

This book forms a record of the papers read at the conference and the range of topics covered, but suffers from the common defect of reports of symposiums in that the papers are compressed and are in general abbreviated summaries of the authors' publications. The "brief and sometimes superficial" style of the articles was due to the imposed time-limit of 15-20 minutes for reading the papers. Each paper is followed by references, so that a more detailed study of a particular subject can be undertaken by those interested. It appears from these papers that the adoption of similar standards of reference, even in the more advanced countries, is not a thing of the immediate future. Valid comparisons of international morbidity and mortality are barely on the horizon yet.

W. J. MARTIN.

Bone-Marrow Pathology

An Atlas of Bone-Marrow Pathology. 3rd edition. By M. C. G. Israëls, M.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P. (Pp. 84+xii; illustrated. 50s.) London: Heinemann. 1967.

Dr. Israëls is to be congratulated on the third edition of his atlas. No great changes have been made, but a plate based on histological sections from Gardner-trephine biopsies has been added. It is a slim picture-book, 10 by 7½ inches, with some 50 pages of text and 14 coloured plates, and it remains the best atlas of bone-marrow pathology within the budget of the average undergraduate or post-graduate student.

The pictures, which are from paintings, are faithful likenesses of the cells, perhaps too faithful for teaching purposes where a certain amount of idealization is helpful. The views of microscopic fields have an overlying transparent sheet on which the cells are outlined and numbered in accordance with a key. The text is divided into two parts, the first dealing with haematopoiesis and the individual cells, the second with the blood pictures in particular diseases.

There are points of detail on which one might disagree with Dr. Israëls but only a few need mention. The account of the aplastic and aregenerative anaemias is a little confusing. The majority of the cases to which the diagnosis "achrestic anaemia" was originally applied were probably examples of folic-acid deficiency and the term has now outlived its usefulness. "Chronic aregenerative anaemia" is the name for the whole group of aplastic and refractory anaemias and should be distinguished from pure erythrocytic hypoplasia, which is a subgroup within it. Acute reticulum-cell leukaemia, to which a paragraph is devoted, is not included in most classifications of leukaemia; on the other hand, the points of differentiation between acute lymphatic and acute myeloid leukaemia might have been given more explicitly.

Finally, although the atlas is based on the Romanowsky stains, an exception might have been made in favour of the Prussian-blue stain for iron, sideroblasts, and siderocytes, as this has become so important in distinguishing the sideraemic and sideropenic anaemias. These points are mentioned because Dr. Israëls's *Atlas* is likely to be a formative book in interesting students in this country in haematology.

L. J. WITTS.

Humorous Oddments

Sex, Science and Society. Addresses, Lectures and Articles. By A. S. Parkes, C.B.E., M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S. (Pp. 324+xii; illustrated. 42s.) Newcastle upon Tyne: Oriol. 1966.

This collection of lectures and oddments recalls somewhat James Bridie's *Tedious and Brief* (the best items of each were printed in the *B.M.J.*). But where Professor Bridie was a mildly exasperated witness of the human comedy Professor Parkes is an unquenchable optimist, despite an informed awareness of the trials in store. As far ahead of us as

the Black Death is behind, so many humans will crowd the world that we shall have but one square yard apiece to exist on—which will make parking even more difficult. Long before then adult males will so heavily outnumber females that little girls will be betrothed like mediaeval princesses from the cradle. Soon the undertaker will compete at bereaved doors with the cryobiologist, and our cellars and attics will be filled with tanks of frozen ancestors awaiting resuscitation when therapeutics has caught up with their fatal diseases. Even now the iceman cometh, not only calves being liable to spring from the frozen loins of refrigerators but also kippers.

It is more encouraging to find Professor Parkes undaunted by his immediate problems. He does not despair at a blockade to the export of contraceptive knowledge by religious dogma, superstition, or simply mutton-headed males. Nor at widespread ignorance causing such disasters as befell the sadly informed mother of Mr. Terence Frisby's famous television script. No cry of anguish escapes him, because people simply won't do what scientists, doctors, and similar intelligent persons say is good for them. He is a scientist of the sensitive sort, even aware that research workers are akin to creative artists, and for results need babying along, however impossible they choose to be—a skill found only in the most wealthy of film producers.

With the pill now rather old-hat for dinner-table conversation the reader can re-equip himself with such fascinating asides as the effect of altitude on fertility (Potosi in the Andes is entirely safe for clandestine week-ends), the sexually stimulating results in starlings as well as in teenagers of the bright lights of the West End, and the flattening effect on sows of tape-recordings by lustily grunting boars, which probably goes a long way to explain the current esteem of pop groups. It is all refreshing and witty and advertised as suitable for the non-specialist, who is going to need his biochemistry crib. The editing is sloppy, there are funny illustrations, and an even more laughable index.

RICHARD GORDON.

Books Received

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

Collected Papers in Medicine from the Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation. Vol. 57. (Pp. 598+xv; illustrated. £5 1s. 6d. Set of 2 vols., with *Surgery*, £9 9s.) London: W. B. Saunders. 1966.

Collected Papers in Surgery from the Mayo Clinic and the Mayo Foundation. Vol. 57. (Pp. 537+xii; illustrated. £5 1s. 6d. Set of 2 vols., with *Medicine*, £9 9s.) London: W. B. Saunders. 1966.

Klinische Funktionsdiagnostik. Edited by Professor N. Bartelheimer and Professor A. Jores. (Pp. 654+xvi; illustrated. DM. 79.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1967.

An Analysis of Human Sexual Response. Edited by Ruth and Edward Brecher. (Pp. 318+xiv. 42s. London: André Deutsch. 1967.

Differential Diagnosis of Internal Diseases. 3rd edition. By Julius Bauer, M.D., F.A.C.P. (Pp. 1,071+xx; illustrated. £11.) London: William Heinemann. 1967.

Standards of Obstetric Care. Report of the North-west Metropolitan Regional Obstetric Survey. 1962-1964. By R. G. Law, M.D., F.R.C.O.G. (Pp. 348+xi. 60s.) Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone. 1967.

Die Sterilität der Frau. By Professor Werner Bickenbach and Professor Gerd K. Döring. (Pp. 68+vii; illustrated. DM. 5.80.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1967.

Regulation and Control of Living Systems. Edited by H. Kalmus. (Pp. 468+viii; illustrated. 90s.) London: John Wiley. 1967.

Shadow and Substance. The Story of Medical Radiography. By Pino Donizetti. Translated by Anne Ellis, B.A.(Oxon.). Translation edited by Frank Ellis, M.D., F.F.R. (Pp. 213+viii; illustrated. 25s.) Oxford: Pergamon. 1967.

Leber- und Gallenwegserkrankungen. By Dr. Brühl. (Pp. 256+viii; illustrated. DM. 9.) Stuttgart: Georg Thieme. 1967.

The Salicylates. A Critical Bibliographic Review. By M. J. H. Smith and the late Paul K. Smith. (Pp. 313+xiv. 80s.) London: John Wiley. 1967.

The Infertile Period. Principles and Practice. By John Marshall, M.D., F.R.C.P.(Ed.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.P.M. (Pp. 120+viii; illustrated. 21s.) London: Darton, Longman & Todd. 1967.

Treponema Pallidum. By R. R. Willcox and T. Guthe. (Pp. 169. 17s. 6d.) Geneva: World Health Organization. London: H.M. Stationery Office. 1966.

The Research Process in Nursing. By David J. Fox, Ph.D., and Ruth Lundt Kelly, R.N., Ed.D. (Pp. 611+xvi. \$12.95.) New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts. 1967.