Book Reviews

C. J. Keattch: An Introduction to Thermogravimetry. Heyden, 1969. 59 p., £ 1.18.0/$ 4.50. The importance of thermogravimetry in research and routine control is increasing rapidly. The booklet by C. J. Keattch may be recommended as an excellent introduction to this special field of thermoanalysis on 60 pages. In a comprehensive way the reader becomes familiar with the basic aspects of the apparative problems and the possible applications of the method in chemistry and mineralogy. For a completer information each chapter is followed by extensive literature references. For those, who need to buy a thermobalance, there is a useful appendix listing the commercially available instruments and their characteristics. F. Hofer, Basel

W. A. Fuchs, J. A. Davidson and H. W. Fischer: Lymphography in Cancer, vol. 23. Recent Results in Cancer Research – Fortschritte der Krebsforschung – Progrès dans les recherches sur le cancer. With contrib. by G. Jantet and H. Rösler. Springer, Berlin/Heidelberg/New York 1969. IX + 294 p., 189 fig.; DM 76.-. Apart from some preliminary investigatory research carried out many decades ago, the roots of lymphography stretch back to the fifties and the subject has since gained a permanent place in clinical diagnostics. However, up to now, what has been missing is a comprehensive presentation in which technique, indications and results can be seen at a glance. The authors’ aim was to fill this gap. It must be acknowledged without reservation that this aim has been excellently achieved. Methods have now been developed and refined to such an extent that side-effects are relatively slight. They are mostly related to lung embolisms resulting from oil-soluble contrast media (114-32,000 lymphograms). Particular stress is, therefore, laid on their appearance and possible methods of treatment. A prerequisite for the interpretation of the lymphograms is a knowledge of the anatomy of lymph nodes in the various areas of the body presented by X-ray. Through the juxtapositioning of good diagrams and excellent lymphograms, even the reader who is not an expert on X-rays should find it easy to familiarize himself with the subject. The main field of indication of lymphographs lies in the recognition of tumour metastases and the diagnosis of malign lymphomas. The chapter devoted to this section quite rightly forms the central point of the book. This is followed by a chapter on direct, and the clinically more important indirect isotope lymphography (lymph node scintigram). Here the reader might have wished for a comparison between the procedure and X-ray lymphography and a delineation of the indications of both methods. At the end comes a short section on intralymphatic therapy, about the results of which there is not yet very much information available and whose actual value cannot therefore yet be appreciated. Evidence can be seen in every chapter of the authors’ own great experience. The presentation is simple, clear and concise. The bibliographies following each section enable the reader to extend his knowledge. The appearance of the book and, in particular, the reproduction of the figures, leaves nothing to be desired.

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