Book Reviews

M. Feldman and A. Globerson (eds.) Immune Reactivity of Lymphocytes
Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology, vol. 66
Plenum Press, London 1976
732 pp., fig.
Lymphocytes play a central role in all immunologic processes. The present volume deals with their ontogeny, surface properties and the mechanisms of their activation. Furthermore, the role of the microenvironment in which the lymphocytes develop and their migration to and ‘homing’ in tissues is discussed in depth. The interactions of different lymphocyte populations with each other and with other cells in the immune response is elucidated in a number of excellent contributions. Very important and interesting are the papers concerning lymphocyte receptors and antigen recognition. The role of Ir-genes is thoroughly discussed. Several contributions deal with the characteristics and function of suppressor T lymphocytes. Finally, the role of lymphocytes in tumor immunology and in autoimmune processes is elucidated in a number of most interesting contributions. This expertly written and edited book is certainly indispensable.

P. Kallós, Helsingborg

M. J. Hobart and I. McConnell (eds) The Immune System
This is a collective work, which originated from a series of lectures, given at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School of the University of London. It is divided in four major parts: immunochemistry, immunobiology, immunogenetics and immunopathology. Thus, it covers the whole field of immunology. The editors and their 14 co-workers successfully avoided the shortcomings of collective works namely lack of uniformity of style and overlap of content between chapters. The book is admirably lucid and concise. All complicated immunological processes and problems are briefly but thoroughly discussed. Certainly, all readers will enjoy this outstanding book and will find it an informative and extremely useful introduction to contemporary immunology. Numerous and excellent figures, well selected references and a good glossary add to the usefulness of this well-produced and surprisingly low-priced volume. P. Kallós, Helsingborg

M. J. Manning and R. J. Turner Comparative Immunology
Comparative immunology is a much needed basis for the understanding of the structure and functions of the complicated immune system of higher vertebrates, including man. The present volume is a brief but quite complete presentation of the subject. In the first chapter, the basic principles of immunology are briefly but lucidly presented. In the following chapters, the immune system of the major animal groups is thoroughly discussed and its relation to overall body structure, function and way of life is elucidated. Thorough study of this book will be
rewarding for immunologists. The book is excellently illustrated with numerous, informative drawings by W. M. Baldwin III.

P. Kallós, Helsingborg

L. Hudson and F. C. Hay Practical Immunology
Blackwell, Oxford 1976
XVI + 298 pp., 30 fig.; £ 6.00

‘Immunology today is a science in its own right’, states Sir Macfarlane Burnet in his Foreword to the present volume. This new branch of science uses a great number of different investigative and research methods, the description of which is widely scattered in the literature. The authors collected and described the most important methods thoroughly, systematically and in an easily understandable style. The main headings give an idea about the scope of the book. They are: Initial Preparations (Antigens, Antibodies, etc.); The Lymphocyte: Its Role and Function; Lymphocytes and Effector Cells; Cellular Dynamics in vivo; Antibody Interaction with Antigen; Isolation and Structure of Immunoglobulins; Pure Antibodies-Pure Cells; Further Immunochemical Methods; Advanced Techniques in Cellular Immunology. There are Appendices, describing standard chemicals, solutions, equipment. Useful immunochemical data are collected in tables. This collection of carefully and lucidly described methods and procedures is very useful for students and teachers of immunology. The book is very well produced and not expensive.

P. Kallós, Helsingborg

D. S. Nelson (ed.) Immunobiology of the Macrophage

In recent years, interest in macrophages and their role in immunologic processes has steadily increased. The editor and the contributors to the present volume, all of them well known authorities in the field, review the role of macrophages in the induction and regulation of immune responses, their relation to and interactions with lymphocytes and other cells in inflammation, and finally, their disorders in man, such as monocytosis, ‘reactive’ proliferation, storage diseases and neoplastic proliferation. The genetic (chronic granulomatous disease) and acquired (e. g. monomyelocytic leukemia) abnormalities of the macrophage system are discussed too. This outstanding book must be warmly recommended.

P. Kallós, Helsingborg

W. A. Hildemann and A. A. Benedict (eds) Immunologic Phytogeny
Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology, vol. 64
486 pp.; US % 39.00
ISBN 0-306-39064-7

Since the first conference on this subject 10 years ago, it has never ceased to interest many eminent research workers. The results of their efforts are presented in this excellent volume. The contributions cover the whole field of the phytogeny of the immune mechanisms operating in invertebrates and vertebrates. This book should be thoroughly studied by all immunologists.

P. Kallós, Helsingborg