

many years and is good value for the price quoted. Professor Knight has maintained and enhanced his already formidable reputation.

MA GREEN

Blood: Pathophysiology. JH Jandl. (Pp 524; soft cover £25.) Blackwell Scientific Publications. 1991. ISBN 0-86542-122-6.

The title of this book might be misleading because it is really a textbook of haematology dealing principally with disorders of red cells, white cells, platelets and coagulation. It therefore competes with many similarly priced small haematology books but is far superior to most of them for a number of reasons.

The first bonus is that it is lavishly illustrated with very good quality line drawings, clinical pictures, and photomicrographs of blood films and marrows which contribute to the text and make it a pleasure to read. The first three chapters provide a review of the techniques and terms used in cellular and molecular biology, covering these potentially very confusing areas concisely and lucidly. The emphasis on the application of these new techniques is then skilfully incorporated in subsequent chapters within a more conventional framework that describes the clinical and morphological aspects of various haematological disorders to provide an up-to-date text. The final strength is that the book is by one author who writes in an entertaining if somewhat idiosyncratic manner.

Who would I recommend to buy this book? I suspect that it might be too comprehensive for most medical students, although the really motivated ones would benefit from its purchase. It would be a useful buy for all postgraduates in general medicine and for any young doctor who is contemplating or has just started a career in haematology. Even some of the "old hands" in haematology would benefit from reading it as it would allow them to keep abreast of the new developments in this rapidly expanding discipline.

DA WINFIELD

Basic Medical Microbiology. 4th edn. RF Boyd, BG Hoerl. (Pp 784; 350 illustrations; £31.50). Churchill Livingstone. 1991. ISBN 0-316-10442-6.

I love this book. It is a well produced volume covering medical bacteriology, virology, mycology and parasitology. After the first few chapters covering topics such as microbial growth and metabolism, sterilisation, and host-parasite interaction, each subsequent chapter tends to cover one organism or group of organisms and discusses the characteristics of the organism, pathogenesis of disease, epidemiology, laboratory diagnosis and treatment and prevention.

Although the fourth edition, it is completely updated with information and references from 1990. The whole text is copiously illustrated with helpful two-colour diagrams, and black and white photographs. There are also 29 colour plates. The text is interspersed with "boxed essays", which are fascinating one-page vignettes about diverse subjects which help to maintain a high level of interest as one reads the text. There is a large glossary of terms used in microbiology and a good index. This book, excellent as it is, is too long and detailed for medical students, except as a reference volume. It certainly could be used as a foundation test for the MRCPATH exam in

microbiology, and will also be valuable for undergraduates in microbiology, MLSO's, and trainee infectious disease physicians.

AJ BINT

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.

Drugs in Use. Clinical Case Studies for Pharmacists. Ed Linda J Dodds. (Pp 224; soft cover £15.) The Pharmaceutical Press. 1991. ISBN 0-85369-233-5.

Anaerobic Infections. Clinical and Laboratory Practice. AT Willis, KD Phillips. (Pp 169; soft cover £20.) Cambridge University Press. 1991. ISBN 0-901144-22-3.

NOTICES

Medical Sciences Historical Society

The Society is open to all members of the medico-scientific community who have an interest in the "functional history" of medical laboratories with particular emphasis on well known, and not so well known people associated with the early years of pathology.

Members of the Society receive an annual journal plus a biannual newsletter, and there is an opportunity to attend occasional organised meetings. The annual membership fee is £6.00. Anyone interested in joining should write to Mr. P. James (Hon Sec), Department of Science, Anglia Higher Education College, East Road, Cambridge CB1 1PT.

Mediastinal Tumours Update

30 April and 1 May 1992

Course Organisers:

Dr MN Sheppard, Dr IE Smith, Mr P Goldstraw

mediastinum; thymus; thymomas; germ cell tumours; mediastinal lymphomas; neural tumours; cysts; inflammatory conditions; rare tumours

Seminars in Diagnostic Tumour Pathology 1991

28 and 29 November 1991

Course organiser: Dr C Fisher

Hodgkin's and lymphoproliferative disease; breast tumours; soft tissue tumours

For further details please contact:

Education and Conference Centre, The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6JJ.

Tel: 071-352 8171, Ext. 2921

Fax: 071-351 2191.

Postgraduate course in gynaecological and obstetric pathology with clinical correlation

March 30-April 3 1992

Four Seasons Hotel, Boston, Mass
This course is designed for pathologists and obstetrician-gynaecologists at resident and practitioner levels. It will provide an in-depth review of gynaecological and obstetric pathology with emphasis on morphological diagnostic features and clinicopathological correlation, including management. Special attention will be paid to recent advances and newly recognised entities. Instruction will be primarily by lecture, but will also include case presentations and discussion. Each participant will receive a comprehensive course syllabus.

The course has Category 1 accreditation for about 35 hours CME credit by the American Medical Association and 35 cognates, formal learning, by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Fee for the course: \$685.00 (residents and fellows \$500.00).

For further information contact: Department of Continuing Education, Harvard Medical School, 25 Shattuck Street, Boston, MA 02115 (Telephone: 617-432 1525).

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 are 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.