY

times the book fails to make clear that one of the chief charms of the practice of neuropathology is idiosyncrasy: "authorities" do not generally agree on the classification of tumours or even on the basic techniques used in examining nervous system tissues. The general pathologist can learn from this book how best to cut a fixed brain but not when to reserve it for the attention of a neuropathologist. The enormous (and confusing) armamentarium of staining methods and their pros and cons is glossed over in a curiously sketchy fashion: "Nissl" the familiar cresyl violet method for demonstrating nerve cells is absent on its own, but can be found incorporated with luxol fast blue in the "Klüver-Barrera" method; Mallory's phosphotungstic acid haematoxylin, still the best basis on which to identify glial fibrils in tumours or to reveal isomorphic cerebellar gliosis, gets no mention at all; the Bielschowsky method modified for paraffin wax sections, of incomparable value in studying neurofibrillary tangles and amyloid plaques, is also omitted.

Neuropathology is a fascinating study: this book should join its fellows in every well furnished library.

RO BARNARD

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## NOTICES

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**Nervous System, Muscle and Eyes. Systemic Pathology.** 3rd ed. Vol. 4. Ed RD Weller. (Pp 792; 750 figs; £97.50.) Churchill Livingstone. 1990. ISBN 0-443-03312-9.

The first edition of *Systemic Pathology* by Payling Wright and Symmers appeared in 1966 to general acclaim. It quickly established its position as a popular, informative, and compact work. It was in two volumes and the nervous system had to share a volume with the endocrine system, skin, and bones. Now, in the third edition, each system is given a self-contained monograph and there is no doubt that this arrangement is an improvement. The book is a useful size, 25 cm x 19 cm, containing 776 pages, including the index, and is well produced on paper of quality. The editor has assembled a distinguished team of authors whose collective expertise should do justice to the subject and illuminate the recent advances in information derived from the most recent advances in technique. As with every multi-author book there is variation in the quality of the individual contributions. The avowed aim of the volume is "of creating a working text for pathologists with a more general experience in histopathology and for clinicians and basic scientists who wish to delve into the pathology of the nervous system". There can be no doubt that in most respects the volume achieves what it sets out to do. There are 17 chapters on the central nervous system, three on the peripheral nervous system, three on muscle, and one on eyes. Illustrations are all black and white and most are of high quality.

The difficulty with a book of this sort is to know what to leave out when covering so wide a field in so comprehensive a manner. Some-

### Computers in Pathology

26 October 1990

Postgraduate Medical Centre  
Hull Royal Infirmary  
East Mercian Branch of Association  
of Clinical Pathologists

Open to non-members. Will include application of computers in all main branches of pathology, teaching, and information systems in Public Health Laboratories.

Contact: Dr Alan Jackson  
Scarborough Hospital,  
Scarborough YO12 6QL  
Tel: (0723) 368111; ext 2366

### ACP Locum Bureau

The Association of Clinical Pathologists runs a locum bureau for consultant pathologists.

Applicants with the MRC Path who would like to do locums and anyone requiring a locum should contact Dr David Orrell, Department of Pathology, Royal Lancaster Infirmary, Ashton Road, Lancaster. Tel: 0524 65944 X 2701.

### International Week of Laboratory Sciences

November 12-17, 1990: Rome

4th National Congress of Italian Society for Laboratory Medicine  
9th International Congress of Clinical Enzymology  
14th International Symposium on Clinical Enzymology  
12th National Congress of the Italian Society for Clinical Enzymology  
2nd International Conference on Laboratory Medicine  
1st Advanced Course on Laboratory Diagnosis and Technique

Information from:

*Scientific Secretariat:* Professor Angelo Burlina, Cattedra di Biochimica, Clinica dell'Università, Ospedale Civile, Via Giustiniani, 2-35128 Padova, Italy.  
Tel: (049) 8212780, Telefax (049) 663240.

*Technical Secretariat:*

Magriffe S.r.l., Via Ariberto, 25-20123 Milano, Italy.  
Tel: (02) 8370287-8322545, Telefax (02) 58100907.

**BPMF**

University of London

**British Postgraduate Medical Federation**

**Histopathology Course 1990-1991**

There will be a course for SHOs and registrars to provide training in histopathology for the new MRCPATH Part 1 examination which begins in May 1992. It will be held on Wednesday afternoons at St Bartholomew's Hospital, and will consist of lectures and slide seminars with emphasis on diagnosis and mechanisms of disease.

The course will run from 3 October 1990-13 March 1991 and is the first in a series of three. The second and third courses will be offered from October 1991 and October 1992 respectively.

Places are restricted and early application is advised.

**Cost £517**

Application forms, which must be returned by 24 August 1990, may be obtained from:

The Education Department, BPMF, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EJ.  
Telephone 071-831 6222 extension 155