sections of helminths and protozoa. There is no guidance on treatment and no suggestion where such advice might be obtained (or any other information—the book contains no references). Perhaps it is best considered as a useful tool for workers in routine microbiology departments who occasionally have to look for parasites with which they are not familiar.

JS LILLEYMAN

Cardiovascular Pathology. 2nd ed. Vols 1 & 2. Ed Malcolm D Silver. (Pp 2044; £195.) Churchill Livingstone 1991. ISBN 0-443-08664-8.

Changes in cardiovascular medicine and surgery over the past 50 years require that the pathologist is fully integrated into the cardiovascular team. Previously the pathologist often stood alone, demonstrating his findings with little hope that much could be done to treat the many diseases encountered. The situation has changed.

Dissection of the heart must relate to the results of investigations made in life, such as the results of echocardiography. This book begins with a detailed look at cardiac dissection, followed by accounts of light and electron microscopic studies of cellular components of the heart. The effects of haemodynamic forces on the heart and blood vessels are included and the changes that are associated with increasing age are fully discussed. Venous disorders, an oft neglected topic, are a useful feature of this book.

Modern views on the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis are fully reviewed. The subsequent chapters dealing with aortic disease and disorders of smaller vessels include the effects of therapeutic interventions. This fulfils the aim of the authors to present a clinicopathological view of cardiovascular pathology. Controversial issues such as the pathogenesis of aortic dissection and Buerger's disease are fully discussed.

It is inevitable in a multi-author book that there will be repetition of material. This occurs in the discussion of coronary artery disease and especially the sections on coronary atherosclerosis and myocardial ischaemia.

Myocarditis and the cardiomyopathies are described comprehensively. Recently discussed entities are included and are treated critically. The first volume ends with an account of disorders of the pericardium.

The second volume has a strong clinical orientation which should appear to pathologists who endeavour to make clinicopathological correlations in cardiovascular disease. The chapter on endocarditis deals with established knowledge and includes the problems of prosthetic valves, drug addiction, and other more recently recognised disorders.¹ Subsequent chapters on valvar disorders relate pathological changes to haemodynamic disorders that they produce. The chapter on the effects of cardiovascular disease on the nervous system is an interesting addition to a book of this sort. Metabolic diseases, collagen diseases, and the effects of endocrine disorders on the cardiovascular system are described comprehensively. The bibliographies of these chapters are especially useful. Separate chapters on the effects of drugs and parasitic disorders indicate the

broad, interesting approach of the editor.

Another unusual chapter deals with cardiovascular trauma which will be useful not only to pathologists and clinicians but also to the legal profession.

The last section of the book looks to the future and brings the reader up to date on the pathology of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. The chapters on endomyocardial biopsy and transplantation are especially good.

This monumental work is a classic and will remain the definitive text for those concerned with the pathology and practice of cardiovascular disease. Overlap and repetition is an inevitable feature of a treatise of this sort but does not detract from the quality of the work. The second edition is a welcome update of the first.

GA GRESHAM

Therapeutic Drugs. 1st edition (2 vols) Sir Colin Dollery. (Pp 2994; 1000 illustrations; £265.) Churchill Livingstone. 1991. ISBN 0-443-02846-X.

Prescribing doctors have a limited number of drug compendia to provide them with appropriate information. The *British National Formulary* is up-to-date, critical, and covers the range of licensed drugs. But its pocket-book format and the need for frequent revision mean that only a minimum of information is available on each drug listed. The *ABPI Data Sheet Compendium* has a couple of sides on each drug, but the information given is a hybrid of what is required by law and what the manufacturer chooses to include—with little critical assessment of the value of particular drugs in a particular situation. One can spend many hours browsing through Martindale's *Extra Pharmacopoeia*, but its format is indigestible and it does not contain all the information a clinician might need.

The present work is a sort of clinician's Martindale. It consists of almost 3000 encyclopaedia-sized pages of monographs on 700 odd drugs, selected for "originality, therapeutic value, extent of use or inclusion in the WHO list of essential drugs". It is up-to-date enough to include recently licensed drugs such as sumatriptan or filgrastim. Each monograph follows the same pattern, covering all aspects from chemical structure and pharmacology to therapeutic use, patient selection, and the outcomes of clinical trials.

This is an invaluable work for the clinician (including the clinical haematologist) and the pharmacist. At £265 for the two volumes, it is worth trying to persuade your pharmacy information service to buy it.

NP SLATER

Epstein-Barr Virus and Human Disease. 1990. Ed DV Ablashi, AT Huang, JS Pagano, GR Pearson, CS Yang. (Pp 496; £94.50.) The Humana Press. 1991. ISBN 0-89603-221-3.

This volume documents in 496 pages the proceedings of the latest meeting of the International Association for Research on

Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) and associated diseases which took place in Taiwan, 1990. The meeting was attended by 183 persons who heard 63 papers; all the presentations are included in the form of short papers giving a short review of the subject, the results of recent studies, and selected references which in many cases include publications of 1990. The papers cover the whole range of research of EBV and associated diseases: these are divided into molecular biology of EBV (20 papers); pathobiology (eight papers); immunobiology (nine papers); EBV and associated lymphoproliferative diseases (eight papers); advances in nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC) and clinical aspects of NPC (both of nine papers). The contributions are from laboratories all over the world including Europe, America, Canada, Australia, Africa and the Far East, and include papers from most of the best known and prestigious laboratories researching in this field. The 20 papers relating to the molecular biology of EBV bring us up to date with the virus genes, transcription and translation products. The increasingly important research area of the pathobiology and immunology, including the role of cytokines in cell growth, give contemporary insights into the mechanisms of tumourigenicity, and numerous papers further our understanding of the aetiology of EBV in a variety of clinical conditions.

The editors have done an excellent job in insisting that all the authors provide their reports in a clear and concise manner, and that the subject should be accompanied by up-to-date references. The result is well organised, easy to read under the various headings, and represents a valuable collection of reports of our current knowledge on the subject. This book is an important and even essential resource for specialist workers in this field, an important library volume for virologists, immunologists and oncologists, and would be a valuable addition to research institutions and medical libraries. It will remain a definitive resource on EBV until the Association meets again.

CW POTTER

Pinkus' Guide to Dermatohistopathology. 5th ed. AH Mehregan, K Hashimoto. (Pp 748; £80.) Prentice-Hall. 1991. ISBN 0-8385-7811-X

Congratulations to Mehregan and Hashimoto for the fifth edition of *Pinkus' Guide to Dermatopathology*, five years after the previous edition.

Dermatopathology continues to be one of the fastest growing branches of histopathology with an incredible volume of good research articles in an expanding number of dermatology and dermatopathology journals. Coping with this increasing research activity is not easy, and to compile a good and up to date bibliography is a daunting prospect. Mehregan and Hashimoto have done just that in this edition.

This book over the years have moved from being just a bench book aimed at helping dermatopathologists and histopathologists through the difficult problems of histologic diagnosis to becoming, in addition, a good reference text and in this area compares favourably with the other standard textbooks.

The style always brings a welcome relief to any beginner in dermatopathology and this continues to be the strength of the book. I would recommend it to any budding dermatopathologist. For that matter any medical library that does not have this book should immediately seek to rectify the anomaly.

I will treasure my review copy.

AB AKOSA

Molecular Mechanisms and Their Clinical Application in Malignancies. Bristol-Myers Squibb Cancer Symposia. Vol 12. Ed DE Bergsagel, TW Mak. (Pp 270; £49.95.) Academic Press Inc. 1991. ISBN 0-12-091075-6.

This is a volume of papers given at the twelfth Bristol Myers Squibb Cancer Symposium in Toronto in September, 1989. The book is well produced, laid out, and illustrated, and is quite reasonably priced (but why, with electronic data processing and modern printing technology, does it still take two years to publish the proceedings of a conference?). In addition to results from groups looking at molecular biological aspects of the phakomatoses, lung and breast cancers, acute myeloid leukaemia, retinoblastoma and T cell receptor genes, and the genetics of colorectal cancer, more general work on oncogenes and regulation of transcription is reported. Some papers, such as those on structural design in antitumour compounds and the genetic construction of diphtheria toxin-related polypeptide hormone fusion proteins, are of rather specialised interest, but in a number of the articles short reviews of various topics provide useful overviews of what is becoming known of the molecular bases of some tumours, and show the potential of this discipline for the understanding of cancer. However, while applied molecular biology will obviously become a matter of increasing relevance to doctors, the experimental foundations reported here are, in spite of the title, still principally the concern of the scientist and the pathologists working in these specific areas.

C FISHER

Laboratory Medicine. Test Selection and Interpretation. Ed JH Howanitz, PJ Howanitz. (Pp 896; 108 illustrations £49.) Churchill Livingstone. 1991. ISBN 0 443 08576 5

This American text, with 45 contributors, is oriented towards the clinician's viewpoint of laboratory medicine. In the editors' words "For easy access to information, the book is organized around the clinician's order, namely the specific tests, rather than by disease entity". This approach proves to be confusing and access to information is not easy. The 31 chapters are arranged under the four headings, clinical chemistry, haematology, microbiology/immunology, and blood bank. If you choose clinical chemistry, the 14 chapters range from "pulmonary and cardiac function" through "body fluids" to "pregnancy and genetics". Choose microbiology/immunology, and the first chapter on

"blood and bone marrow" deals in turn with blood culture, blood film examination for malaria, and bone marrow culture (for organisms).

A trainee clinician working on a ward may find this test-orientated approach a useful one as the book provides a reference source of an order of magnitude greater than even the most ambitious laboratory users' handbook. There are many cartoon illustrations and lists of tests. For pathologists, its main limitations are the lack of technical depth, the limited bibliography, and the inevitable problem of cross referencing an index for a laboratory test repertoire that is common to so many clinical disorders.

J STUART

Colour Aids—General Pathology. IAR More, IL Brown. (Pp 136; soft cover £7.95.) Churchill Livingstone. 1991. ISBN 0-443-04057-5.

This volume in the *Colour Aids* series aims to help undergraduate and postgraduate medical students and students of nursing or related specialties to learn general pathology. It is not intended to stand alone but to augment existing text books or help with revision, and covers all the main topics regarded as "general" pathology. The format is attractive but I am afraid the aims will not be attained. The treatment is much too superficial for postgraduate students in medicine or surgery. Undergraduate students will suffer because, too often, accuracy is sacrificed in the interest of simplification. Paramedical students will find the diagrams incomprehensible, as I did in many cases, as no explanation is given in the text.

The illustrations are of variable quality; often they are very good but their choice leaves much to be desired. Fabry's disease, for example, is illustrated without reference in the text and, as in other cases, without any explanatory legend.

I cannot recommend this book.

DJ POLLOCK

Dermato-Immunohistochemie. Atlas und Handbuch Klinik und Praxis. H Ueki, H Yaoita. (Pp 216; 302 illustrations; DM 248.) Wissenschaftliche Verlagsgesellschaft mbH Stuttgart. 1991. ISBN 3-8047-1169-9

This book in German is an expanded version of a colour atlas published by Drs Ueki and Yaoita in English in 1989. The German version is much more comprehensive. After a technical introduction there are sections on the cells of the epidermis and dermis, on the ground substance, and thereafter the groups of dermatological diseases for which immunohistology is or may be of value are illustrated. These include bullous disorders, connective tissue disorders, vasculitides, psoriasis, amyloid, porphyria, infectious diseases and tumours. The accompanying colour illustrations are excellent. The book is recommended for reference for all who have even a rudimentary knowledge of German.

RONA M MacKIE

Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology. 1991. Ed KM Brinkhous, FG Dalldorf, RD Langdell, WW McLendon. (Pp 369; £42.) Wolfe Medical Publications Ltd. 1991. ISBN 0-8151-1246-7.

This is the 44th annual volume of the *Year Book of Pathology* series. It features the usual format of abstracts of general pathology, systemic pathology and clinical pathology, and a list of review articles. It is complemented by a section on quality control and laboratory management. As is usual in the series, the book makes interesting reading, although the subject matter is inevitably disparate which makes it uncertain how much can be learnt from the occasional casual perusal, which is probably all one can expect of most readers of the book. Nevertheless, perusal of my specialty interest confirms that the book does review important papers of interest and that much can be learnt from a look at specific specialty sections. I was disappointed to see a review of a paper on Ki-67 assessment in colorectal cancer, this paper making no reference to a previous and similar study by yours truly published in a well known pathology journal some 30 months previously!

This year book provided an opportunity to test the theory that North Americans tend to favour North American journals and articles. There is a preference for review of North American journals (73%; Ulrich's directory indicates that 41% of worldwide medical journals are American). However, only 67% of the total articles in the book are of North American origin. This would suggest that there has also been liberal review of non-American journals and articles to produce a reasonably well balanced representation of world pathology. The year book is not expensive; indeed the price has fallen by a couple of pounds since 1989. I think this is a useful reference source and I recommend it.

NA SHEPHERD

NOTICE

ACP Locum Bureau

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

Applicants with the MRCPATH who would like to do locums and anyone requiring a locum should contact The General Secretary, 221 Preston Road, Brighton BN1 6SA. Tel (0273) 561188. Fax: (0273) 541227.