

it has been compiled from human material obtained by liver puncture. A useful and fairly comprehensive review of the hepatic cell against its microscopic and submicroscopic background forms an introduction to the unique contribution of electron-microscopy to hepatology. Most of the information concerns the normal cell, but there are numerous short references to pathological alteration. The author's outlook is essentially morphological, and no more than a passing reference is made to functional upsets that go hand in hand with vitiated structure. Indeed, his notions on cell function are antiquated and so immediately post-Virchowian that one wonders if he has read any of the exciting and fruitful communications that are changing the direction of cellular pathology. Homage to the giants of the past is right and proper in its own little niche but it plays no part in a world of ingenious invention and adventurous thought.

Most of the photographs are clear and easy to interpret with the help of the adequate legends attached to each picture. Some are quite arresting and bear witness to a high level of technical achievement, but there are others in which definition is poor and the material suffers from inadequate fixation or clumsy

microtomy. Such a book is doomed to be out of date by the time it is published and this is certainly the case in the lively field of hepatic investigation. Nevertheless the atlas will prove to be a good launching stage for the serious student of electron-microscopy and could be helpful to the hepatologist. A long list of references, mainly confined to Continental and American sources, and a careful index add to the value of the book.

Roy CAMERON.

## Activity of Complement

**Complement.** Ciba Foundation Symposium. Edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., F.R.C.P., F.I.Biol., and Julie Knight, B.A. (Pp. 388 + xiii ; illustrated. 60s.) London : J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

"Complementology," like "clottology," has the characteristics of a good detective novel—once taken up it is hard to lay down, the story has always a new twist, and the student is impervious to stimuli from the external world. Hence the ordinary man-in-the-lab. is apt to go on doing his complement-fixations

in the way Bordet did, and to leave the rest to the addicts.

He would be foolish to treat this book so cavalierly. It has an assimilable minimum of technicalities, but deals mainly with the role of complement in the protective and pathological effects of antibodies. One has long been seeking such a compact discussion by experts of this aspect of complement activity—of just how it damages cells, including nucleated cells, and tissues, and what is the tie-up with phagocytosis, conglutinin, immune adherence, auto-allergic reactions, and so on. Perhaps the most elegant chapter is that of Humphrey and Damashkin on the electron-microscopy of lysed cells showing all those neat little holes, like buckshot, while Thorbecke and her collaborators on the sites of synthesis of complement components describe a beautiful application of *in-vitro* labelling techniques.

There is not as much as one would like on the actual process of disease, though there are useful chapters by Mollison and by Rosse and Davie on these lines, and some discussion ; but this perhaps reflects our ignorance and indicates a fruitful line of further clinical research.

P. G. H. GELL.

## Books Received

*Review is not precluded by notice here of books recently received.*

**Venen-Fibel.** By Dr. F. Haid-Fischer and Dr. Helmut Haid. (Pp. 180 + xii ; illustrated. DM. 19.80.) Stuttgart : Georg Thieme. 1965.

**Les Prix Nobel.** En 1964. (Pp. 259 ; illustrated. 45 kronor.) Stockholm : Norstedt & Söner. 1965.

**Trends in the Study of Morbidity and Mortality.** Public Health Papers No. 27. By various authors. (Pp. 196. 13s. 4d.) Geneva : World Health Organization. 1965.

**Venture in Industry.** The Slough Industrial Health Service. 1947-1963. By A. Austin Egger, C.B.E., T.D., M.D., Ch.B. (Pp. 193 + viii ; illustrated. 25s.) London : Lloyd-Luke. 1965.

**The Psychedelic Reader.** Selected from the *Psychedelic Review*. Edited by Gunther M. Weil, Ralph Metzner, and Timothy Leary. (Pp. 260 + viii. \$5.95.) New York : University Books. 1965.

**International Symposium on End Results of Cancer Therapy.** Norway, 1963. Edited by Sidney J. Cutler. (Pp. 446 + x. No price given.) Bethesda, Maryland : National Cancer Institute. 1965.

**Mathematics and Computer Science in Biology and Medicine.** Proceedings of Conference, Medical Research Council, Oxford, 1964. (Pp. 317 + ix ; illustrated. £3.) London : H.M.S.O. 1965.

**Nutrition and Dietetics for Nurses.** 2nd edition. By Mary E. Beck. Foreword by H. E. Magee, M.B., B.Ch., D.Sc. (Pp. 232 + xii ; illustrated. 21s.) Edinburgh and London : E. & S. Livingstone. 1965.

**Clinical Chemical Pathology.** By C. H. Gray, D.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., F.R.I.C. (Pp. 231 + viii ; illustrated. 20s.) London : Edward Arnold. 1965.

**Microhemocirculation. Observable Variables and Their Biologic Control.** By Elio Maggio, M.D., F.I.C.A. (Pp. 194 + xiii ; illustrated. \$16.50.) Springfield, Illinois : Charles C. Thomas. 1965.

**A Diagnostic Approach to Chest Diseases. Differential Diagnoses Based on Roentgenographic Patterns.** By Glen A. Lillington, B.Sc., M.D., M.S.(Med.), F.R.C.P.(C.), and Robert W. Jamplis, B.A., M.D., M.S.(Surg.), F.A.C.S. (Pp. 508 + xii ; illustrated. £5 16s.) Baltimore : Williams & Wilkins. 1965.

**Stottwechsel der Galaktose und ihrer Derivate.** By Dr. W. Fischer and Dr. H. Weinland. (Pp. 270 + xi ; illustrated. DM. 59.) Stuttgart : Georg Thieme. 1965.

**Cortisonederivate in Klinik und Praxis.** By Dr. Hanns Kaiser. (Pp. 128 + viii. DM. 12.80.) Stuttgart : Georg Thieme. 1965.

**Sociological Aspects of Homosexuality. A Comparative Study of Three Types of Homosexuals.** By Michael Schofield. (Pp. 244. 35s.) London : Longmans, Green. 1965.

**Die Homosexualität Beim Mann.** By Dr. Kurt Freund. (Pp. 321 + xii. DM. 19.95.) Leipzig : S. Hirzel. 1965.

**Hypoglycaemia.** By Vincent Marks, M.A., B.M., M.R.C.P.(Ed.), M.C.Path., and F. Clifford Rose, M.B., M.R.C.P., D.C.H. (Pp. 356 + xi. 60s.) Oxford : Blackwell. 1965.

**The Essentials of Materia Medica Pharmacology and Therapeutics.** 9th edition. By R. H. Micks, M.D., F.R.C.P.I. (Pp. 509 + x. 36s.) London : Churchill. 1965.

**Handbook on Oral Contraception.** Edited by Eleanor Mears, M.B., Ch.B. (Pp. 107. 20s.) London : J. & A. Churchill. 1965.

**The Medical Secretary's Handbook.** By Michael Drury, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Foreword by John Fry, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 340 + xii. 30s.) London : Baillière, Tindall & Cassell. 1965.

**Cure or Heal? A Study of Therapeutic Experience.** By E. Graham Howe. Foreword by R. D. Laing. (Pp. 236. 28s.) London : George Allen & Unwin. 1965.

**The Management of Fractures and Soft Tissue Injuries.** 2nd edition. By the Committee on Trauma, American College of Surgeons. (Pp. 365 + xii ; illustrated. £2 12s. 6d.) Philadelphia and London : W. B. Saunders. 1965.

**Horizons in Neuro-Psychopharmacology. Progress in Brain Research.** Vol. 16. Edited by Williamina A. Himwich and J. P. Schadé. (Pp. 347 + xii ; illustrated. £5.) Amsterdam, London, and New York : Elsevier. 1965.

**Dermatologie und Venerologie.** Vol. 5, part 2. Edited by Professor H. A. Gottron and Professor W. Schönfeld. (Pp. 1455 + xix ; illustrated. DM. 225.) Stuttgart : Georg Thieme. 1965.

**Mind and Body in Eighteenth Century Medicine. A Study Based on Jerome Gaub's De Regimine Mentis.** By L. J. Rather. (Pp. 275 + xii. £1 10s.) London : Wellcome. 1965.

**The Bronchitis-Emphysema Eczema-Asthma Complex.** By H. G. Oliver, M.C., M.D. (Pp. 67 + vii. 12s. 6d.) London : H. K. Lewis. 1965.

**X-ray Physics and Equipment.** By F. Jaundrell-Thompson and W. J. Ashworth. (Pp. 799 + xii ; illustrated. 84s.) Oxford : Blackwell. 1965.

**Sensory Restriction. Effects on Behavior.** By Duane P. Schultz. (Pp. 216 + viii ; illustrated. 60s.) New York and London : Academic Press. 1965.

**Case Studies in Anatomy.** By Ernest Lachman, M.D. (Pp. 238 + xii ; illustrated. 24s.) New York : Oxford University Press. 1965.

**How Not to Fail the Finals.** By John Howkins, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G., H. Wykeham Balme, M.D., F.R.C.P., and J. O. Robinson, M.D., M.Chir., F.R.C.S. (Pp. 46. 6s.) London : J. & A. Churchill. 1965.