

within the spinal canal, and for more prominence to have been given to radiation dosimetry. In this connexion the widely differing calculations of the dose received by the chorda equina following the injection of ^{131}I -radioiodinated human serum

albumin by lumbar puncture are not discussed. Similarly, the dosimetry aspects of regional cerebral blood flow assessment are omitted; it would have been worthwhile to show how small is the radiation dose involved.

This book can be recommended as a most useful reference work for all engaged in the diagnosis and investigation of lesions of the central nervous system.

E. S. WILLIAMS

Survey of Cancer Treatment

Radiation Therapy in Cancer Management. Franz Buschke, M.D., and Robert G. Parker, M.D. (Pp. 402; \$19.) Grune & Stratton. 1972.

The title of this book could be misleading, in that the general reader might assume that the emphasis would be placed on the technicalities of radiation therapy, and therefore avoid the book on the grounds of its being of limited, highly specialized interest. This would be a pity, for the reverse is true. There is virtually no discussion of radiotherapy techniques, and the book is really an excellent survey of the whole field of cancer, with the exception of cancer of the bowel, the emphasis being placed on the principles of practical management from the clinician's point of view. The chapter on radiobiology is well written, pertinent, and short, and the value of chemotherapy, so

often over-emphasized these days, is put in proper perspective.

The authors are practical realists, and consistently express a maturity of experience and opinion which it would be hard to equal. Their discussions of the place of surgery and radiotherapy in the treatment of individual tumours are well informed and well balanced. Some chapters have introductory essays giving the background of anatomy and pathology which must influence treatment, and these are a delight to read. Only rarely did I find myself in disagreement with the authors, and even then it was usually on matters of opinion where one retains respect for the other point of view. To those unfamiliar with the language of radiotherapy, the almost synonymous use of "radio-sensitivity" and "radio-vulnerability" could be confusing, and similarly the "skin-sparing" effect of megavoltage radia-

tion is sometimes referred to as "skin tolerance," which is not the same thing. And most British radiotherapists, at least, would find the flat statement that "medium voltage x-ray therapy must now be considered part of history . . . an obsolete technique" very strange.

Adequately to cover such a large field in a book of less than 400 pages is almost to attempt the impossible, but the attempt has in large measure succeeded, and a vast amount of information has been collected which is otherwise not easily accessible.

The writing is clear and concise, though illustrations are sparse. The bibliography is good. Any clinician treating malignant disease will find up-to-date information and help, and for the postgraduate student there is no better comprehensive survey of the subject.

E. SHERRAH-DAVIES

Data and Homilies

Methods in Morbid Anatomy. R. R. Wilson, F.R.C.Path. (Pp. 156; £4.25.) Butterworths. 1972.

On the whole there is little need to learn the methods of morbid anatomy from books, though new techniques should be published in the journals. Most morbid anatomists are flattered if anyone seriously wants to watch them do a post-mortem or cut up the surgical specimens. One is soon encouraged, not to say conned, into doing them oneself, and most of the techniques mentioned in Dr. Wilson's well-produced book, or acceptable variants of them, are quickly acquired by watching or asking. It is true that one later asks and watches less and may miss a good trick.

Dr. Wilson is right to emphasize the constant need to reconstruct mentally what the cells and tissues are doing not only in three but in four dimensions, but it is sad that

he feels it necessary to say that morbid anatomists are also doctors who do not serve their clinical colleagues but serve their patients. Indeed, this book contains a number of homilies more in the nature of morbid anatomical philosophy than methods. It also contains a practical account of how to centre the microscope and a detailed chapter on photomicrography. The section on the examination of organs tackles those acquired both from the surgeon and from the post-mortem room, which is logical, but this is an approach I would criticize for in practice they are thought of separately with different mental approaches. A further criticism I would make is on the author's contention that inflating lungs with formalin even for an hour is impractical in general departments. Small lesions will surely be missed unless this is done.

Perhaps the distinction between hard data (weights and measurements) and soft data

(descriptions) could be put more forcefully to the young pathologist. Weighing and measuring the subject at postmortem is not mentioned, but to assess the degree to which an organ varies from the normal one needs the mean weight (and standard deviation) for the normal for the patient's height and weight, particularly in children. This information is gradually becoming available so that one can no longer be content with "the normal adult heart averages about 300g, ranging from about 250g in small women to 350g in large men." Suitable tables or at least references to them should be included. References are in fact sparse.

The book thus projects the image of the avuncular pathologist, mellow in experience and expression, to be savoured autobiographically, but requiring crisper subediting and a harder approach to be valid as biography.

W. F. WHIMSTER

SELECTED NEW TITLES

The Kidney. Atlas of Tumor Radiology. John A. Evans, M.D., and Morton A. Bosniak, M.D. (Pp. 382; £11.70.) Lloyd-Luke. 1972.

Clinical Histopathology of the Liver. An Atlas. Wilhelm Wepler, and Egmont Wildhirt. (Pp. 158; \$25.) Grune and Stratton. 1972.

A Concise Textbook of Radiotherapy. Priscilla Barnes, D.M.R.T., and David Rees, A.F.I.M.A. (Pp. 384; £7.) Faber and Faber. 1972.

Fundamentals of Biochemical Pharmacology. Executive ed. Z. M. Bacq, Associate eds. R. Capek, R. Paoletti, and J. Renson. (Pp. 659; £10.) Pergamon. 1972.

Free Radical Mechanisms in Tissue Injury. T. F. Slater. (Pp. 283; £4.80.) Pion. 1971.

Evoked Potentials in Psychiatry, Sensory Physiology and Clinical Medicine. D. Regan. (Pp. 328; £6.) Chapman and Hall. 1972.

Suicidal Behaviour. J. Wallace McCulloch, and Alistair E. Philip. (Pp. 123; £2.50.) Pergamon Press. 1972.

A Beginner's Handbook in Biological Electron Microscopy. Brenda S. Weakley, Ph.D. (Pp. 228; £2.50.) Churchill Livingstone. 1972.

The Frequency of the Rheumatic Diseases. Vital and Health Statistics Monograph—American Public Health Association. Sidney Cobb. (Pp. 147; £2.40.) Oxford University Press. 1972.

The Psychoanalytic Study of the Child. Vol. 26. Ed. Anna Freud, LL.D., Heinz Hartmann, M.D., and Ernst Kris, M.D. (Pp. 616; £5.) Hogarth Press. 1972.

Digestive Diseases. Vital and Health Statistics Monographs—American Public Health Association. Albert I. Mendeloff, and James P. Dunn. (Pp. 166; £2.60.) Oxford University Press. 1972.

International Histological Classification of Tumours No. 5. Histological Typing of Odontogenic Tumours, Jaw Cysts, and Allied Lesions. J. J. Pindborg, and I. R. H. Kramer. (Pp. 45; 150 colour transparencies; £15.) World Health Organization. 1971.

Clinical Pharmacology. Basic Principles in Therapeutics. Ed. Kenneth L. Melmon, M.D., and Howard F. Morrells, M.D. (Pp. 718; £5.40.) Collier-Macmillan. 1972.

Chemist and Druggist Directory 1972, and Tablet and Capsule Identification Guide. (Pp. 332; £6.) Chemist and Druggist. 1972.

machinery at regional and area level and recommended that consultation with the principal professions operating in the Service should be mandatory. However, the Council had doubts about the effectiveness of the proposed community health councils. It also wants services allied to the health services, such as the school health service, the occupational health service, and employment medical advisory service to be incorporated in the unified N.H.S. Repeating the concern recorded in its last annual report about the division between the health and the personal social services, the Council saw this division producing difficulties in the provision of services for rehabilitating patients. The emphasis the Consultative Document placed on efficient management would, the Council observed, call for managers of a high calibre, so adequate salaries must be offered. In a final comment on reorganization the C.H.C.S. states "that the Service is sometimes prejudiced by senior officers occupying key positions for which age or insufficient aptitude has shown them to be unsuited. The service should not be allowed to be prejudiced by personal inadequacies."

The C.H.S.C. also reports on the work of its many committees subcommittees, including studies on group practice (Harvard Davis report) and rehabilitation (Tunbridge report), as well as the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunization, which has made several recommendations in 1971. It has also set up a committee to consider and advise on the principles which should govern the organization of the inpatients day in hospitals other than psychiatric hospitals.

Postgraduate Education

Sir John Richardson, Bt., chairman of the Joint Consultants Committee, is to succeed Professor H. N. Robson as chairman of the Council for Postgraduate Medical Education in England and Wales. The appointment is made by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Social Services. Professor Robson, who is Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University, becomes Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals.

Playgroups and Deprived Children

Government grants, both capital and recurrent, are to be made to the Pre-school Playgroups Association said Sir Keith Joseph last month at a conference organized by the association. £45,000 a year would be made available to speed up the provision of playgroups, particularly for children with "special social needs." Sir Keith also announced that he was asking the Social Science Research Council to look into the cause of persistence of deprivation and maladjustment from generation to generation—"the cycle of deprivation."

New M.R.C. Unit

The Medical Research Council is to establish a unit on reproductive biology in the department of obstetrics and gynaecology, University of Edinburgh, under the direction of Dr. R. V. Short, with Dr. D. T. Baird as deputy director. The unit will be concerned with investigations of the physiology and pathology of reproductive processes in both males and females, and the information acquired will be used to develop new and improve existing methods of human fertility control. The staff of the unit will

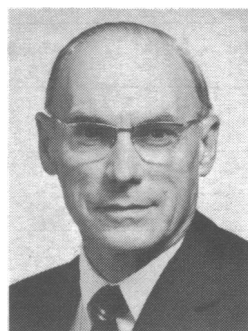
participate in the teaching of reproductive biology to medical students and post-graduates, their aim being to encourage clinical and fundamental research in this area.

Pakistan Medical Association

A Pakistan Medical Association (United Kingdom) Branch is to be formed under the constitution of the P.M.A. The first general meeting will be held in the Aroza Hotel, Manchester on 23 July. Details may be obtained from Dr. Shahid Hussain Syed (Shah), Rochdale Infirmary, Rochdale, Lancs.

Chair at Manchester

Dr. H. T. Howat has been appointed professor of gastroenterology at the University of Manchester.



Dr. Howat graduated from St. Andrews in 1933 and came to Manchester Royal Infirmary in 1935. After war service in the R.A.M.C. he returned to Manchester, where he taught physiology for two years and was then appointed lecturer

in medicine. In 1948 he was elected F.R.C.P. and in 1969 he became reader in medicine. Dr. Howat is at present chairman of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine. He was appointed C.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List last year.

People in the News

Dr. A. J. Bennet, of Foyers, Inverness-shire, has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct "for attempting to rescue an injured man from a 'surge' shaft following a rock fall."

Dr. J. L. Gilloran has been elected president of the Society of Medical Officers of Health for the session 1972/3.

COMING EVENTS

International Workshop on Behaviour Modification.—16-18 August, Leiden. Details from Dr. N. J. A. van Oudenhoven, Psychologisch Instituut, Rijnsburgerweg 169, Leiden, the Netherlands.

2nd International Conference on Strontium Metabolism.—16-19 August, in Glasgow, details from the conference chairman, Dr. J. M. A. Lenihan, Department of Clinical Physics and Bio-Engineering, Western Regional Hospital Board, 11 West Graham Street, Glasgow, G4 9LF. (Tel. 041-332 6061.)

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

*For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to this institution concerned.*

Monday, 17 July

INSTITUTE OF LARYNGOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.—At 5.30 p.m., combined staff consultation clinical meeting.

Tuesday, 18 July

ST. CHARLES'S HOSPITAL, LONDON.—8.45 p.m., Dr. D. Harvey: Urinary Infection in Childhood.

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRY.—4.30 p.m., Professor George Rosen: Medical Vienna and the Freudian Dream.

Friday, 21 July

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—2.30 p.m., Charles Tomes Lecture by Professor G. L. Howe T.D.: Oral Surgical Aids to Prosthetic Success.

UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

MANCHESTER

M.Sc.—A. S. Blinkhorn, P. J. Heath, A. Hilton, Patricia A. Portch, F. St. D. Rowntree, C. H. J. Sear. Hon. M.Sc.—Dr. William Brockbank.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

D.Ph.—Joyce E. Nutt.
M.S.—D. S. Muckle.
D.M.—Jeanne E. Bell, J. A. Cotterill, G. Dale B. McStay, J. Watt, K. Whaley.

LEEDS

Diploma in Psychological Medicine.—C. J. Allison, P. D. Belcher, G. W. K. Bridge, C. F. Fleming, H. U. B. Khan, G. D. Slater, M. C. Thakur, Mary C. Welsh.

DUNDEE

At the Graduation Ceremony held at St. Andrews University on 30 June, the honorary degree of D.Sc. was conferred on Professor D. A. K. Black, Professor Sir Donald Macleod Douglas, Dr. A. E. Ritchie and Professor Robert Walmsley.

Degrees were conferred as follows:

M.S.—J. M. Anderson, B. O. Igwebe.
D.M.—W. K. Stewart.

Dr. R. A. Wood has been appointed honorary senior lecturer in pharmacology and therapeutics.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF GLASGOW

The following candidates were successful in the examination for the Diploma in Child Health conducted by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow on 21 June 1972:

B. Al Alusi, N. M. A. G. Al Naquib, G. R. Arora, A. Y. Batarseh, L. M. M. de O. Bernardino, R. L. Broadhead, G. W. Brown, W. J. D. Brown, R. Delaney, P. R. Donald, Jacqueline Grigor, R. J. Hogg, A. B. Houston, G. G. Kaimis, D. C. Kennie, N. K. Leung, A. J. Macdonald, N. T. Macdonald, Barbara Macleod, Helen K. McMillen, M. W. Marshall, Heather E. Martin, J. M. Meldrum, R. Melsom, P. L. Moffat, S. E. Osunde, O. A. Otu, T. M. Scott, R. R. Shanu Wilson, Soe Soe Aye, P. Stambuli, Helen J. Stephen, N. Sultana, P. A. Tabb, O. Taiwo, Joan N. Towler Margaret J. J. Walker, Anne E. Watts, R. P. Yadava.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

The following have been admitted to Fellowship of the College: H. A. Amr, W. F. Cashman, T. E. B. Dane, A. M. Fagan, D. J. McDonagh, M. C. O'Brien, T. P. F. O'Connor.

Dr. King Sing To has been admitted to the Membership.

APPOINTMENTS

NORTH EAST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.—Dr. M. S. Vernon (consultant anaesthetist, Colchester and District Group of Hospitals).

H.M. FORCES

ARMY

Lieutenant-Colonels J. H. Andrews and W. E. Clifford, from R.A.M.C., to be Colonels.

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