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Quick who had published a monograph on the same topic 15 years ago has written a new presentation of the hemorrhagic diseases, which incorporates the many advances in this field during the last decade. Among the new chapters are: New clotting factors, the differential diagnosis and classification of congenital hypothyroidism. Quick who has greatly promoted the introduction and popularisation of anticoagulant therapy is biochemist. Consequently, his discussions of the classical and modern aspects of coagulation are particularly well done; the same goes for the part of the book which deals with the laboratory methods.

Not quite so satisfactory are some of the clinical sections. The book contains a great number of references. G. Rosenow, New York.


This is a well written introduction into the pathology and the main clinical manifestations of human cancer.

In the general sections detection, human carcinogenesis, biological behavior, biochemistry, chemical and radiation therapy are discussed. The main part of the small volume deals with the cancers of the various regions and organs.

The chapter on lymphomas and allied diseases has only 7 pages; nevertheless it gives a usable short survey of the chemotherapy, particularly for the student and the general practitioner. The references at the end of each chapter (mainly of the American and English literature) are well chosen and up to date. G. Rosenow, New York.


The book with the somewhat pretentious title consists of several reviews on selected, unrelated subjects. Mellors writes on biology, biochemistry and pathology of cancer (570 references!). In this chapter the chemotherapy of leukemia is extensively discussed. Gofman writes on “Artiosclerosis and Hypertension”; Jones on “Inflammatory and vascular disease of the glomerulus”. A comprehensive review on the Adenohypophysis (A. B. Russfield) contains a list of 369 references.

The hematopoetic system is represented by two papers. John F. Mueller and R. W. Vilter give a good review on “Macrocytic anemias”; the authors present material for their concept that the morphologic picture of megaloblastosis indicates “derangement of maturation of the red cell secondary to abnormal nucleoprotein synthesis”. Complete and well written is a chapter on “Abnormal hemoglobins” (John J. Will).

G. Rosenow, New York.

These Proceedings contain a wealth of valuable information. The material is divided in 4 sections (Cell, Leukemia and Chemotherapy, Hormones and Cancer, Immunity and Basic Mechanisms). The presentations are on a high level. Outstanding chapters are those by Allan F. Howatson and A. W. Ham (“Fine Structure of normal and malignant cells as revealed by the electron microscope”, by W. Bernhard and Ch. Oberling (“Electron microscopy of the malignant cell with special reference to viruses”).

In the hematology chapters K.J.R. Wightman gives a “clinician’s” concept of leukemia, which is realistic and somewhat pessimistic. His statement that all theoretical and experimental data on leukemia have not contributed much to the understanding of human leukemia is certainly worth of attention; he concludes that the empiric approach to the problems of leukemia will still prove the most successful.

H. S. Kaplan, discusses shortly “Lymphoid tumors in mice”, R. Grad the “Role of the thyroid in leukemia of AKR mice”. Of great interest is the paper by Ernst A. McCulloch and R. C. Parker on “Continuous cultivation of cells of hemic origin”.

The (well illustrated) “Proceedings” deserve thorough study.

G. Rosenow, New York.


“The purpose of this book is ... to give clinically oriented guidance in the study of a subject which has long been a domain of physiologists, but is now becoming of clinical importance.”

The text bears out this statement of the author of purpose although the discussion of the clinical application of the data presented is brief and of limited practical application.

In the first three chapters the author discusses clearly and concisely the structure and chemistry of erythrocytes, the separation of the formed elements of the blood and the chemical structure and function of normal hemoglobin as well as its derivatives. Normal values for various components of the blood are brought together in several tables from many sources. Details of methods and origin of data are available in a well selected list of references at the end of each chapter.

The remaining six chapters are devoted to a more detailed discussion of the several constituents of the blood which were briefly mentioned in Chapter I. A chapter is devoted to each of six components of the blood-proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, water and electrolytes, trace elements and enzymes. Again many normal values are recorded in a number of tables. Although these are available in papers and textbooks on Hematology it is desirable to have them assembled in readily accessible form. Discussion of the clinical significance and application of the data presented is brief, but even so often helpful toward an understanding of disease. One is led to the conclusion, however, that there are still many gaps in our understanding of the blood and its constituents which must be filled before a more concise evaluation of their clinical significance and practical application will be possible. William P. Murphy, Boston.

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Maxwell M. Wintrobe: Clinical Hematology. Fourth Edition. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia 1956. 1184 pages, 236 illustr. and 20 plates. $ 15.00. A comparison of the third with the fourth edition shows the rapid progress in hematology during the last five years and the admirable work Wintrobe has done in evaluating and incorporating the vast material in his textbook. The number of pages has increased by about 130; several chapters were entirely rewritten and others added. The section on the production and destruction of the erythrocyte has been greatly enlarged. The new chapters on blood groups and transfusion are excellent; particularly praiseworthy is the clear and concise presentation of the abnormal hemoglobins. The almost “fluid” state of the changing concept of hemostasis and coagulation is well presented.

Wintrobe’s commendable fight against “shotgun” therapy will probably not be aided by the Table No. 38 (p. 430) and the cartoonlike Fig. 72 (p. 433). In the chapter on Leukemia the modern chemotherapy is extensively reviewed, and the over-enthusiastic opinion of others reduced to sober realities. In this chapter one would have welcomed a more detailed presentation of the nature and biology of the spontaneous and induced leukemic states in animals and their relationship to human leukemia.

A number of plates have been replaced or added, e.g., on the L.E. and Tart cells, on malaria plasmodia and the very instructive photomicrographs of blood smears in various diseases. For a new edition which will certainly soon become necessary, some additions to the illustrations would be desirable, e.g. of splenic punctates, more characteristic pictures of the bone marrow in Gaucher’s disease than Fig. 150 (p. 779) and of the marrow in pernicious anemia (now Fig. 86). Whether the section on comparative hematology is an asset to such a textbook is debatable; if it is included, it should be brought up to-date.

These few critical remarks and suggestions are of a minor nature only: Wintrobe’s Clinical Hematology is an excellent work which can be highly recommended.

G. Rosenow, New York

Varia

International Society of Hematology


Programme provisoire: 1) Immunohématologie; 2) Syndromes hémorragiques; 3) Leucémies; 4) Anémies; 5) Hématologie nucléaire; 6) La rate et le système réticulo-endothélial.


Du 3 au 6 Septembre, au même «Palazzo dei Congressi», aura lieu le Congrès de la «Société Internationale de la Transfusion du Sang».