Buchbesprechungen – Livres nouveaux – Books Review


This book can be recommended for students and general practitioners; it is not written for those who specialize in hematology. The new edition is entirely brought up to date; in reading it, one is impressed by the fact that almost all newer advances in hematology are incorporated and clearly presented. Most of the color plates are very well produced; the Plate VI (platelets) should be replaced.

In a book of this type many subjects can only be treated very briefly; some e.g. the follicular type of lymphoma should be discussed somewhat more in detail in the next edition. The chapter on transfusion (by E. L. De Gowin) is excellent.

G. Rosenow.

Hematology. By Cyrus C. Sturgis, Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan Medical School, Director of the Simpson Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Michigan. 946 pages. 93 illustrations, 9 colorplates. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, U. S. A., 1948. Price $12.50.

This book of unusually large size and print is original in certain respects. While most of the textbooks on hematology neglect the history of the development of the various problems or treat it very sketchily, here most chapters contain very interesting introductory historical remarks and data. The author is certainly right in emphasizing how much such historical viewpoint aids the understanding and evaluation of many hematological topics. One regrets that the general hematology is not discussed in a similar manner.

The book is of interest insofar it reflects the extensive clinical experience of its author. Unfortunately, a great number of pages are filled with lengthy reviews of cases and opinions of others.

There is no detailed discussion of the origin and morphology of the red cells (although a section deals with the white cells). One looks in vain for many of the recent diagnostic and therapeutic advances in hematology, e.g.: The newer treatment of myelomatosis with stilbamidine or the pertinent electrophoretic findings, the treatment of leukemia with urethane and the folic acid antagonists are not mentioned. One regrets particularly that in the chapter on bone-marrow the results of numerous important newer publications have not been discussed. The newer techniques for obtaining bone-marrow from the iliac bone and the processus spinous are not presented.

The bibliography contains hardly any references of publications later than 1945. Most of the plates are not well printed (particularly as to the colors) and will not be very helpful for someone who looks for authoritative morphologic information.

There are a great number of typographical errors. G. Rosenow.