Book Review


In recent years, homogenous transplantation of organs has become practicable in surgery and many new approaches to this field are yet to be expected. Already, treatment of a variety of diseases presents itself from an entirely new point of view. This book adresses the clinician working in the field of transplantation, as well as the research worker. It provides a review of tissue-transplantation from the first, now historical experiments up to the present methods, pointing to problems unsolved as yet. The chapters on transplantation immunity and histocompatibility are of special interest since the phenomenon of immunological rejection is of paramount importance with the difficulties yet to be overcome. A great deal of the merely technical problems, such as regards to vessel suturing, prophylaxis of thrombosis, and replacement of electrolytes are already solved. A special chapter of this book deals, separately for each organ, with transplantations of the heart, lung, liver, spleen, pancreas, stomach, small intestine, and kidney. The illustrations are uncomplicated and readily comprehensible. We sincerely hope that, despite its specialized subject, this remarkable book will have a wide circulation.

G. G. Maurer, München


This volume is indeed an exceedingly detailed review of the various diseases of the spleen. It is particularly the chapters concerning the role of the spleen in bacterial infections, rickettsioses, viral infections, and mycosis, as well as those on Hodgkin’s disease and on reticuloses, which will interest the readers of this periodical. Unfortunately, the chapters on the tumours of the spleen would seem somewhat short in comparison with the total volume of the book, even if we must admit that both primary tumours of the spleen and metastases to this organ are not frequently encountered.

Some comments on the medicamentous treatment of certain splenic conditions would have been appreciated, however this book gains considerably by the large accumulation of casuistic data which contribute to the understanding of the subjects discussed.

Some of the authors’s statements might give rise to controversy, above all their opinion that, generally, the bearing of splenic deposits of thoriumdioxide on carcinogenesis in the human is overestimated.

H. Schönfeld, Grenzach